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Pastor Ricky Adams



August 30, 2020

**13th Sunday After Pentecost**  
"Masks"

***Whoever you are...  
Wherever you are in your JOURNEY OF FAITH...  
YOU are WELCOME here!***

# **We Gather In The Presence Of God**

## **Welcome And Introduction Of Today's Theme**

Pastor: Paul says in today's first reading. "Let love be genuine." Literally it should be, "Do not let love be hypocritical" or "Do not let love be a character you play on a stage." In ancient times, actors wore masks to hide themselves from the audience. Is our love genuine? Is our love an act? Paul shares the ongoing characteristics of genuine love. We are also reminded of John's words in his first letter, "We love because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19)

## **Opening Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray. Loving Lord, You call us to turn away from own selfish desires, to take up our cross, and to follow hard after you. It's only by surrendering our lives to You that we find our greater purpose. So, we come before You today with open hearts and hands. We are eager to hear Your Word and know Your will. Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, we ask that You'd move within our Church and among us as we worship in surrender. In the name of our blessed Redeemer and Lord we pray, Amen.



## **Opening Song - What Wondrous Love Is This**

What wondrous love is this,  
O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this  
that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse  
for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

And when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing God's love for me,  
and through eternity  
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

## **We Are Renewed In God's Grace**

**Pastor:** O Holy Spirit, You call us to let our love be genuine. You ask us to turn away from our own selfish desires, to remove our masks. But our masks hide us from the path of genuine love. Forgive us for being so quick to hesitate and resistant to living in Jesus' love. Help us to see with eyes of faith rather than human eyes that encourage fear. Teach us to live in love rather than fear, knowing You are always with us.

### **Time of silence**

**Pastor:** Holy Spirit, you have forgiven us, removed our masks, picked us up and shown us the Your love. Help us to love You and others as we have been loved by Jesus. We can never thank you enough for the gift of salvation for Jesus' sake. By the mercy and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ we pray,

**People:** Amen.

## **God Speaks Through His Word**

### **First Reading - Romans 12:9-21**

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

**Pastor:** Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is

possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. ...This is God's Word

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading - Matthew 16:21-28**

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

Pastor: <sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom." ...This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Message Song – Where Charity and Love Prevail**

Where charity and love prevail,  
there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love,  
by love we thus are bound.

Let us recall that in our midst  
dwells Christ, God's holy Son;  
as members of each body joined,  
in him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown;  
let all contentions cease.  
Be God's the glory that we seek;  
be his our only peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults  
as we our own confess,  
that we may love each other well  
in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt. Text © 1960 World Library Publications. 3708 River Rd., Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131. All rights reserved.



## Message

“Masks”  
Romans 12:9-21

## We Bring Our Praises, Prayers And Gifts

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers

Pastor: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. - A brief silence. - God of faithfulness, you bid your people to follow Jesus. Set the mind of your church on divine things. Grant us trust in you, that we lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through him. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of wonder, the earth is yours and all that is in it. Heal your creation and give us eyes to see the world as you do. As the seasons change, pattern the rhythm of our lives in harmony with all creation. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of all nations, you call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding, that they advocate and genuinely care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of salvation, you promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of community, you call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a workshop of your love. When we quarrel, bring reconciliation. Help us overcome evil with good. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

### Additional Prayers

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of all grace, you give us everlasting life. In love we recall your holy ones who now live in your undying light. In our remembering, give us a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in your mercy,  
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
People: **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**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: May God hear your cries and deliver you; may Christ bless you with fullness of life, and may the Holy Spirit be with you always. ... Stay well – stay healthy - practice social distancing, Wear your mask and most importantly know that you are loved by God, always. ... May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look on you with His favor and grant you His everlasting peace. Amen

## Closing Song - Love Consecrates the Humblest Act

Love consecrates the humblest act  
and haloes mercy's deeds;  
it sheds a benediction sweet  
and hallows human needs.

When in the shadow of the cross  
Christ knelt and washed the feet  
of his disciples, he gave us  
a sign of love complete.

Love serves and willing stoops to serve;  
what Christ in love so true  
has freely done for one and all,  
let us now gladly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, c. 1902, alt.

## Announcements

**Information About Peace Lutheran Church** - If you desire to know more about Peace Lutheran Church such as teachings; affiliations, membership or other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Adams.

Office Phone – (415) 388-2065  
Home Phone – (415) 388-7190  
Email – [pastor@plcmarin.org](mailto:pastor@plcmarin.org)

**Worship Services** – There are three ways to worship at Peace Lutheran Church during this time of Covid.

**Live Stream**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Zoom Link:**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73855305624?pwd=ZUZpQkZNbEx5VmtUYTBKUnlLQjJkZz09>

Meeting ID: 738 5530 5624  
Passcode: plcmarin

**Facebook users**

[www.facebook.com/PeaceLutheranMill](https://www.facebook.com/PeaceLutheranMill)  
(available beginning 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning)

**Non-Facebook Users**

[www.plcmarin.org](http://www.plcmarin.org)

Just go to the front page, scroll to the bottom, and click on the video. It is that easy!

**Christ's Peace To Those Celebrating Birthdays This week**

**Tuesday - Janet Reese**  
**Tuesday - Heidi Stein**  
**Saturday - Betty Erickson**

**Communion** – Pastor will be available to share communion each Sunday from 10:15 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Drive to the back door at the kitchen and pastor will serve the people in each car. Then you can dispose of the cups in a can as you leave.

**Carport Fellowship – Sunday, August 30, 10:15 a.m.**



## **Weekly Devotional Helps**

### **August 30 – September 5, 2020**

#### **Morning Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

#### **Evening Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

#### **Prayer For The Sick**

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

### **Scripture Readings Through The Week**

#### **Monday – August 31**

Psalm 32:1–7  
1 Kings 16:29-17:24  
Ephesians 1:1-23

#### **Tuesday – September 1**

Psalm 32:1–7  
1 Kings 18:1-19  
Ephesians 1:1-23

#### **Wednesday – September 2**

Psalm 32:1–7  
1 Kings 18:20-40  
Ephesians 2:1-22

#### **Thursday – September 3**

Psalm 32:1–7  
1 Kings 19:1-21  
Ephesians 3:1-21

#### **Friday – September 4**

Psalm 32:1–7  
2 Kings 2:1-18  
Ephesians 4:1-24

#### **Saturday – September 5**

Psalm 32:1–7  
2 Kings 2:19-25, 4:1-7  
Ephesians 4:25-5:14

## **Scripture Readings For Next Sunday**

### **Proper 18**

**Ezek. 33:7–9**

**Psalm 32:1–7**

**Rom. 13:1–10**

**Matt. 18:1–20**