

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor Janine Shearer

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Seventh Sunday after Pentecost † July 16, 2023

P - Pastor ♦ C - Congregation ♦ A - Assisting Minister

LBW-Lutheran Book of Worship-Green ♦ **WOV**-With One Voice-Blue

ELW-Evangelical Lutheran Worship-Red

*** Please stand as you are able**

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

PRELUDE *In Christ Alone* by Getty and Townend -Peggy Snyder, violin

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

P Righteous God,

C we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW # 533 - Red *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the

mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65:1-13

¹You are to be praised, O ¹ God, in Zion; to you shall vows ¹ be fulfilled.

²**To you, the one ¹ who answers prayer, to you all ¹ flesh shall come.**

³Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out ¹ our transgressions.

⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your ¹ courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness ¹ of your temple.**

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of ¹ our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans ¹ far away.

⁶**You make firm the mountains ¹ by your power; you are girded about with might.**

⁷You still the roaring ^l of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor ^l of the peoples.
⁸**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your ^l marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to ^l sing for joy.**
⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is ^l full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide ^l for the earth.
¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth ^l out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and ^l bless its increase.**
¹¹You crown the year ^l with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be ^l rich for grazing,
and the hills be ^l clothed with joy.**
¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for ^l joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending God's own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind

that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through this Spirit that dwells in you.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  *(please stand as you are able)*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

* **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And in the sowing, some seeds fell on the path,

and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and

brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸"Hear, then, the parable of the sower.

¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the dominion of heaven and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and

when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW # 679 - Red *For the Fruit of All Creation*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

* **APOSTLES' CREED** *(please stand as you are able)*

C 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 *(you may be seated)*

A Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Heal those who are sick, O God especially those on our hearts and minds. Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Inspire us by the faithful departed, O God, examples of your embodied love, whose confidence in the resurrection guides us in living lives worthy of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

*** LORD'S PRAYER** *(please stand as you are able)*

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN *God of the Fertile Fields*

God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread;
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
that all in ev'ry land be clothed and fed.

We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share, teach us like you to care
for people ev'rywhere, that all may live.

As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need,
so your reign grows. Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused,
no humble task refused your love bestows.

God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one:
we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

POSTLUDE *Allegro Maestoso* from Sonata No. 2 by Felix Mendelssohn

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Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Rupert & Rita Schweinhagen in honor of their 62nd wedding anniversary.

This week please hold in prayer: Mary Lou Zwiebel, Paul Long, Ed & Betty Panning, Garrick Walker, Ronald Hoops brother of Mary Lou Streicher, Lee Weirauch, Bob Lulfs, Nancy & Ken Lange, Terry Lacy, Matt Von Seggern, Dezarea Harshman, for all those on our hearts and minds, and for peace in our nation and the whole world.

Thursday Bible Study: Please join us weekly on Thursday at 9:30am in the adult Sunday school room.

Soaring Arts Gallery Opening

Join us to celebrate the opening of a "Uniquely Me" gallery by Jen Nofziger on Thursday July 20th from 5-7pm. See some awesome art, enjoy refreshments, and congratulate Jen on her beautiful artwork!

Summer Coffee Hour

Thank you to our coffee hour hosts this morning, Soul Food. Please plan to stay after worship as we gather for some refreshments and fellowship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Next week's hosts: Brass Ensemble.

Year of Gratitude: This week we give thanks for Congregational Life. Between caring corner and potlucks, summer coffee hour and the angel tree, Congregational life stays busy all year round. They make sure that we are living God's love into the community and spending time in fellowship with each other. We are so grateful for the ministry of this team!

Caring Corner for July and August - we would like to highlight the LWR kits we annually put together. Lutheran World Relief collects these kits and sends them to communities/countries that need them. Fabric kits supply fabric and supplies needed for individuals to sew clothing for themselves and others. Personal care kits provide items needed for personal hygiene. School kits provide needed school supplies.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

Emanuel will join folks from around NW Ohio at the Toledo Mudhens game on Sunday August 20th for Faith and Family day. Pregame activities begin at 2pm with presentations from the team chaplain, some of the players, and a faith band. First pitch is at 4pm. Tickets are \$15 per person and for an additional \$8 you can get a hotdog, chips, and a drink. We are sitting on the 3rd base line. Please sign up and pay in the office by August 1st. Play ball!

This Week

Tuesday, July 18	7pm	A Space to Grieve
Wednesday, July 19	1:30-3pm	Open Office Hours at Pocket Park or Coffee Shop
	4-5pm	Puzzles & People
	5pm	Soul Food Café
Thursday, July 20	9:30am	Bible Study
	5-7pm	Soaring Arts Gallery Opening
	7pm	Worship with Communion
Sunday, July 23	9am	Christmas in July Worship in person or online

A Space to Grieve

Carol Castello and Pastor Janine invite those of you who are grieving to a time to check in, hear scripture, and share stories on July 18th at 7pm in the Bible Study room (with dinner provided beforehand at 6:30). You do not need to RSVP but please let us know if you plan to attend and have any dietary restrictions. As the Honduran proverb goes, "Grief shared is half grief. Joy shared is double joy." Let us hold some of your grief for you.

Pictorial Pictures Update

As we have not seen all available appointments being used for pictorial pictures, we are winding down our scheduled appointments. Ann has taken some beautiful family pictures at the fairgrounds, the river, the church and Bloomfield House. If you haven't participated in this generous opportunity by Ann, you are truly missing out. If you want your picture taken in July, after the holiday, please contact Ann directly at 419.966.2210. ALL pictures MUST be completed by September 1, 2023 so that the directory can be completed and printed. Thank you for your cooperation! Phyl Kloos

To Pastor and Kitchen Crew - Thank you so much for the beautiful service and wonderful lunch. You all were the answer to a prayer. The family of Alberta "Berta" Smith