



*Fear not, little flock*

# Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

August 7, 2022

## BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3210 Maple Drive, Plover, Wisconsin 54467  
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**Pastor David E. Ficken**

### Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

### Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

### Worship Information

**Parents with Young Children:** We encourage families to worship together.

**Worship Bulletin:** Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

**Worship Form:** There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

**Communion:** Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are **gluten intolerant** please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

### STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

#### BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion

 **Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord’s Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.**

- **TO PREPARE:** Please use the Christian Questions with Their Answers from “The Sacrament of the Altar” on page 329 in the front of the Lutheran Service Book. You are not obligated to partake if you feel, for whatever reason, the need to refrain from the Lord’s Supper for a short time.
- **Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.**

## **AS WE GATHER**

Today's Epistle is from Hebrews 11, the "by faith" chapter. It lists heroes of faith, people who trusted in God's promises, assured of what they hoped for (the definition of faith). The Reading from Genesis singles out Abram believing God, for which God counted it to him as righteousness. Now we can look back, knowing that in one descendant of Abraham, Jesus, all God's promises were kept. His calming words in the Gospel give us the assurance we need to rely on God's care and concern when we don't have all we think we need. "Seek [God's] kingdom, and these things will be added to you," He promises (Luke 12:31). Our faith-filled response echoes today's Psalm: "Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You" (Psalm 33:22).

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In today's Old Testament Reading, when Abram trusted God's promise of a son, he and Sarai were old and childless. But God had much more than one son in mind for the patriarch: the Promised Land as an inheritance and innumerable descendants. The Epistle is a list of people who have preceded us in faith. And now it is our turn, for in one of Abraham's offspring, Jesus, all God's promises were fulfilled. And by the Holy Spirit's gift of faith, we can trust Him for all we need. The promise is not only for the physical things we think we need; the inheritance is the promised land of heaven and citizenship in God's kingdom. "Seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you," our Lord promises (Luke 12:31). Our faith-filled response echoes today's Psalm: "Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You" (Psalm 33:22).

### **Witness & Outreach**

Luke 12:22-34: Jesus tells us that where our treasure is, there our hearts will also be. Jesus is our "Priceless Treasure" who helps us to seek the most important things in life, like a saving faith in Jesus. Our witness to the Good News of salvation in Jesus is one of the richest possessions we can share. May we share our faith and hope with joy and excitement. Who can you make rich today by sharing Christ with them? God's grace has made you overflowing in riches to share with others today with the Good News of salvation.

### **WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS**

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).and All God's People Song Book (AGPS) .

## **⌄ PREPARATION ⌄**

## INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Luke 12:32

Pastor: Let us go to our gracious God, confessing our sins, trusting Him for grace and forgiveness.

People: **We confess, heavenly Father, that 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, strengthen our faith, and focus our hearts on Your kingdom, the inheritance He won for us in His death and resurrection.**

Pastor: "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN "Seek Ye First"

LSB 712

## KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, You promised great blessings to the faith-filled people who have gone before us.

**People: Grant that we confidently trust that we have joined them to receive the gracious inheritance because of Your Son's fulfilling all Your promises in His death and resurrection;**

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Genesis 15:1–6 (God tells Abram he will have a large family and, through one offspring, countless inheritors of His promises.)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Reader: Fear the LORD, you His saints,

**People: for those who fear Him lack nothing!**

Reader: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

**People: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

**EPISTLE** Hebrews 11:1–16 (People of faith before us are examples for us.)

Reader: Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. By faith Abel

**People: offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts.**

Reader: And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. By faith Enoch

**People: was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him.**

Reader: Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that

He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him. By faith Noah,

**People:** **being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household.**

Reader: By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. By faith Abraham

**People:** **obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance.**

Reader: And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. By faith Sarah herself

**People:** **received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered Him faithful who had promised.**

Reader: Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.

**People:** **Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city.**

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN's MESSAGE**

**VERSE** Luke 12:32

Pastor: Alleluia. Fear not, little flock,

**People:** **for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 12:22–34 (35–40) (Jesus encourages us to not fear, for God knows what we truly need.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN** “Have No Fear, Little Flock” LSB 735

## **SERMON**

**CATECHISM** The First Article

**People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** Genesis 15:1; Psalm 33:22; Hebrews 11:1; Luke 12:22, 32

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances. God said, “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield.” Let us pray for everyone who faces this day in fear.

Pastor: We join our prayers with everyone imprisoned unjustly, terrorized in lawless areas on earth, or trapped in painful illnesses. Gracious God, strengthen the faith they have or open their hearts to receive the Gospel; give them courage to act where it is wise and to know Your peace and protection amid unchanging circumstances. Lord, hear our prayer

**People:** **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

**Pastor:** Jesus said, “Do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on.” Let us pray for all people who do not have adequate food, clothing, or shelter. Guide governments, expand relief agencies, and inspire caring individuals of our communities, nation, and world so they may be Your instruments, O God, to provide what their citizens and neighbors need for life. Through their actions, provide relief and calm the anxiety of the poor, dispossessed, and lonely; grant that they give You the glory. [We pray especially for . . .] Meet their needs as fits Your gracious plans for them. Lord, hear our prayer.

**People:** **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

**Pastor:** Jesus asserted, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Let us pray for the Church here and around the world. Grant us growth in faith and numbers, Lord Jesus, as we gather to hear Your Word, celebrate the Sacraments, and love the people around us. Wherever the Church is found on earth, raise up leaders to proclaim the Gospel and faithful people to exhibit their faith in Your promises and the inheritance You have promised. Lord, hear our prayer.

**People:** **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

**Pastor:** “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Let us pray for people who do not see the results of their labors in the lives of other people. Heavenly Father, strengthen and support farmers awaiting harvest, ranchers providing food and pasture for their flocks, shopkeepers greeting clients, all who work from home, those in offices, and those working in factories. Grant them a vision of their wider roles to provide harvests, supplies, and products to meet the needs of people they cannot see. Grant them a willingness to serve You by faith as they use their talents and abilities together with so many others. Lord, hear our prayer.

**People:** **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

**Pastor:** These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

**People:**           **Amen**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

### **PREFACE**

Pastor:           The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22

**People:**           **And also with you.**

Pastor:           Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1

**People:**           **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor:           Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 136

**People:**           **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD** Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor:           Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST** 1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor:           As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**People:**           **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor:           O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**LORD’S PRAYER** Matthew 6:9–13

**People: 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**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

LSB 198

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” LSB 575

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng” LSB 813

## **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** LSB 199-200

## **BENEDICTION** Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

**HYMN** “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” LSB 805

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **SENDING**

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord**

Our “**tithes**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

*(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest, so please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit)*

## **NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Jeremiah 23:16-29

**EPISTLE** Hebrews 11:17-31; 12:1-3

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 12:49-53

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## **Life Quotes**

**August 7** “God’s Son began His life weak and helpless, laid in a feeding trough. He began His ministry weak and tempted, vulnerable in the desert. In a weakened state from the scourging, Jesus died on the cross, making you right with God, filling you with His strength. And when God supplies your strength, you are strong, indeed.” *Marie MacPherson, author – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

## Old Testament Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

## Epistle: Hebrews 11:1-16

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

<sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was

past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup>For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

## Holy Gospel: Luke 12:22-34

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup>Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."



**About the Cover:** Life as the shepherd's sheep is a life that is guarded and protected. Even though the path that Jesus leads us on may appear perilous, our lives are in His hands. The shepherd always goes before us and does not ask us to go anywhere that He Himself has not trod. Through the laying down and taking up of His life, we have promises forevermore. Thus, we know that we have reason not to fear, but only trust.