

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

Welcome, friends. Loving God, thank you for all the men who have shown me your grace and brought peace and joy into my life. Amen. There are welcome pads at the end of each pew; please sign your name and pass it along.

Sunday, June 17, 2018, 10:30am

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome

Mission Opportunities and Sharing of the Peace

*Invocation, Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love. Amen.

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Eternal God our creator,

in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

vs. 1-4 # 533

*Greeting and Kyrie

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*Canticle of Praise

"This is the Feast"

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*Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Baptismal Hymn

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

vs. 1, 2 #781

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

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Mesa Claire Newman, infant daughter of Keith & Lydia Newman

Sponsors: Mitch & Anlis Nelson

Kase Allen Ronning, infant son of Blake & Leah Ronning

Sponsors: Aaron & Melanie Schelske, Adam & Marissa Schelske and Brett & Bailey Hoffman

Jax Martin Ronning, infant son of Blake & Leah Ronning

Sponsors: Aaron & Melanie Schelske, Adam & Marissa Schelske and Brett & Bailey Hoffman

First Lesson

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Psalms

Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²**to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;**

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹³**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵**that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Children's Sermon

*Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

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*Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.

²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Super Seeds"

Jack Holmquest

Hymn

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

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Offering

*Offertory Response

"Create in Me"

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*Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/ill: Erv Schumacher, Drake Rounds, Carol VanHeel, Kathy Carstens, Stan Peterson, Barb Iverson, *friend of Ken & Renae Madison* Jim Wiggs, *brother of Chala (Tom) lechner* Cheryl Olson, *sister of Marshall (Tiffany) Olson* Joshua Anderson, *grandson of Merle & Teri Bruner*

Baptisms: Mesa Claire Newman, Kase Allen Ronning and Jax Martin Ronning (*Sunday*)

*The Great Thanksgiving

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"Holy, Holy, Holy"

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*Holy Communion

Words of Institution - The Lord's Prayer – Distribution

"Lamb of God"

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*Post Communion Blessing

*Benediction

*Sending Hymn

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

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*Call to Service

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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Flowers on the altar are given in memory of Fred Bailey by Darlene Bailey.

Serving Sunday Morning

Pianist: Mary Wika; **Head Usher:** Greg Dubois

Greeters: Bill & Sharon Malcom; **Sound & Projection:** Kent Anderson

Ushers; ; Lector: ; Communion Assistants:

Coffee Servers; ; Welcome Center:

Sound Amplification Devices and Large Print Bulletins are available for your use. Just ask an Usher.