

# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Glen VanderKloot this morning

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by Sandi Watts*

## GATHERING

*\*Call to Worship and Confession*

P: Blessed be God, who loves, forgives, and restores what is broken.

**C: Amen.**

P: What does it mean to live a good life? It may be easier to describe the opposite. A good life is absent when our relationships are broken – relationships with others, relationship with creation, and relationship with God. Through our sin, we have broken these relationships, and we take time to reflect and confess.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: God's gift of grace is at work in you, restoring what is broken. Your sin has been forgiven and no longer stands between you and God. May God's grace be at work in all of our relationships, removing our pride, ending conflicts, and opening ears and hearts to embrace one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

**C: Amen.**

P: We recognize this grace at work among us as we share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

Gathering Song – “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” ELW 597 (organ)

1 **My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

*Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.*

2 **When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.** *Refrain*

3 **His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;  
when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay.** *Refrain*

4 **When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,  
clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!**  
*Refrain*

*Children's Sermon*

## WORD

*Reading:* Proverbs 1:1-7; 3:1-8

*Reader:* Sharon Woodworth

<sup>1</sup>The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:

<sup>2</sup>For learning about wisdom and instruction,  
for understanding words of insight,

<sup>3</sup>for gaining instruction in wise dealing,  
righteousness, justice, and equity;

<sup>4</sup>to teach shrewdness to the simple,  
knowledge and prudence to the young—

<sup>5</sup>let the wise also hear and gain in learning,  
and the discerning acquire skill,

<sup>6</sup>to understand a proverb and a figure,  
the words of the wise and their riddles.

<sup>7</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

3My child, do not forget my teaching,  
but let your heart keep my commandments;

<sup>2</sup>for length of days and years of life  
and abundant welfare they will give you.

<sup>3</sup>Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;  
bind them round your neck,  
write them on the tablet of your heart.

<sup>4</sup>So you will find favour and good repute  
in the sight of God and of people.

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.

<sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make straight your paths.

<sup>7</sup>Do not be wise in your own eyes;  
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

<sup>8</sup>It will be a healing for your flesh  
and a refreshment for your body.

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*\*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 13:34-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>34</sup>Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing.

<sup>35</sup>This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet:

‘I will open my mouth to speak in parables;  
I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world.’

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon:* "What Is the Good Life? #2"

*Song of the Day* – “You Who Are Thirsty” *(piano)*

**You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink from waters flowing.**

**You who are hungry, come to the bread and eat of His holiness.**

**You who are tired, find rest. You who are weak, find strength.**

**You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink. Repeat**

**He will freely feed all of them who are weak.  
He will quench the righteous thirst of all who humbly seek.**

*\*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\*Prayers*

*Stewardship Time*

**“Firm Foundation,” by Gordon & Harvill  
*sung by the Faith Singers***

*—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—*

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**P:** The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

**C:** **We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.**

*\*Great Thanksgiving*

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*\*Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*\*Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Communion Songs*

“Take My Life that I May Be” ELW 685 (*organ*)

1. **Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
2. **Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.**
3. **Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**
4. **Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.**
5. **Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.**

6. **Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

"Purify My Heart" (piano)

1. **Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver.  
Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.**

*Refrain: Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy,  
set apart for you, Lord. By grace to be holy, set apart for you, my master,  
ready to do your will.*

2. **Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy.  
Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within. Refrain**

*\*Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

*\*Closing Prayer*

## SENDING

*\*Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you  
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “We All Are One in Mission” ELW 576 (organ)*

- 1 **We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single great commission compels us from above  
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.**
- 2 **We all are called for service, to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are diff'rent; our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace,  
so ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.**

- 3 **Now let us be united, and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.  
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.**

*Dismissal*

**P:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Worship Assistants**

Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert

Greeters: Kay & Sharon Woodworth

Reader: Sharon Woodworth

Usher: Pat Glyshaw

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Hosts: Barb Davenport & Donna Chenoweth

**Singers:**

Benen Dichsen

Rigby Dichsen

Adam Krohe

Carol VanderKloot

Louis Dichsen

Kelly Hartz

Kris Roth

Marilyn Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Melissa Street

**Church Council Members:**

Malinda Carlson

Kelly Hartz

Patty Nelson

Monica Proefrock

Ken Devlin

Greg Kimler

Mike Oldenettel

Kelly Street

Marilyn Dichsen



## What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, July 23, 9:30am: Worship  
2:00pm: Show "Shelebrate!," directed by Christine Smith

Wednesday, July 26, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Sunday, July 30, 9:30am: Worship

Wednesday, August 2, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, August 5, 8am: Cooking for  
9am: Men's Breakfast

### Song Credits

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"Purify My Heart," from **The Source**, Kevin Mayhew Limited, © 1998. CCLI#973583

## News Updates

### "Shelebrate! A Taste of Shel Silverstein"

Please join us here at Faith for "Shelebrate! A Taste of Shel Silverstein," arr. by Ken Bradbury and directed by Christine Smith. The remaining 45-minute performance is

Today, July 23, at 2:00pm

The performance is free to attend, but a free-will offering will be collected. Our own Benen, Rigby, and Louis Dichsen are in the cast. Hope to see you there!

### Synod Newsletter

If you'd like to keep up with what's going on in our Central/Southern Illinois Synod, you can visit the Synod website ([www.csis-elca.org](http://www.csis-elca.org)), click on Synod Newsletter, and that will direct you to a subscriber form. Otherwise, we could forward the Newsletters to you from the church office – just let us know.

### Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*



## **Outdoor Worship and Picnic**

A summer staple for our Faith Family has been our outdoor worship service. The fresh air, breeze blowing through the trees, and barking dogs provide a beautiful sanctuary. Last year we experimented with outdoor worship once each month with a picnic and games... it was a hit! Join us again this summer **August 6 and September 3**. To assure all can participate, there will be seating and communion stations on the grass, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible through windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we are having a cookout picnic and time for games and activities for all. **If you can provide something for the meal or help with setup and/or clean up**, see the sign-up sheets on the counter by the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet. Our hope is that this will not only be a time of vibrant worship and blessing to our Faith Family, but also to others, so please invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

## **Picnic Ministry – Sign Up to help with Outdoor Picnics**

Our Picnic Ministry Team is looking for some volunteers to help with preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month outdoor picnics this summer. **You can help by signing up on the sheets** by the Coffee Sales next to the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet:

- **Dates:** Sundays August 6 and September 3
- **Setup** (6 volunteers each Sunday for tables and chairs at 8:30 am)
- **Side Dishes** (8 volunteers each Sunday – see the sign-up sheet for specifics)
- **Desserts** (3 volunteers each Sunday)
- **Clean Up** (6 volunteers each Sunday to put away tables and chairs and clean in the kitchen)

For more information, talk with Kevin and Martha Krohe on our Picnic Ministry Team.

## **Friends From Faith**

Last month, we debuted a new ministry team led by Naomi Hahn called “Friends from Faith.” On the last Sunday of each month, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. Visit the tall counter where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

## **Music Update**

I wish everyone a safe and fun summer, and we will meet again in the fall. If anyone is interested in doing something musical during the summer, please contact me.

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

### **Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea**

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

### **Contribution Envelopes for 2023**

are available in the office. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.