



Summer

OUR SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 21, 2020



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
745 Front Street S., Issaquah, WA 98027
425-392-4169

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING: THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

CALL TO WORSHIP

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly — Tune: Holy Manna
Jonathan Shue, Scott Hafso

WELCOME

Pastor Jim Kruse

GREETING

PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PM: Let us pray. Teach us, good Lord God,

C: to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD: GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING AND SONG.

FIRST READING

Romans 6: 1b-11

^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

AM: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10: 24-39

Jesus said to the twelve: ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

PM: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

How Much for a Sparrow

Pastor Jim Kruse

The children who are being born into this world in 2020 are going to hear stories about a time long ago, a time when every city in America had a police officer whose job it was to visit elementary schools in full uniform and tell the children to be good citizens of their town, to know and respect the law. They would tell these children to report things they see that are wrong, and that the police will come running and protect them from all danger and harm.

The children born this year will hear stories about a time when grocery stores would just open their doors in the morning and let anyone come and go all day long. In those days, they did not try to sanitizing their carts, they did not ask people to keep some distance apart, and the clerks were not hiding behind plastic shields. Or they will hear stories about how football stadiums and beaches and bars and restaurants were often packed with so many people that, at times, you could hardly move. People would be leaning over each other unaware and unconcerned, laughing and shouting and deliberately grasping each other’s hands and shoulders.

And maybe they will even have grandparents or great grandparents who will tell them about a time when flying on an airplane was a grand experience. When the whole family went straight from the car to the gate and back again to see their loved ones fly away, or greet them upon their return. No one stopped you or checked your driver's license. And you were served cold beverages and hot food, free of charge, even in the back of the plane. And the armrests had built-in ashtrays for the convenience of those who wanted to enjoy a cigarette or two.

The children of the 20's will hear these stories, but they will not believe them. "They are fables," they will tell each other when the rest of us cannot hear them, "told to make the 'Good ol' Days' sound better than they really were."

Over the course of the last few months, and years, and maybe even a couple of decades, we have slowly added more and more layers of protection between the general public and the events of our lives. In order for us to feel safe in our world, we have given up the ease with which we once went about some of the most central events of our lives. These experiences will no longer be available to our children.

Going to the airport. Going to the game. Going shopping. Eating at restaurants. Even going to work. These things have become symbols of a larger struggle to balance our freedom and privacy with just feeling safe. They are exercises in setting the priorities of modern life. What is the price of our freedom? What is worth fighting for? What is worth giving up in order to be protected?

As we struggle to find new answers to these questions, we are unaware that these are the same questions people have been asking since we first started living together in organized communities. What are our shared values? What are the things we prize most? And in what priority? What is the price of the things we hold most dear? What is worth fighting for? And what are we going to give up in order to live that way?

These questions are also at the heart of the instructions that Jesus is giving to his disciples in the Gospel Lesson for today. Here Jesus is talking to his friends about what it will be like for them to live in the world the way he has been living. "A student is not above his teacher," he tells them. "I have been at odds with the world," he is saying, "so you will be at odds with the world." Whatever happens to him, will happen to them. Some people will call them "of the devil," that is "of Beelzebul," Jesus tells them. Or worse yet, people will try to kill them. For in the end, that is what happened to Jesus.

"What is it that is most important in your life?" Jesus is asking his disciples, and us as well. Is it your life? Is staying alive worth compromising your health, your loved ones, your place in the world, your privacy, and your soul? "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul," Jesus says; "rather fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

So if not your life, is it a peaceful heart that you value most? Is your freedom, your security, your peace of mind; knowing that you can go to bed, or go to work, and no one is going to give you a terrible disease, or try to blow you up, of ultimate importance? Not if you want to go where Jesus goes. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword."

So peace is not it. What about your family? Would you give up your life, would you give up your freedom, would you sacrifice your security to see that your family is taken care of? Most of us would do that in an instant. But Jesus says to his disciples, “I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.”

None of the things that we would give highest priority to seem to be good enough for Jesus. While life and peace and family are things to be cherished, there is something even more dangerous than the loss of life or peace or family. It is the loss of being close to God. It is not knowing the truth about our lives: That God is the one who figured out what this world would be all about and breathes life into it every second of every day. That peace and security can only be had as they come from the good desires of the heart of God. And that God, in Christ, gives up even his own life so that we may know of God’s presence and love for us.

