

Peace Lutheran Church
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Pastor Ricky Adams



September 6, 2020
14th Sunday After Pentecost
"Citizens of Two Kingdoms"

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: When Paul writes of submission to governing authorities, he is writing of the responsibilities of love. Submitting to governing authorities is a sign of one's submission to God. The word submission is often seen as a word of weakness and loss of power. However, Paul sees in submission a different understanding of power. It is the ability to set aside oneself for the sake of another. That is this basis of Christ's love for us. Paul said it beautifully in another one of his letters: "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (II Corinthians 5:21)

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Blessed is the name of the Lord!

People: **Blessed is the Most High God!**

Pastor: May the faithful pray to God and be heard by Him, our Protector and Defender, who sings over us. ... God of the Heavens and the Earth, You are great and mighty and incomparable to everyone and everything else. You are wondrous and mysterious and worthy and we sing to You, bow down to You, and worship You with all that we have. You are God; we are not. You love us, and we don't understand why. Today, we present ourselves to You and ask You to cleanse us, wipe away our sin slates, and free us from guilt. Only through the blood of Jesus Christ can this be done, and we acknowledge that now.

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



Opening Song - Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

We Are Renewed In God's Grace

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. - Silence is kept for reflection. - Faithful God,

All: **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

God Speaks Through His Word

First Reading - Romans 13:1-10

Pastor: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; ⁴for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is due them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for

the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ...This is God’s Word

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 18:1-20

Pastor: At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ² He called a child, whom he put among them, ³ and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. ⁶ “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷ Woe to the world because of stumbling blocks! Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to the one by whom the stumbling block comes! ⁸ “If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰ “Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. ¹² What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost. ¹⁵ “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” ...This is the Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

Message Song – Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878



Message

“Citizens of Two Kingdoms” Romans 13:1-10

We Bring Our Praises, Prayers And Gifts

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: In times of weakness, worry, and doubt we increase our faith and profess the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: **We become childlike in our faith and believe in God the Father, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth, who by His Word moved nothing into something. He is God and sits on the throne. He rules the nations with justice and at His right hand sits His coming Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Christ paid our ransom with His own body and blood, broken and shed for our sins. He humbled Himself as a man, yet fully God was He. He carried out the purpose of His Father’s will to redeem the human race. We are the beloved of Christ, His Bride, and He will one day return soon. In the meantime, we are kept with the Holy Spirit who guides us and shows us the way. He revives our souls, breathes into us the breath of God, and never leaves us nor forsakes us. The Holy Spirit prays for us, groans and moans escaping Him on our behalf, to turn from our wicked ways and to follow God. He reminds us to take up our crosses daily and follow Christ. We are the Body of Christ, His Church. We accept the responsibility to stand in the gap on behalf of this world in prayer as warrior Christians. We seek the Lord above all else, and turn away from temptation. Father, Son, and Spirit, gird us with Your truth. Give us the strength to endure to the end for Your holy name! Amen.**

The Prayers

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. – Silent Prayer - For all the children of God, the Holy Christian Church, that we proclaim the salvation of Christ wherever we are and to whomever we meet, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Father, we depend on You as we share the Good News.**

Pastor: For the living out of our vocations, that no matter our station in life or what calling we have been given, that we faithfully represent our Savior with lives of humility and faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Father, we depend on You as we serve You with our lives.**

Pastor: For all children, that they grow daily in the wisdom of the Lord, and for all parents and those who work to care for children, that they be guided in their important service of love, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Father, we depend on You as we live as Your children.

Pastor: For all public servants who selflessly serve others, both those who serve locally and those in positions throughout the world, that they would entrust their lives into the protecting care of their Maker, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Father, we depend on You for Your protection.

Pastor: For all who suffer in heart, mind, and body, that they with patience and faith receive the healing care You offer, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Father, we depend on You for Your healing touch.

Additional Prayers

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For these concerns and for every unspoken prayer that is on our hearts and minds, that our gracious God would hear and answer us, let us pray to the Lord,

People: Father, we depend on You for everything. In Jesus' name we pray. 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: Follow the Lord and accept His yoke, which is easy and light. Stay close to Him and seek Him first. Allow Him to minister to you, comfort you, and correct you.

People: We accept this responsibility and we will follow Jesus by the grace of God! Amen.

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 - Before You, Lord, We Bow

Before you, Lord, we bow,
our God who reigns above
and rules the world below,
boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring
in joy and praise,
our hearts we raise
to you, our king!

The nation you have blest
may well your love declare,
from foes and fears at rest,
protected by your care.
For this bright day,
for this fair land--
gifts of your hand--
our thanks we pay.

And when in pow'r he comes,
oh, may our native land
from all its rending tombs
send forth a glorious band,
a countless throng,
with joy to sing
to heav'n's high king
salvation's song!

Text: Francis S. Key, 1779-1843, 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

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=ZlZpQkZNbEx5VmtUYTBKUnlLQjJkZz09>

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

Thursday - Lauren Schneeberger

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 6 – September 12, 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 7

Psalm 103:1–12
2 Kings 4:38-5:8
Ephesians 6:1-24

Tuesday – September 8

Psalm 103:1–12
2 Kings 5:9-27
Philippians 1:1-20

Wednesday – September 9

Psalm 103:1–12
2 Kings 6:1-23
Philippians 1:21-2:11

Thursday – September 10

Psalm 103:1–12
2 Kings 9:1-13, 10:18-29
Philippians 2:12-30

Friday – September 11

Psalm 103:1–12
2 Chronicles 29:1-24
Philippians 3:1-21

Saturday – September 12

Psalm 103:1–12
2 Chronicles 31:1-24
Philippians 4:1-23

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday

Proper 19

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:1–12
Romans 14:1–12
Matthew 18:21–35