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Pastor Ricky Adams



September 13, 2020
15th Sunday After Pentecost
We Are Never Alone In The Lord

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

We live in a world filled with uncertainty, and much of this uncertainty is so personal. Who we are and what it is that gives our lives identity, meaning, and purpose go to the very heart of the questions for our times. Today, Paul reminds us that we belong to the Lord. Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Being the Lord's own is what shapes our self-understanding and defines how we relate to one another. All the things that divide us on earth and how we are tempted to identify ourselves by preference or desire are overcome by the Lord, who suffered for us, died to save us, and lives to set us free. This love makes it possible for us to see others as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. ... Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our bondage to sin and given us a new life and identity in Baptism. Grant us Your grace that we live in peace with all people and show to those around us the same forgiveness that You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Opening Song - Today Your Mercy Calls Us

Today your mercy calls us
to wash away our sin.
However great our trespass,
whatever we have been,
however long from mercy
our hearts have turned away,
your precious blood can wash us
and make us clean today.

O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
what should we do without you
when heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us,
to drive us to despair,
we know one gate is open,
one ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-1878, alt.



We Are Renewed In God's Grace

Pastor: Lord, like a father who has compassion on his children, so You have compassion on us. You know every intricate detail about us, because You are our Creator. You know our good thoughts and even our evil thoughts and yet You still love us, calling us to repentance. You beckon us to Your everlasting love.

People: You are loving, and we answer the call to repentance. We confess of our sins, the small ones and big ones, and admit that we are weak and need Your strength. Remove our transgressions from us, and help us to remember and obey Your law to love You first with all of our hearts, souls, minds and strength. Then teach us to love our neighbors as You loved us first.

Time of silence

Pastor: Thank you for your forgiveness that brings comfort, peace, and eternal life.

People: In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

God Speaks Through His Word

Epistle Reading - Romans 14:1-12

Pastor: Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the

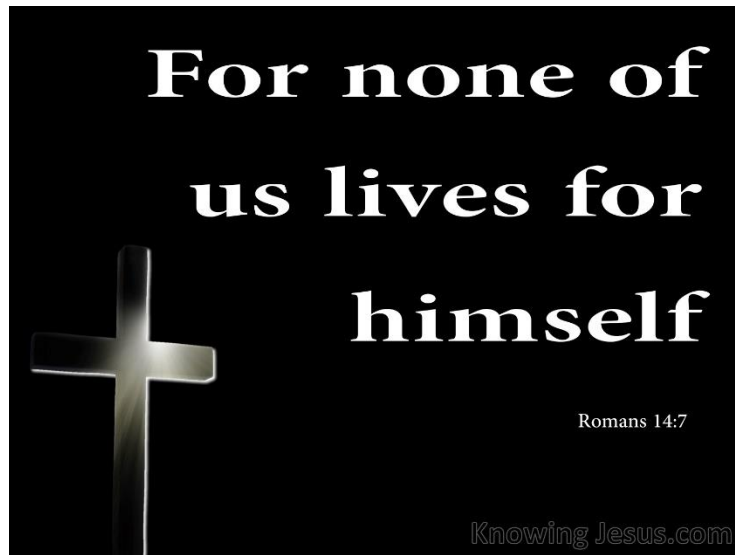
Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God. This is God's Word

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 18:21-35

Pastor: ²¹Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



Message Hymn – Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others' debts to us;
how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled,
our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.; Text © Oxford University Press 1969

Message

We Are Never Alone In The Lord
Romans 14:1-12

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: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. - A brief silence. - You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Additional Prayers:

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

Pastor: Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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: We leave this place with the peace of Christ reigning in our hearts and mind.

All: We leave this place with the burden of sin gone as we walk in the forgiveness and freedom found in Jesus! Hallelujah- praise the Lord!

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen

Closing Song - O God, Empower Us

O God, empower us to stem
the hatreds that divide.
Enable us to bring an end
to ghastly wars of pride.
Let our example point the way,
that feuds be not prolonged.
Let us forgive, as you forgave,
when we have suffered wrong.

Though cold suspicion meet our warmth,
we love at your command;
and though not always understood,
we pray to understand.
Enable us to stifle greed
for thanks or gain, dear Lord,
and live that sacrificial life
which is its own reward.

Text: Lee M. Baldwin, 1906-1982; © Lee M. Baldwin, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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

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=ZEZpQkZNbEx5VmtUYTBKUnlLQjJkZz09>

Meeting ID: 738 5530 5624

Passcode: plcmarin

Facebook users

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

Non-Facebook Users

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 - Rose Marie Wyneken

Christ's Peace To Those Celebrating Birthdays This week

Tuesday - Art & Mimi Strassburger

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, September 27, 10:15 a.m.

Weekly Devotional Helps
September 13 – September 19, 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 – September 14

Psalm 145:1-8
2 Chronicles 33:1-25
Colossians 1:24-2:7

Tuesday – September 15

Psalm 145:1-8
2 Chronicles 34:1-4, 8-11, 14-33
Colossians 2:8-23

Wednesday – September 16

Psalm 145:1-8
2 Chronicles 35:1-7, 16-25
Colossians 3:1-25

Thursday – September 17

Psalm 145:1-8
2 Chronicles 36:1-23
Colossians 4:1-18

Friday – September 18

Psalm 145:1-8
Nehemiah 1:1-2:10
1 Timothy 1:1-20

Saturday – September 19

Psalm 145:1-8
Nehemiah 2:11-20, 4:1-6
1 Timothy 2:1-15

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday

Proper 20

Isaiah 55:6–9
Psalm 27:1–9
Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30
Matthew 20:1–16

September 13 - John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407: John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.

September 14 - Holy Cross Day: Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

September 16 - Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258:

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.