Hidden in the very middle of this Gospel lesson there is the description of an intimacy with God that is so deep, so profound, that we can hardly grasp it. It slips right past us in our concern over the harshness of the rest of the teaching. “Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?” Jesus says. “Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So there is no need to be afraid.” How insignificant is a sparrow? They are a dime a dozen. (or to be precise, in Jesus day they were 6 cents a dozen—2 for a penny.) They are everywhere. Who can count them? Who even cares? I have no idea how many hairs I have on my own head, let alone someone else. I know that I lose a few down the drain every day because I have to clean them out of the shower every now and then. But I don’t lose any sleep over it. Who cares?

“God cares,” Jesus says. “God cares!” God cares and nothing is more important than that. Nothing! God’s intimate participation in our life and in our world goes far beyond our ability to comprehend it.

There is a wonderful fable that is told about a large ship that is sailing through the fog toward its destination. All of a sudden, the bridge spots a small light off in the distance and heading straight toward the ship. Quickly they send out a signal toward the light, “You are directly in the path of the Battleship So-and-so, change course immediately 40 degrees to starboard.” The reply comes back. “Suggest that you change your course immediately 40 degrees to starboard.” Well the captain of the ship is furious because he knows he has priority over all other ships on the sea. And so he pulls rank. “This is Admiral Edward Thompson and I order you to change course immediately 40 degrees to starboard.” This message is received and the light in the distance sends a message back. “With all due respect to Admiral Thompson, this is the lighthouse at Stony Cove, and we suggest that you change your course immediately 40 degrees to starboard.”

To go the way that Jesus goes, is to follow in the ways of the God who made us, even if and when that leads to the loss of life, peace, and family--because it is there, in death, and pain, and loss, that we meet the God of Life. If we know the God of this world and this life, the God who intricately and delicately knits every sparrow into being, the God who counts the hairs on every head just for the sport of it, then we will know the God who raised Jesus from the dead and hold us in his hands. We can live or we can die, but the lighthouse will

not fail us. It will not move, no matter how determined we are to drive our ship against it. It just knows us too well and loves us too much.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Children of the Heavenly Father

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; Music: Swedish folk song

Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
Unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

OFFERING

Please take a moment to give thanks to God for all that you have received in life, and remember your generous financial support of the ongoing ministry obligations of OSLC.

OFFERING PRAYER

PM: God of mercy and grace,
the eyes of all wait upon you,
and you open your hand in blessing.
Fill us with all good things,
that we may come to the help of all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

OFFERING SONG

The Gifts are Many

Text: Andrew Donaldson, b. 1951; Music: English traditional

The gifts are many, the Body one, and into one are all baptized.
Beloved, share one heart, one mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 OF THE PEOPLE

(Adapted from the NW Washington Synod “Weekly Prayer Message” for June 17th.)

God of life and breath, you are our source of hope.

+ We give thanks for your gracious gifts of love and life. Embrace and nurture us in your love; sustain us when we are feeling frightened or disheartened; open our hearts and minds to hear your word and call; strengthen us to take action to seek justice for our neighbors; grant us courage and creativity to joyfully share your Good News.

We give thanks for your creation.

+ Enable us to be educated, equipped, and inspired to be better stewards of your world. We give thanks for our partners at [Earth Ministry](#) and [Lutherans Restoring Creation](#).

We pray for our world, nation, and local communities.

+ We lift up people for whom insecurity, violence, and fear are the norm. Help us to bring healing, wholeness, and safety to all.

+ We remember that on June 17, 2015, nine sisters and brothers were slain at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. We remember Clementa Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson. We remember that Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. We remember that while these nine gathered for study and prayer, they were killed by a white supremacist - who was a member at an ELCA congregation. God of Mercy, guide us to recognize our prejudices and empower us take action to eliminate racism in our communities, and in our church. God, open our eyes, our ears, and our minds. Help us to behold one another as you behold us. Help us to be more firmly rooted in the practices of the gospel—so that we may make real the dream of your beloved community within and among us.

+ We remember Juneteenth, a day commemorating the abolition of slavery in the United States. We pray for the end of racism in our nation, for an end to all forms of slavery and human trafficking in the world. Living in God’s grace and forgiveness, we pray that we will confront our own prejudices and fears, serving as catalysts for change and reconciliation. God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance that infects our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth.

+ We pray for all in the wake of natural disasters, including recent cyclones and tropical storms. Grant strength to those affected as they recover and rebuild.

+ We lift up all in our community who provide emergency services: medical workers, firefighters, and police. Grant them wisdom and safety.

We pray for all who are in need of healing and strength:

+ We pray for those who are facing ongoing challenges and health concerns: Pattie, Paul, Lyle, Bodil, Perrin, Mike, Marilyn, Linda, Dave, Emily, Guests of the Community Meals Program, Sonja, Nicole, Josee and Jeannie.

