Peace Lutheran Church

"Peace Through Christ"

Rob Rebensal, Pastor Pastor Mike Schultze, Director of Youth 71 Loma Drive - Camarillo, CA 93010

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020

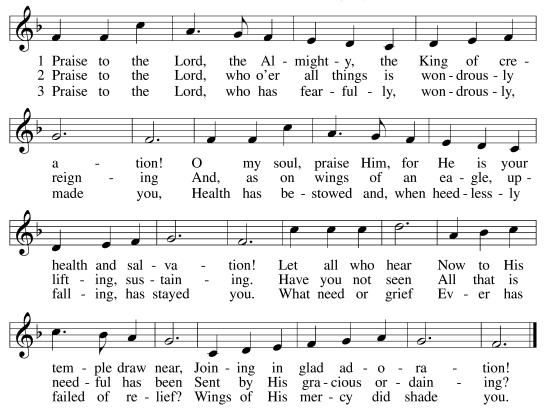
As We Gather English poet Alexander Pope wrote, "To err is human; to forgive, divine." This popular saying attributes the acts of erring and forgiving to beings for whom they come naturally. Humans err. God forgives. The opposite is also true. The Sacred Scriptures teach that there is no error in God, nor can there be. On the other hand, forgiveness is unnatural to humanity unless humanity becomes, as Church Father Athanasius once said, "by grace what God is by nature." This grace is given to us through the person and work of Christ Jesus for our salvation and is exemplified for us both in Jesus' teaching and in the lives of such saints as Joseph, who forgave his brothers for the malicious wrongs they did to him.



+ PREPARATION +



"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"



Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen

Sound from His people again;

Gladly forever adore Him!

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 103:1, 6, 8

Pastor: The LORD works righteousness

People: and justice for all who are oppressed.

Pastor: The LORD is merciful and gracious,

People: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me,

People: bless His holy name!

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Almighty God, merciful Father,

People: We confess to You that we have sinned against You in our thinking, speaking, and acting, by not forgiving the people around us the way You have so graciously forgiven us in Christ. For Jesus' sake alone, we boldly ask Your forgiveness. Send the Holy Spirit to empower us to freely forgive others the way we have been forgiven.

Pastor: The Psalmist writes: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who, for the sake of Christ Jesus, forgives all your iniquity, heals all your diseases, redeems your life from the pit, crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, and satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Be raised up, brothers and sisters in Christ. God has heard your confession and for the sake of His Son, forgives you all your sins. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.



COLLECT PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, how guickly we forget the great love with which You love us and the grace You have freely bestowed upon us through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Grant that our gaze be fixed on Jesus, our hearts overwhelmed by Your love, and that all our relationships may be marked by forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

+THE WORD OF GOD+

OLD TESTAMENT

(After the reading)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE..... Romans 14:1–12

(After the reading)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

"All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine" **HYMN**



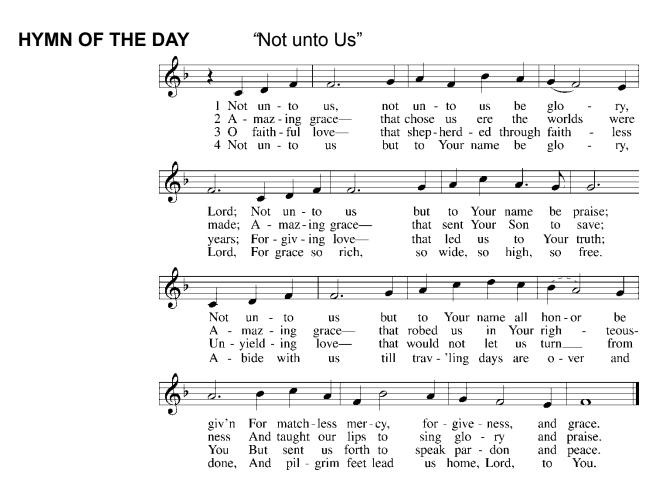
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(After the reading)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You O Christ.



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MESSAGE

Christian Forgiveness, Like Death,
Is Not Really An Option:
The Fine Art Of Learning To Let Go
Matthew 18:21-35

CONFESSION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the
right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

(Offering plates will not be passed but are located near the sidewalk as you leave.)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to

pray:

All: 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.

