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**Peace Lutheran Church**  
*Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost*  
September 13, 2020

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**As We Gather:** We live in a world filled with uncertainty, and much of this uncertainty is personal. Prayer is a place where we can go to find certainty. Our Lord promises, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.” Today we read about a moment of time in which God’s people were feeling quite uncertain as Moses, their leader, had just died and the journey ahead looked ominous. God says to Joshua, “Be strong and courageous.....for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Prayer positions us to hear these words too—the Lord is here and near.

**[WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)**

**OPENING SONG “In His Time”**

**(Recording 01/22/2017)**

*Adapted by D.B. from Eccles 3:11 © 1978 Maranatha! Music.*

In His time (in His time), in His time (in His time),  
He makes all things beautiful, in His time (in His time).  
Lord please show my ev’ry day as you’re teaching me your way,  
That you do just what you say, in your time (in Your time).

In Your time (in Your time), in Your time (in Your time),  
you make all things beautiful in your time (in Your time),  
Lord, my life to you I bring; May each song I have to sing.  
Be to You a lovely thing, in Your time (in Your time).

**INVOCATION Psalm 121**

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

**C: Amen.**

P: I lift up my eyes to the hills—

**C: from where will my help come?**

P: My help comes from the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: He will not let your foot be moved;

**C: he who keeps you will not slumber.**

P: He who keeps Israel

**C: will neither slumber nor sleep.**

P: The Lord is your keeper;

**C: The Lord is your shade at your right hand.**

P: The sun shall not strike you by day,

**C: nor the moon by night.**

P: The Lord will keep you from all evil;

**C: he will keep your life.**

P: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in

**C: from this time on and forevermore.**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for self-examination*

P: Let us confess our sins to God, confident of His grace and forgiveness to all who are repentant.

**C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## FOCUSED PRAYER

P: Let us pray. O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all goodness, hear the devout prayers of Your people, especially in difficult times, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT:

*Joshua 1:1-11*

R: After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. From the

wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success<sup>[a]</sup> wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, “Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, ‘Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.’”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **HOLY GOSPEL:**

*Matthew 18:21-35*

R: Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant<sup>[c]</sup> fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that

same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii,<sup>[a]</sup> and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ!**

## MESSAGE

## PRAYER

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

P: Lord, grant that we not judge without mercy but forgive without limit, that we who have known the fullness of Your mercy in Christ also manifest a compassionate heart against those who sin against us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, grant to those who lead us in this nation and in all the nations wisdom and integrity, that they pursue what is good and right and just according to Your Word and commands, and serve the common good. Deliver us from terror and threat, and give Your peace to the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, grant to the sick and all who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or soul the blessing of Your mercy, with forgiveness according to Your will, and Your presence and comfort to sustain them through the day of trouble. Hear us especially on behalf of those for whom our intercession has been requested, (*names.....*), and those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, grant to the homeless, the widowed, the orphaned, and the unemployed Your strength to bear up under the weight of their trials and Your guidance to bring them to the places where their needs may be answered. Open our hearts to care for them and support them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, grant us grateful hearts that with our voices we offer You the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and with our tithes and offerings show forth our confidence in Your loving care and our desire to support the work of Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

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

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **SONG FOR Sunday School: "Morning Has Broken"**

played by Alyssa Stanley

## PRAYER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

P: Let us pray.

P: O Lord, give to our Sunday School teacher and our Sunday School Superintendents the gifts of wisdom, kindness and faithfulness, so that they may effectively teach and guide. We also pray that You would give to all our children and youth a ready willingness to learn. Let the knowledge of Your Word be preserved and extended among us so that all may know and praise You now and forever. We pray these things through Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

P: The Most High God now sends us out to praise His name and declare His love wherever we go!

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG: "You are My All in All"

**(Praise Team recording 09/05/2020)**

*By: Dennis Jernigan © 1991 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc. (Admin. by PraiseCharts Publishing, Inc.)*

You are my strength When I am weak  
You are the treasure That I seek  
You are my all in all  
Seeking You as a precious jew'l  
Lord to give up I'd be a fool  
You are my all in all

### **Chorus**

**Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your name  
Jesus Lamb of God Worthy is Your name**

Taking my sin My cross my shame  
Rising again I bless Your name  
You are my all in all  
When I fall down You pick me up  
When I am dry You fill my cup  
You are my all in all

**DISMISSAL**