

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 11, 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 51:1-10)

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

P: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

C: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

P: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

C: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

P: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

P: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

GATHERING HYMN: "I Have the Joy" #150 OSB

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; O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BELOVED TEACHERS AND HELPERS

P: God of Creation, you have gifted these leaders with teaching skills, creativity, and curiosity. We pray you would fill them with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit. Fill them with energy and insight into your Word, the story of Your faithful heart.

Teachers & Helpers: You have not called us to be perfect but have called us to be faithful. You have not called us to be all-knowing but have called us to believe. We dedicate ourselves to the call and task of teaching. Grant us wisdom, patience and joy in our preparation and teaching of your Word.

Congregation: God of hope, guide each teacher as they study your Word. Strengthen the gifts you have given them, and energize their compassion. Remind us to find ways to support and encourage them throughout the year. May we share in their joy and times of difficulty.

ALL: We commit ourselves, each to our part, in this joyful task. May your steadfast and faithful love guide all we do. Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." ¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY: Allen Sasse

PRESENTATION OF LITTLE LAMBS AND BIBLES

(All those receiving Little Lambs, those receiving Bibles and their parents are invited to come forward.)

P: Blessed be your name, O Lord our God, You are the fount and source of every blessing! You have revealed yourself to your human creation in many and diverse ways. Look with delight upon these children today as we renew our commitment to read and remember You in the stories of our salvation. Help us to absorb its wisdom and live its inspired truth.

Parents: Receive the Word of God. Learn its stories and study its words. Its stories belong to us all, and these words speak to us all. They tell us who we are. They tell us that we belong to one another, for we are the people of God.

C: We rejoice in this step in your journey with God. We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school classes, and in our worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.

BACKPACK BLESSING

(All students and those associated with schools in any way are invited to come forward.)

P: Gracious God, we lift to you today, these students. They stand here ready to receive your blessings and they commit themselves to study and learning in the school year ahead. We ask your blessing on each of them. Further, we ask your blessing on these backpacks. They will hold the school work of each student and will be carried from home to school and back again. May these students be reminded of the love and care of this congregation that surrounds them each school day. We pray as well for the teachers, staff and administrators in our schools. May they also be sustained by your blessing and be reminded that this congregation surrounds them with love and care as well. We pray in the name of Jesus who we seek to follow day by day. **C: Amen.**

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Jensen

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Amazing Grace" #448 LBW

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

P: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

P: Your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Fill your church with faith and love, and give understanding hearts to those who work to strengthen our ecumenical and interreligious commitments. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, and habitats. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your world is shattered and the nations rage. Remember us in your mercy. Teach wisdom to our elected leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your children wander homeless and the hungry cry for bread. Seek out those who are lost or lonely, anxious or depressed, or struggling with addiction or illness. Provide for those in any need. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Build up the ministries of this community, that we serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in your name. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Your blessed saints who have died now rest in your presence. Give us thankful hearts for those who have been examples of faith in our lives, and receive us with joy when we come to share eternal life with you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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: "Go, My Children with My Blessing: WOV 721 vv. 1,4

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Permission to reprint/podcast/stream portions of this service obtained from One License with license #A-724367, CCLI with license #2497574 and Augsburg Fortress License #13855-L. Excerpts of this service are taken by permission from "Worship Resources, Making it Work in the Parish" by Rev. Jerry Nelson.

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: Eugene Lenner, DeeAnn Schmidt, Helen Fritzen and our shut-ins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Treyton Hippen (Sept. 11), Casey Howell, Megan Nelson (Sept. 13), Traci Baehr, Emily Bowhay, TJ Tremain (Sept. 14), Mike Mayfield (Sept. 17).

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to Kent & Yvette Hippen (Sept. 14, 1980), Scott & Jill Nelson (Sept. 16, 2000).

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES:

Third Grade (engraved Bible): Cam Antons, Taylee Brethouwer, Kate Fritzen, Abby Harms, Jaxon Hill, Lily Lewien, Lainie Lovitt, Lily Robertson, Alexis Rule, Allen Sasse, Colt Schwandt, Ellie Snyder, Sofia Snyder, Alivia Wehrbein, Brekyn Weyers, Kinley Whitlinger.

Kindergarten (Sparks Bible): Loryn Antons, Decker Bohling, Kailor Fritch, Declan Milburn.

PRESENTATION OF LITTLE LAMBS

Preschool age children eligible to begin Sunday School will be recognized and will receive the Little Lambs from their baptism and a Jesus Story Book Bible: Kynsleigh Kunza, Rhetlee Shufeldt.

WARRENS TABLE is Tuesday, September 13. The ladies of the church will be serving. Please have your food to American Lutheran Filley by 11:00 a.m. The servers will transport to Beatrice. Any questions contact Sandy Flesner.

GOOD NEWS!! We received word from one of our schools where we delivered the shoes – remember we had 100 pairs of shoes – all but two pairs of shoes are gone. What a great project of helping kids in need! Thanks to all on helping with this project.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS Sunday will be on October 2. We will be blessing and putting together health kits, school kits, and blankets. We need everybody to help.

ALC CONTACT LIST: The church contact list book has been printed. We ask that there be a limit of one per household. If for any reason you did not get one and would like to have one, please let Jolene Huls or Pat Jobman know. If you notice any changes or corrections, please let a council person know and an update page will be added. **Thank you everyone for making this happen!**

SEPTEMBER THRIVENT ACTION PROJECT is to help stock Beatrice Southeast Community College Food Pantry. Please place items on the table downstairs. Remember these college kids could be your own – your neighbor – or your grandkids. Let's fill some sacks!! Suggestions: Noodles, rice, ramen, mac & cheese, tuna/chicken helper, canned tuna/chicken, pop tarts, cereal, oatmeal, granola bars, soup, crackers, peanut butter, ketchup, salt & pepper, bottled water, small packets dried milk, toiletry items, laundry soap. Project is sponsored by Susan Frerichs.

THE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY is very low on food and monetary donations. Please place these items in the grocery cart downstairs. Suggestions: peanut butter/jelly, pancake mix, syrup, sugar, flour, laundry and dish soap, bar soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, all canned fruit or vegetables, hamburger, tuna, chicken helpers, ketchup, mayo, mustard, vegetable oil, crackers, healthy kids snacks.

RALLY SUNDAY –is **TODAY**, Sunday, September 11, at American Lutheran Church. There will be Recognition of Little Lambs and Presentation of Bibles to Kindergarten & 3rd graders at the 9:30 a.m. worship service and then at 10:30 a.m. join in the fun with games! Hamburgers, hotdogs and trimmings will be provided for everyone at the 11 a.m. meal. The only thing you need to bring is yourself!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS is **TODAY**, Sunday, September 11, as we celebrate and bless this new year. Students, preschool through adult, bring your backpacks, bookbags, or lunch boxes to worship. The service will lift up children and students of all ages, dedicating them to God's glory as we begin a new school year. Teachers, aides, secretaries, cooks, librarians, janitors, bus drivers, etc., come to church to be blessed, affirmed in your vocation and encouraged as you serve children and families in your daily work! Invite your family and friends!

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 \$112,000.00. 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 – (402-223-8237), Brenda Hippen- Treasurer (402-688-4466), Ross Kaufman – at large (402-239-7845).

Reader: Danelle Lenners Next Week: Glenda VanEperen

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

Audio/Video: Norm Flesner Next Week: Dave Norton

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler Next Week: Sandy Mahler

Fellowship: Rally Sunday Next Week: Tom & Jane Young