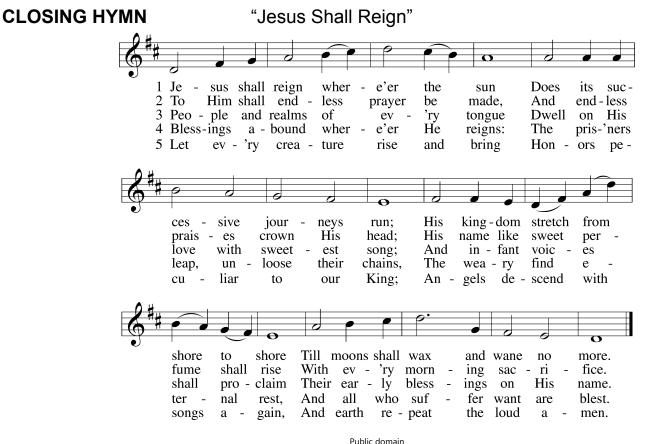
BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you

and be gracious unto You. The Lord look upon You with favor and + give

you His peace.

People: Amen.



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POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PORTALS OF PRAYER for October-December are now available for you to pick up either at the check-in table or in the church office during the week.

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY:

Women's Bible Study with a study on the Holy Spirit. Please contact Connie Morris (805)987-5116 to join or for more information.

Men's Bible Study "Bible Symbols" meets via Zoom Tuesday mornings at 8:30. Call Dave Hutter (805)386-7007 to join or for more information. Books for this new study can be picked up in the church office.

LifeLight will be starting up with Zoom classes for now: Contact Blaine or Diana Wanke (805)482-7524 if you would like to join one of these studies.

Wednesday 9/16 @ 5:45 and Thursday 9/17 @ 10 AM. Our study will be on "End Times".

Each individual life certainly comes to a conclusion. But what about the whole thing? Is humanity doomed just to muddle along as it has in the past? Or is there a goal, a final reckoning, an ending that makes sense? Christians believe not only that the world had a beginning (Creation) and a glorious middle (our Lord's death and resurrection), but that it will also have an end.

But day after day, year after year, generation after generation, the world goes on as it has in the past. The narratives of the Bible may inspire us; the truths of our faith may encourage us; but we long for the promised ending, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Without it, even the Christian "story" makes no sense. Over the course of 9 sessions, this study explores what the Bible has to say about the end times and what the divine Author has prepared, which is far greater than any of us could write or imagine, for His story ends in glory—the glory of Jesus' return and the resurrection of God's faithful into that glory forever.

Remember in Your Prayers

For health and healing: Edith Anderson, Lili Baehr, Mrs. Cheung (Veronica Lee's friend), Brody (grandchild of Dave Schmidt's friend), family of Rodger & Carolynn Bronner, Crystal (Phil Deck's niece), Remi Chatelain (Carol Yung's friend), Marshall Denninger, Dwayne Field, Bill Fitch, Bruce Fraser, Beverly Gandy, Rory Hall (Jim & Lily Mainland's granddaughter), Ken Haugrud, Damon Hermann (friend of Greg Olewiler), Jim Hogan (Robin Schmidt's brother-in-law), Vickie Hutter, Jan Irwin (friend of David Zinger), Karen Johnson, Dale Larson, Dawn Logan (Pat Massey's niece), Mrs. Mai, (friend of Greg Olewiler), Scott McComas, Ryan McCracken, Ryan Scott Morrison, Ken Nipstad, Jim Pedersen, Rawlin Radle, Mark Reuter (Son of Rita & Ken Reuter), Joanne Riccardi (friend of Pat Massey), Shane Shelton (relative of Melissa Hamilton), Orion Solu (nephew of Craig & Peggy Frye), Llewyn Rae Spencer (infant grandson of Gary & Char Spencer), Leslie Stenke, Bev Toro, Jon Volpei (Connie Morris' son), Carol Yung, Sue Zinger.

For peace and comfort:

Charlo Stuart as she mourns the death of her husband David. Roy Poehler and family as they mourn Ingrid's death.

Pray for all military men and women especially: Jacob Chiles, Andrew Geib, Daniel Gross, Michael Hanson, Brian Miller, Kevin Palos, Kevin Schleicher, Stephen Volpei, Amy Waddell, Lucas Wentlandt. Also remember their families in your prayers.

Please keep the nation and all those in authority in your prayers, along with front line healthcare workers. We will get through this together, because we never go through anything alone.