



AS WE GATHER

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 6, 2020

“Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” Jesus’ disciples asked. Our Lord responded by welcoming a child into His midst. “Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” Children are highly valued by our gracious God because they are completely dependent. On their own, they have nothing, yet they need everything. This is true for all of us in our relationship with God! On our own, we have only our sinful, broken lives and are unable to please God and fulfill His commands. Yet, in Jesus Christ, we possess everything we need! Forgiveness of sins and the guarantee of life forever with God are freely given to those who turn from their sin and receive the forgiveness earned by our crucified and risen Savior. In Jesus, we are, like children, completely dependent. We have nothing to offer, yet everything we need is ours to receive from the gracious hands of our Savior.

Mesquite Lutheran Church & Preschool and Childcare

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Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.
A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily.
(1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church can come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

PRELUDE
WELCOME

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #686 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 92:1–2

P It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
C **to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**
P to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,
C **and Your faithfulness by night.**
P The Most High God gathers us to praise His name and declare His love together!

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Psalm 32:1

P Lord God, You promise grace and every blessing to all who come before You and repent of their sins. Hear us now as we, Your humble children, bring our prayers before You.

In silent prayer, we confess our sins to the Lord, seeking His cleansing forgiveness.

P Most merciful Father,
C **we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Because our Savior humbled Himself for our sake upon the cross, enable us in true humility to receive the remission You promise to Your repentant children. Amen.**

- P “Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.” God the Father has taken your sins and laid them upon our humble Savior Jesus Christ. Because of Christ’s sacrifice, God does not count your sins against you. He has taken them away! He remembers them no more! He preserves and delivers you as His child forever! As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

WORD

INTROIT Psalm 92:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

- P How great are Your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!
- C **It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**
- P to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night,
- C **to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.**
- P For You, O Lord, have made me glad by Your work; at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
How great are Your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!**

KYRIE LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

HYMN OF PRAISE LSB# 790

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, our gracious and loving Father, we are Your dependent children.

Although we in no way deserve Your goodness, You freely offer Your grace to all who turn to You.

C **Grant us faith to trust in Your Son, who humbled Himself for our salvation.**

P We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 33:7–9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING Romans 13:1–10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except

to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The 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: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE Matthew 5:3

P Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit,

C **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 18:1–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man 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? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If

he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY #611 “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

SERMON “The Greatest” Matthew 18:1-20

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

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.

C Father, we depend on You as we share the Good News.

P 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.

C Father, we depend on You as we serve You with our lives.

P 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.

C Father, we depend on You as we live as Your children.

P 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.

C Father, we depend on You for Your protection.

P For all who suffer in heart, mind, and body, [*especially . . .*], that they with patience and faith receive the healing care You offer, let us pray to the Lord.

C Father, we depend on You for Your healing touch.

P 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,

C Father, we depend on You for everything. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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.

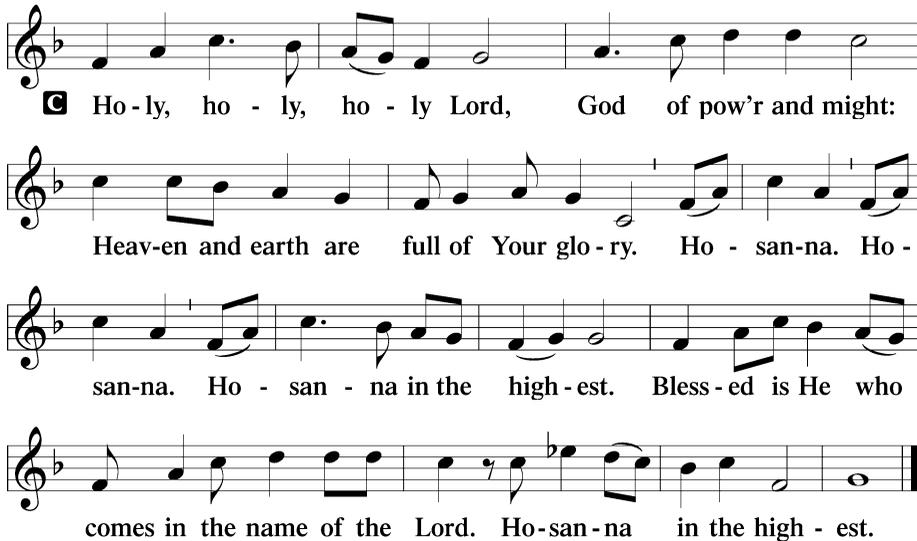
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. As Your dependent children, we have nothing to offer to make ourselves right with You. Yet, in the cleansing blood of Jesus, we receive Your mercy and forgiveness, full and free. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI



