

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 20, 2022
American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska
Rev. Jonathan Jensen, Transitional Minister, 402-768-3665

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: We gather together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40)

P: Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,

C: for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.

P: Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

C: Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

P: Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

C: He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

P: Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

C: Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret — it leads only to evil.

P: For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

C: Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.

P: But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

C: The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

P: The LORD helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

GATHERING HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign" LBW 530

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children.

We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected.

We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves.

We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.

Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation.

Amen.

P: Rejoice in this good news: In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

C: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 4:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (*Noisy offering is taken at this time.*)

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

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said:] ²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bleed those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Jensen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Love, Love, Love" OSB 134
Offerings will be received at this time.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God,

C: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.

You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.

Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food,

and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world,

in the name of Christ our light.

Amen.

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 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

P: The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

P: You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom. As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: 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. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your

glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: (spoken) 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

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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN: OSB 261, LBW 423

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: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of Your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. 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.

SENDING HYMN: "Where Charity and Love Prevail" LBW 126 vv. 1-4

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! If you are a visitor, please sign the guest book and feel welcome to come again. You are invited to come downstairs for refreshments and fellowship following worship.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Dustin Fritch, and our shut-ins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Boone Hippen (Feb 21), Maria Hippen (Feb 22), Alan Corey (Feb 24)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to Dennis and Vicki Busboom (Feb 21, 1971)

CHURCH CLEANING will be held February 21-25. A list of jobs that need to be completed will be in the kitchen. So come anytime that week that works for you. When you complete a job write on the job list that it has been completed. Thank you in advance for helping with this project.

SPRING GATHERING MARCH 5 AT ZION LUTHERAN OF PICKRELL has been cancelled.

PREPARE FOR A SEASON OF HOPE: LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KITS IN LENT. *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1-3*

This season of Lent, American Lutheran will once again walk with people around the world afflicted by the pandemic, war, displacement and poverty by collecting and assembling Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Personal Care Kits. Each week, please bring the featured item to worship. Thank you for participating in this ministry!

First Week of Lent – March 6: One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27"), dark color recommended.

Second Week of Lent – March 13: Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap (3-5 ounces each) 8-9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel-size bars.

Third Week of Lent – March 20: One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging. Multi-packs may be used. Do not provide toothpaste; it will be provided by LWR.

Fourth Week of Lent – March 27: One **sturdy** comb. Remove packaging.

Fifth Week of Lent – April 3: One metal nail clippers (attached file optional). Remove packaging.

Palm Sunday – April 10: Any items that we are short of (we'll let you know through bulletins and email!)

COMING UP:

Every Wednesday – BeLOVED/Confirmation, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

March 2 – Ash Wednesday service at 6:00 p.m.

March 6 – BeLOVED sings at 9:30 worship

March 9 – No BeLOVED/Confirmation class but Confirmation students are encouraged to attend Lenten service.

April 10 – Palm Sunday

April 10 – BeLOVED sings at 9:30 worship

April 17 – Easter

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 \$114,000.00. 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!

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER If anyone would like something published in the monthly newsletter email Dave Norton at norton_dan@yahoo.com by the third Sunday of the month.

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 Brenda Hippen or email her at filleylutheranchurch@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 Brenda at filleylutheranchurch@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS

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

Council – Virgil Jobman-President (402-310-6339), Stanley Fritzen-Vice President (402-239-2254), Linda Searcey-Secretary (402-223-8237), Brenda Hippen-Treasurer (402-688-4466), Ross Kaufman-at large (402-239-7845).

Reader: Linda Searcey Next Week: DeeAnn Schmidt

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen Next Week: Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video: Dave Norton Next Week:

Accompanist: Sarah Harder Next Week: Contemporary Group

Fellowship: Dave & Betty Norton Next Week: Tom & Jane Young