

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 3, 2021

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska

Rev. Jonathan Jensen, Transitional Minister, 402-768-3665

(Your offerings can be left in the offering plate found at the back of the church either before or after worship. Noisy offering will be taken at Children's Message time.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 8)

How majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

O God, creative Spirit, all things have their beginning and ending in you. We hold your name on high.

Glory and honor to you! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Jesus, Name Above All Names" OSB 115

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray...

C: Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to

the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." ²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? ⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

(The families of Coryn Remmenga and Tillman Bowhay are invited to come forward. Children in the congregation are also invited to come forward. Noisy offering is taken at this time.)

P: Coryn and Tillman, a year ago you were washed in the waters of baptism. You were buried with Christ and raised with Christ. You were declared to be a child of God and you entered the family of Christ. We give thanks for your baptisms and for all the promises of God. You never need to doubt that you are each a beautiful and precious child of God.

Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, You loved children so much that you said: 'Whoever welcomes a child welcomes me'. Hear our prayers and, with your unfailing care, watch over these children. We ask that you bless Coryn and Tillman, and all of us as we remember and celebrate their baptisms. Continue to work your grace in their lives and help them to be your faithful disciples all the days of their lives. When they have grown to maturity, may they be fervent in faith, strong in hope and generous in love. May the God of gentleness and love bless Coryn and Tillman as we remember and celebrate their baptisms and watch over them always. Amen.

(Children are excused to go downstairs for Sunday School.)

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her

husband and marries another, she commits adultery.” ¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

MESSAGE

Rev. Megan Morrow
Assistant to the Bishop, Nebraska Synod

HYMN OF THE DAY: “**Blest Be the Tie that Binds**” LBW 370

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 Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. 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 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians, that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Bring healing to Dustin, Henry and Ann. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship with us and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS: **"Lamb of God" p. 72, OSB 16, LBW 198, LBW 197**

POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

P: The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

All: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLANKETS, SCHOOL KITS AND PERSONAL KITS BLESSING

Please place your hands on a blanket as we dedicate them to serve those in need.

P: Gracious God, as we place our hands on these blankets, we join giver and receiver, recognizing the unity of all your people in the body of Christ.

C: We celebrate being the children of God.

P: We give thanks for the variety of gifts that compose the making of these blankets, the school kits and personal care kits: donations of items needed, faithful people who worked on these blankets, donated items for blankets and kits, and those who will help to put together kits and pack items for shipping.

C: We celebrate generosity and community.

P: We send these blankets and kits as a sign of God's love and blessing for each person who receives one, trusting that they will be a source of comfort and hope in the midst of disaster and fear, a symbol of Christ's love to those who suffer, a reminder that each recipient is a beloved child of God. May they be a step in recovering one's life and a message of care from someone they may never meet.

C: We celebrate hope in the midst of life's trials.

P: We remember those who have received our blankets and kits in the past and pray that their lives have returned to stability.

C: We celebrate the gift of life.

P: We ask that you bless the fruits of our labor and the whole mission of Lutheran World Relief, that together we may minister to our neighbors in need. Bless all who give and all who receive, as we are brought together in the unity of your Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name" LBW 262, vv. 1,2,4

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP! It's wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here in person, in the parking lot and on-line!

WELCOME to Rev. Megan Morrow, Assistant to the Bishop, Nebraska Synod, ELCA. It's great to have you with us again!

PLEASE JOIN US DOWNSTAIRS after church for a piece of "wedding cake" in celebration of our 40th Anniversary. We were married on October 4, 1981, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

- Allen & Mary Ann Harms

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Dustin Fritch, Henry Lenners, Ann Lenners, our shut-ins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Payton Heideman (Oct. 3), Kelsay Bledsaw (Oct. 4), Jacob Lenners, Galen Parde (Oct. 5), Kylie Lenners (Oct. 6), Angela Reynoso, Rodney Schmale, Glenda Van Eperen (Oct. 7).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Allen & Mary Ann Harms (10-4-81), Russell & Kelly Harms (10-6-07), Mike & Michelle Snyder (10-7-17), Dean & Michelle Baker (10-9-99).

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY: Today we celebrate the Baptism Anniversary of Coryn Kennedy Remmenga who was received into God's family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on September 27, 2020. We pray for God's richest blessings on Coryn and her family.

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY: Today we celebrate the Baptism Anniversary of Tillman Robert Bowhay who was received into God's family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on October 4, 2020. We pray for God's richest blessings on Tillman and his family.

"TELLING OUR STORY": The congregation is asked to attend a special coffee hour in the Parish Hall on October 10 & October 17. As part of the Call Process in our search for a new congregational leader, the Call Committee is seeking your input about what characteristics we have and what you would consider significant traits for a new leader. Your input will be used to create a video that will be seen by Call Candidates and will be titled "Telling Our Story." The Call Committee will be directing our activities for these events. This is your opportunity to assist with our search for a new congregational leader!

THE CONGREGATION AND CHURCH COUNCIL would like to thank the Confirmation Committee consisting of Denise Blaker, Delores Huls, Jolene Huls, Arlys Jurgens, and Sandy Mahler for putting together the program and meal honoring past confirmands on their special anniversary. Thank you for your planning and preparing the excellent meal.

THANK YOU! The Confirmation Reunion Committee would like to thank all those who helped in any way for our 2nd Annual Confirmation Reunion last Sunday: those who let us borrow items from past years for the display... Ervin & Darin Huls for preparing the windsor loins... Terry's Place for donating the sour cream... Brenda for setting up PowerPoint... and those who donated desserts. Your generosity is much appreciated.
Denise, Delores, Jolene, Arlys and Sandy

MOTHER TO MOTHER MINISTRY - PURSES WITH A PURPOSE: Silent Auction & Tea Party: Sunday, Oct. 3, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Burwood Bookstore, 609 Court St, Beatrice. Browse and bid on gently pre-loved purses filled with fun extras while enjoying afternoon tea. Designer, vintage, clutches, totes, handbags and more. For information call 402-223-6042. All proceeds go to Mother to Mother Ministry.

SUNMART RECEIPTS: Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called "Support Our Schools and Churches." All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall (or give to a council person). When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached our goal of \$150,000 two times so far and are starting over again with a balance of about **\$29,000.00**. You can also ask your check-out person if they have any extra receipts. They save the ones that people don't want and give them out - first come, first serve. Thank you to everyone who is helping with this ministry!

PLEASE DONATE TO OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY: American Lutheran Church gathers food donations for the Community Pantry and Emergency Services in Beatrice on an ongoing basis. The Food Pantry serves all of Gage County. If you would like to give to this ministry, please leave your donated items in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall at any time. NO glass jars, please. **THANK YOU for your continued support to this ministry!**

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE: You can find our church website at www.filleylutheranchurch.com or by scanning this QR code:



BULLETIN ITEMS are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call Sandy or email her at smahleris@gmail.com.

BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND on our website, filleylutheranchurch.com. Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Sandy at smahleris@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS:

Transitional Minister – Pastor Jonathan Jensen, 402-768-3665

Council – Dave Norton-President (402-520-3555), Virgil Jobman-Vice President (402-310-6339), Carol Frerichs-Secretary (402-223-7919), Brenda Hippen-Treasurer (402-688-4466), Linda Searcey-at large (402-223-8237).

Reader – Danelle Lenners

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen/DeeAnn Schmidt

Audio/Video – Randy Schmidt

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler

Fellowship: Mary Ann Harms