O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins a-way—
Our faith in - crease. Have mer - cy on us all,
Strength - en us when we fall, An - swer our
fer - vent call And grant us peace.

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+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

#725 Children of the Heavenly Father #711 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
#709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, we thank You for the forgiveness and renewal of life You have given us in the precious body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Because we depend on You for everything, grant us Your Holy Spirit that we be sent forth to declare the wonders of our Savior to the world He died to save; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION Psalm 92:1–2; Numbers 6:24–26

P It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
C **to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**
P to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,
C **and Your faithfulness by night.**

P The Most High God now sends us out to praise His name and declare His love wherever we go!
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN #924 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

The Altar flowers today are given by Jan Aslin in memory of her brother, Ed Nadel

+ + + + +

PRAYER LIST: Turk Chaney, healing; Melissa Chaney, hospital; Steve Webb, heart surgery recovery (husb. Of Serene); Pradeepa Kjelden, tests (Jean Anderson’s daughter); Rebecca Armstrong(17), open heart surgery, friend of Sophie Hood; Deedee Halterman, lung cancer, sister-in-law of Maggie & George Halterman; Velda, breast cancer, friend of Sophie Hood; Lucy Brookshire, cancer, sister of Nancy Schleiger; Lyle Powelson, kidney cancer; Harold Holtz, cancer treatments; Karen Droubay, cancer, friend of Reeds; Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

**MLC of MLC(women’s group) will have a meeting on
Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 9:30 AM PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME
& DAY**

For the good of others, please observe 6' social distancing. Masks are encouraged (provide your own). Hand sanitizer is available in the entryway. For those at greatest risk with additional health problems, we urge to remain at home and view services online until Covid is no longer a threat. If you are feeling ill in any way, please remain at home. 8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m. service available online at our Facebook page (live and recorded - @MesquiteLCC). You do not need a Facebook account to view. Go to facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live.

No Adult Bible Study Wed. Sept. 9, 16. Adult Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and will resume Sept. 23rd.

CERAMICS

I will be starting Ceramics Class on Wednesday, September 23rd. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall of Mesquite Lutheran Church from 1-4 pm each Wednesday. The fee for each class will be \$10.00. This will include paint and finishing spray to complete items of your choice. Please contact me to come and view any bisque you would like to paint. My phone number is 815-409-2035. Let me know if you will be attending so I can set up a place for you. Can't wait to see you all again!!

Christine Constien

BIRTHDAYS

**Sept. 6 Harold Holtz
Sept. 9 Cheryl Bakke
Sept. 13 Suzanne Saltzman
Sept. 17 Barbara Coverdale
Sept. 23 Bob Sennett
Sept. 28 Den Hood
Sept. 30 O.J. Johnson**

**Sept. 7 Connor Helsten
Sept. 12 Cheryl Beldin
Sept. 15 Juls Gerads
Sept. 20 Bonnie Gloe
Sept. 27 Georgia Townsend
Sept. 29 Ila Larson**

ANNIVERSARIES

**Sept. 6 Hap & Ruby Stuart
Sept. 16 Tom & Barbara Coverdale
Sept. 22 Paul & Claudia Havens**

**Sept. 7 Ron & Polly Stuhar
Sept. 20 Harold & Bonnie Holtz
Sept. 30 Kenneth & Nancy Schleiger**

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