

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 31, 2022

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska

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

DEDICATION OF THE CROSSES

The congregation gathers outside at the entrance of the church before the crosses.

P: Sisters and brothers, today we give thanks to God and we seek God's blessing as we set apart *these crosses* to the glory of God.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe,
for you have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift;
you have commanded us to show your splendor to our children;
and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy.

Send your blessing on these crosses, which we set apart today;
may these signs of your Son's triumph draw us to him
who leads us with this banner of salvation.

To you, O God, be all glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH PEW BENCH

The congregation enters the building and pauses at the Church Pew Bench.

Send your blessings on this pew bench, which we set apart today; may it provide a place of repose for those who pray and meditate in worship or devotion and so facilitate giving glory to your name.

Congregation processes into sanctuary.

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 49:1-12)

P: Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

C: both low and high, rich and poor together.

P: My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

C: I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.

P: Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,

C: those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches?

P: Truly, no ransom avails for one's life, there is no price one can give to God for it.

C: For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice,

P: that one should live on forever and never see the grave.

C: When we look at the wise, they die; fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others.

P: Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though they named lands their own.

C: Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish.

GATHERING HYMN: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" #783 (WOV)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thought 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: Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. ^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. ⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being

demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Jensen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord" #779 (WOV)

Offerings will be received at this time.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

DEDICATION OF THE PARAMENTS

P: Send your blessing on *these paraments*, which we set apart today; may they adorn this house, show us the beauty of holiness, and so proclaim the glory of your majesty.

DEDICATION OF THE PLANT STANDS

P: Send your blessings on these plant stands, which we set apart today; may they enable the bringing of flowers, plants, and objects of natural beauty into our worship settings and so symbolize the beauty of the creation.

P: Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence.

P: O God, you are wholeness. Where there is division in your church, bring reconciliation and healing. Guide the work of theologians, Sunday school teachers, seminary professors, and all who provide instruction for the building up of your church. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you are the source of all life. Where creation cries out in distress, bring relief and renewal. Bless farmers, ranchers, distributors, and all who provide our food. Nourish the land and all its habitants. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you are wisdom. Where nations and communities yearn for peace, bring justice. Strengthen those who toil for the welfare of others, especially military personnel, police, first responders, and activists, and for the healing of the nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you are life. Where your people are overwhelmed with the busy-ness of life, bring encouragement. Accompany all who experience emotional, mental, or physical distress. Renew us at your table of mercy. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you are our treasure. Where scarcity and anxiety pervade your church, bring abundance and vitality. Guide the work of church councils and committees and give them clarity for the work of ministry in this place. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: O God, you are resurrection. We give you thanks for all your saints. Inspire us by their example of faithful living to set our minds on things above and to be rich in love toward you. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

C: Amen.

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.

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: "My Life Flows On in Endless Song" #781(WOV)

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: Helen Fritzen and our shut-ins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Kristen Remmenga (July 31), Cayson Jensen, Delcan Milburn, Lisa Svoboda (Aug. 4), Steve Janssen (Aug. 5).

WELCA will be meeting on August 3, at 9:30 a.m. at church. Bible study lesson is Potiphar's Wife given by Carlyne Wolken, and Hostess is Jolene Huls.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the shoe collection. We were able to collect 100 pair of shoes. A group of ladies went garage sale shopping a day and collected 23 pair of shoes, 18 backpacks, and 10 coats. Fun day to shop and help out families in need. Next month along with the underwear will be delivering to area schools or families.

COATS are still being collected. So clean out your closets, pick one up at a garage sale and leave them in the basement of the church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with the BeLOVED program on Wednesday afternoons. We will work with your schedule. You can do one day a month, two or three whatever works. We need kitchen help, teacher assistance, teachers, where is your talent. We have approximately 50 youth. We will start September 14 and go through the school year. The youth arrive about 4 and we end at 5:15. Let Brenda Hippen know if you are available. Thank you.

BELOVED MEETING Sunday, August 14 following worship. Any person who volunteers in any capacity please join us.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL August 7, 2022 from 4 to 6 pm at St. John Lutheran Church basement in Sterling, Ne. University of NE Dairy Store Ice Cream, vanilla, butter brickle and strawberry. Homemade cake and drinks. Free will donation with proceeds to repair tombstones at St. John Cemetery. Sponsored by St. John Cemetery Committee and Thrivent Action Team.

DAY ONE - Our church is sponsoring Day One that is broadcast on KWBE Sunday mornings at 7:00 am.

Aug. 7- Sponsored by American Lutheran Church of Filley as a Thrivent Action Team Project to remember those less fortunate by contributing to your local food pantry for items in need. We **Thank You** for your continue support in this ministry and being a **Light** in many lives.

PLEASE HELP FILL OUR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS!

School sales are on so please add the needed items to your shopping lists and bring them to church. Why school supplies? To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies sometimes mean the difference between getting an education or not. Public school is usually free, but in the places where LWR works, even a few required supplies, like pens and paper, may be more than many families can afford. And when parents can only afford to send one of their children to school, girls rarely get priority...yet the education level of mothers has the biggest impact on development. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage. All items should be new and in good condition.

Each School Kit needs:

Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper

One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

One pencil sharpener; One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); One box of 16 or 24 crayons

One 2½" eraser

Please help fill our bags and be a part of this ministry. Jane Young is sponsor of this Thrivent card. Thank you!!!

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 three times so far and are starting over again with a balance of about \$90,600.00. 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 – (402-223-8237), Brenda Hippen- Treasurer (402-688-4466), Ross Kaufman – at large (402-239-7845).

Reader: DeeAnn Schmidt Next Week: Glenda VanEperen

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

Audio/Video: Dave Norton Next Week: Randy Schmidt

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler Next Week: Sandy Mahler

Fellowship: Ron & Betty Leners Next Week: Bob & Arlys Jurgens