
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Peace Lutheran Church

May 3, 2020

AS WE GATHER: “The fruit of the Spirit is.....Patience.” Patience is in short supply these days—have you noticed? We demand answers to the problems we face. We expect certain results for how we want things to go. For these reasons, it is not surprising that our frustrations rise and relationships falter. Today we are reminded of how patient God is with us. Hebrews 12 tells us that Jesus “endured the cross.” The word used for endured in Hebrews 12 is the same word for patience used elsewhere in the Bible. Knowing how patient God is for us, our hearts are changed to make patience more than a virtue, we make it a way of life.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: “*Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*”

Twice Through

By: Rick Founds © 1989 and this arr. © 1990 by Maranatha! Music

Lord, I lift Your name on high,
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life,
I'm so glad You came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your Name on high.

READINGS

First Reading:

Romans 5:1-5

Reader: The New Testament lesson is from Romans chapter 5.

Reader: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Lesson:

John 10:1-10

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

Reader: “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who

enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

“Relational Wellness: Patience”

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 showing patience toward others.
_____ My relationships reflect the Spirit’s gift of unity intrinsic to the body of Christ.
_____ I am growing more humble, gentle, patient and loving.
_____ Total Relational

God is teaching me that...

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Using Psalm 23 as a format)*

Leader: Let us pray to God Almighty for people everywhere in their various needs, for the Church around the world, for all who are near and dear to us, and for ourselves.

Reader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Leader: We pray, O Lord, that wherever people are calling out to You, wanting for food, clothing, or shelter, that You will awaken in us and in government and social agencies care and compassion. May the blessings You have showered on this planet be shared with them, bringing You all the praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Leader: Sovereign God, we pray for all people who are suffering under civil unrest. Raise up leaders who will work for peace and justice and will seek ways of

reconciliation. Move government leaders to look in empathy on all who are denied basic human rights; lead them to make decisions to restore calm and human dignity for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Leader: O Holy Spirit, we pray for the Church here and around the world. Grant opportunity for clergy and lay leaders to share the good news, strengthening those who trust in Jesus and leading many to their Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Leader: Lord Jesus, hear us as we pray for those we know who are calling out to You for healing of body or mind, who face this day with sudden crises, are enduring long term illness, or are looking through tears of sorrow, (including...). Grant them days of health, relief, and comfort as You accompany them on their journey. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Leader: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought"

LBW 501

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918, alt. Tune: William B Bradbury, 1816-1868 ©1978 Published by Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis & Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, Philadelphia.

*He leadeth me, O blessed thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where-e'er I be,
Still God's hand that lead-eth me.*

*He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.*

*And when my task on earth is done,
When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Still God through Jordan leadeth me.*

*He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.*

BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give + us peace.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE