
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Peace Lutheran Church

May 17, 2020

AS WE GATHER: “The fruit of the Spirit is.....Faithfulness.” Our world seems more uncertain now than perhaps ever before. Stories about disease and danger fill up the ever-changing news cycle. What is the answer to all the uncertainty we find in our lives? *Faithfulness*. Faithfulness simply means to be reliable, steadfast, and constant. In Deuteronomy 32 we are told that God is faithful. He keeps His promises to care for us, even coming to Earth as a human to save us. Because God faithfully takes care of us, we can stand firm, steadfast, and constant even in the midst of a changing world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF PRAISE:

“How Great Thou Art”

TOSB 78

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed,

Refrain:

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **Refrain**

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin; **Refrain**

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! **Refrain**

READINGS

Old Testament:

Deuteronomy 32:1-4

Reader: The Old Testament lesson is from Deuteronomy chapter 32.

Reader: Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak, and let the earth hear the words of my mouth. May my teaching drop as the rain, my speech distill as the dew, like gentle rain upon the tender grass, and like showers upon the herb. For I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God! “The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 2:1-21

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

Reader: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

"Financial Wellness: Faithfulness"

MESSAGE NOTES

Rate each of the following: *Almost Never 1 2 3 4 5 6 Almost Always*

_____ The Spirit faithfully gives me the joy of faithfulness in my stewardship of resources

_____ I respond appropriately to opportunities to show generosity.

_____ I remember that I am provided for abundantly so that I can share with those in need.

_____ Total Relational

God is teaching me that...

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, we give You thanks and praise for the new life and salvation with which You have brought beauty into our lives and our world again through the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that You open the ears of all who hear Your Word, that this salvation come to many in true repentance and faith, the gift of Your own Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Send Your Spirit mightily especially upon those called to preach, proclaim, and teach Your life-giving Word. Guide all pastors, teachers, and servants of the Church to be faithful in word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: To all who bear the authority of government in our land, give Your blessing, that tranquility and peace rule our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: When we are faced with the uncertainties of life, remind us of Your faithfulness that sustains us day to day. Keep us steadfast in Your truth so that we may live lives firmly rooted in love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Visit with Your peace and healing all who suffer illness, injury, or any painful difficulty, [especially . . .]. Let not their hearts be troubled or weighed down with any fear, but lift their eyes to Your sure and certain promises of eternal life and joy. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: "I LOVE YOU, LORD"

I love You, Lord
and I lift my voice
to worship You
Oh my soul, rejoice!
Take joy, My King, in what You hear,
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound
in Your ear. x2

BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give + you peace.

People: Amen.