+ We continue to pray for those affected by the COVID-19 crisis: bring peace and comfort to the families of those who have died; grant healing for those diagnosed; protect and sustain medical workers, care providers, first responders and chaplains; guide those working to improve testing and those working toward a vaccine; sustain those who are facing financial uncertainty; and help us to be wise as we emerge from our stay at home order.

+ We lift up all experiencing anxiety and depression. Empower us to reach out to anyone in need of care and support. If you are in despair, remember that you are loved. You are never beyond God's mercy and grace. A call for help is courageous.

+ We pray for our neighbors who are fearful or in danger in their relationships. We lift up the work of those who protect, support, and advocate for people who are experiencing domestic violence.

We pray for those who are grieving:

+ Loving God, wrap your arms of love and hope around all who are experiencing any kind of loss, disconnection, or brokenness. We lift up the family and friends of Germaine, Bob, Fran, Joe, Don, Tim, Karen and Lyle.

We pray for your church:

+ We give thanks for the leaders and members of ministries of our congregation. Grant them energy and creativity for their work; give them grace to rest and find peace.

+ We pray for the residents, staff, and families of nursing homes and care facilities, including those ministries that are part of our synod: Josephine Caring Community, Foss Home, Columbia Lutheran Home, Norse Home, Bethany of the Northwest, and Hearthstone Community.

+ We pray for congregations in the call process. Grant them wisdom and patience as they discern where it is that you are leading them. We lift up transition teams, call committees, transition pastors, congregation staff and lay leaders, and synod staff.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

+ Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Trusting in your mercy and grace, we lift our prayers to you.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

BLESSING

PM: May God the sower,
make you good and fertile soil.
May Christ the seed
bloom and grow in your words and actions.
May the fruitful Spirit
bring forth a bountiful yield in your lives.
God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG

You Are Mine — Text & Music: David Haas, b. 1957

“Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you, and you are mine.”

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major — J.S. Bach

Jiyoung Lee

Commemorations for the Week

Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931, Sunday, June 21

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured and taken as a slave to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.

John the Baptist, Wednesday, June 24

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.

Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530, Thursday, June 25

On this day in 1530 the German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession were presented to the Emperor Charles of the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession was written by Philipp Melancthon and endorsed by Martin Luther, and consists of a brief summary of points in which the reformers saw their teaching as either agreeing with or differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church of the time.

Philipp Melancthon, renewer of the church, died 1560, Thursday, June 25

Though he died on April 19, Philipp Melancthon is commemorated today because of his connection with the Augsburg Confession. Colleague and co-reformer with Martin Luther, Melancthon was a brilliant scholar, known as "the teacher of Germany."

Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, died 444, Saturday, June 27

Cyril defended the orthodox teachings about the person of Christ. After a conflict involving all of the major Christian leaders of the time, it was decided that Cyril's interpretation, that Christ's person included both divine and human natures, was correct.

Serving in Worship:

Worship Leader: Pastor Jim Kruse
Assisting Minister: Shari Lundberg
Song Leaders: Connie Fletcher, Alice Lewis, Leslie Waltzer
David Hersey, Marc Montague
Mandolin/Guitar: Jonathan Shue
Videographer: Elizabeth Waltzer
Banner: Elaine Stamm
Bulletin Cover: Craig Gillin

Readings for Next Sunday: Jeremiah 28: 5-9; Matthew 10:40-42

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Our Savior Lutheran Church Staff

Rev. James R. Kruse, *Transition Pastor*
Shari Lundberg, *Parish Administrator*
Dr. Jiyoung Lee, *Parish Organist*

Scott Hafso, *Director of Worship & Music*
Kate Gagnon, *Lay Visitation Minister*



Additional worship resources:

Readings: Psalm 69: 7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Jeremiah 20: 7-13

Suggested Hymn for Listening: *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-168, alt.; Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th century

Prayer is putting our faith into action. We invite you to include these people in your daily prayers. You can make prayer requests via email at office@oslcssaquah.org. All written requests will remain on this list for 4 weeks.

Mike special ops military unexpectedly called up. (nephew of Dave and Marilyn Carlson)

Pattie Rutten, peace and strength as she recovers from a broken femur and the loss of her husband. (aunt of Mark Howe)

Paul Salazar continued recovery from a heart attack. (step-father to Cheryl Hauser)

Lyle Bentley successful radiation treatment. (Don Robertson)

Bodil Isop healing and comfort from shingles.

Perrin Green 4 years old, unexplained brain activity leading to seizures. (Mary Ann Hult)

Mike Golick medical emergency in Florida. (brother-in-law to Patty Gerde)

Marilyn Grey comfort as she enters hospice care. (mother to Mark Cron)

Linda Chambers comfort and peace following the death of her husband. (sister of Barbara Hinds)

Dave Carlson continued strength, healing and comfort following kidney transplant surgery.

Emily Gacek acquired COVID19 from a caregiver, healing and strength. (Connie Fletcher)

Guests of the Community Meals Program safety, health and peace of mind. (Connie Fletcher)

Sonja 3 years old undergoing treatment for cancer. (granddaughter of Henrik & Patty Christopherson)

Nicole DeCamp healing and strength. (Ken DeCamp and Cheryl Leiter)

Josee Jordan peace of mind as she faces health challenges. (Dianne Tanner)

Jeannie Lindquist continued healing and strength.

Healing and peace of mind: Evy Sneva (Karen Hansen), **Marian James**; **Douglas Mandt** (brother of Mary Ann Hult and Lorna Robertson); **Gregory** (nephew of Joanne Suttmeier); **Doug Patur**; **Katie Moeller**; **Margot Inman**; **Ken Acker** (son of Lucy Acker); **Marilyn Carlson**; **Taufik Hidayut** (Ken Konigsmark); **Don Wilkinson** (husband of Gwynn Wilkinson); **Rebecca Thomas**; **Tanisha Foote** (Marilyn Carlson); **Dorothy Soland**; **Randi Strom**; **Jeanne Kuipers**; **Talton Johnson**; **John Pass**; **Florence Kinnune**; **Carol Harbolt**; **Sandy Aldworth**; **Jen Winslow**; **Larry Pruitt**.

Undergoing cancer treatment: **Amy Aldworth** (daughter-in-law of Sandy Aldworth) **Les Carlson** (father of Dave Carlson); **Harold Mandt** (brother of Mary Ann Hult and Lorna Robertson); **Chris Howe** (brother of Mark Howe); **Peggy Scalise** (cousin of Mark Howe); **Eileen Letts** (cousin of Mark Howe); **Keith DeCamp** (brother of Ken DeCamp); **Barbara Jones** (mother of Ron Sordahl); **Doug McVety** (Helen Nychay); **Al Batt** (Connie Fletcher); **Larry Harbolt** (Ray Harbolt); **Gerald Welch** (Vern and Jeannie Lindquist); **Joe Martin** (father of Stacy Smith); **Christy Williams** (Bill Bergsma); **Diane Powis** (Paul Tolo); **Dana Mancini** (Jan Setterlund); **Greg Petersen** (Wes Collum); **Barry Donker** (Joan Parish); **Germaine Korum** (Lyle and Alice Lewis); **Kathryn Aitcheson** (Gerrie Hendrickson); **Yuko Takiguchi** (Teiko Soland); **Barb** (Janette Singley)

Living with cancer: **Liz Kidd** (Bob Beck); **Duane Jacobson**; **Mary Lewis** (sister-in-law of Lyle and Alice Lewis); **Mark Becker** (uncle of Paula Seeger); **Barbara Krogh Jarvis** (sister of Steve Krogh); **Suzanne Lewis** (daughter-in-law of Lyle & Alice Lewis); **Mira Bergsma**

Mourning the death of loved ones: For peace and comfort during this time of grieving for the family and friends of: **Germaine Korum** (Lyle & Alice Lewis); **Bob Gray** (Doug & Dianne Tanner); **Fran Hildebrand** (Karen Hansen); **Joe Rutten** (uncle of Mark Howe); **Don Brannon** [former member of OSLC] (Rowan Hinds); **Don McWhirter** (Rowan Hinds); **Tim Teodoro** (Janet Heck); **Karen Miley** (Doug & Dianne Tanner); **Lyle Hasbroek** (Doug & Dianne Tanner)

Members and friends serving in the military; fire & police departments, & emergency rooms.

Global Missions and Missionaries: For peace in Hong Kong. (Global Missions). **Henrik & Patty Christopherson**. Congregations in Chiclayo, Peru: **Pepe** at Las Brisas, **Merci** in San Antonio and **Harold** at Las Lomas. **MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School** in Tanzania.

Thanksgiving: For the continued good health of **Kip Hauser** (father to Cheryl Hauser). For the joyous birth of **Jedon Benzel Matthews** to **Jessica Murguia** (Cheryl Hauser).