

A church with a red roof and a steeple, set against a sunset sky and a field of purple lupines.

Love

one another,
as I have loved you.



JOHN 15:12

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 12th / July 13th 2020

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

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Welcome to Trinity!

We're glad you're here to worship!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tesch (715-587-8521) or Principal Danell (715-732-2956). They will be happy to hear from you.

Hymn: 469 vv. 1,2,5,6

(Take My Life and Let It Be)

- 1. Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*
- 2. Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.*
- 5. Take my will and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart — it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.*
- 6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.*

Please rise

Confessions of Sins:

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

C: Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness:

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray

O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated

Old Testament Lesson

Who or what comes first in our lives? What is supposed to come first? Love? Money? Career? Country? Community? Family? Justice? Truth? Something else? There are a lot of candidates.

God clears it up for us. In the first commandment he declares "You shall have no other Gods."

It makes sense. When we obey God, we love people and forgive. We work together for good. We resist sin and exercise self control. We have contentment now and confidence in the future. We sacrifice for people because Jesus sacrificed for us.

When we disobey God, chaos follows. We work for our own good and put others down. We pursue self-indulgence and sin. We are discontent now and we fear for the future. We expect others to sacrifice for us because we have to look out for number one.

We have many examples in front of us today. We see oppression and distrust. We see lives filled with discontent and depression. We see chaos, hatred, and destruction.

It's not new. It happened with the Golden Calf in Exodus 32. The Israelites abandoned Moses, rejected God, and indulged in gross and public sin. And chaos reigned.

We have to see what God wants us to see at the Golden Calf. We are tempted to see ourselves as the faithful ones and other people as the rebels. Consider who fell.

Aaron was God's spokesman. He had seen God standing on the sapphire pavement. The seventy elders had partaken of a divine banquet on the mountain (Exodus 24). And only forty days later, they lost it all. They were unwilling to face conflict for God. They gave in to the people who wanted to love pleasure, flesh, and idols.

Aaron's feeble excuses are just as pathetic as our own for not loving God above all things. The Levites, however, rallied to Moses' call and showed that they loved the LORD even more than they loved their brothers. That's rare. They showed that God was more important than anyone! On that day they were totally committed to God.

Exodus 32:15-29 (EHV)

¹⁵ Moses turned and went down the mountain, with the two tablets of the Testimony in his hand—tablets that were written on both sides, written on one side and on the other. ¹⁶ The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

¹⁷ When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is the noise of war in the camp."

¹⁸ Moses said, "It is not the sound of people who shout for victory; neither is it the sound of people who cry because of defeat. But I do hear the sound of people who are celebrating."

¹⁹ As soon as Moses came near the camp, he saw the calf and the dancing, and Moses' anger burned. So, he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰ He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, and scattered it on the water. Then he made the people of Israel drink it.

²¹ Moses said to Aaron, “What did these people do to you, that you have brought such a great sin on them?”

²² Aaron said, “Do not let the anger of my LORD burn. You know these people. They are set on evil, ²³ so they said to me, ‘Make a god for us, who will go ahead of us, because this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ ²⁴ So I said to them, ‘Whoever has any gold, pull it off.’ So they gave it to me. I threw it into the fire and out came this calf.”

²⁵ When Moses saw that the people were out of control (for Aaron had let them get so out of control that they were disgraced among their enemies), ²⁶ Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, “Whoever is on the LORD’s side, come to me!”

All the descendants of Levi gathered themselves together to Moses. ²⁷ He said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says, ‘Every man is to strap his sword on his thigh and go back and forth throughout the camp, from one gate of the camp to the other, and every man is to kill his brother, and every man his friend, and every man his neighbor.’” ²⁸ The Levites did what Moses said, and that day about three thousand men from among the people fell. ²⁹ Moses said, “Begin your service of the LORD today. ¹Yes, because every man among you took a stand against his son and against his brother, the LORD is bestowing a blessing on you today.”

Epistle Lesson

What lives in your heart? What occupies your thoughts?

It might be a person, a possession, an activity, a place, or an experience. It can be a source of joy or a source of stress. It can come from generosity or from greed. It can come from appetite or altruism. It can be physical or emotional.

But there is something—something that captures our imagination and dominates our thoughts.

¹ [Exodus 32:29](#) Literally *fill your hands*. This is the same term used for *ordination*.

And it is far too often sin. Sin dominates our world and its effects are universal.

When we look at the vehement and bitter emotions on display—when we witness the depression and the disappointment around us, and sometimes within us—when we see the effects of sin in the world, we cannot help but pray for God’s intervention. This world will never be a perfect place. There will always be selfishness and injustice. The things of this world will never satisfy. Greed only generates more greed and lust generates more lust.

We need something better, something higher, to dwell in our hearts.

In his first letter, the apostle John warns us not to love the things in the world. Instead, our thoughts and our heart should be in our heavenly Father’s keeping. God protects our hearts from greed and corruption. By faith, God directs our desires to his will and our delight to his grace. God sanctifies his blessings in this world and keeps them from dominating us.

God’s grace washes away our sin and cleanses us inside and out.

The world will still tempt us with lust and material desires, but our hearts are in God’s hands. His word directs our thoughts and strengthens our character. God’s work energizes us and keeps us on his path. Jesus walks with us and keeps us from straying.

The world and its desires grow stale and disappointing—sin pollutes them and corrupts them. The love of God is forever.

1 John 2:15-17 (EHV)

¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

¹⁶For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, boasting about material possessions—is not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but the one who does the will of God remains forever.

Hymn: 477 vv. 1,2,3

(What is the World to Me)

1 What is the world to me
With all its vaunted pleasure
When you and you alone,
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord,
My soul's delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest.
What is the world to me!

2 The world seeks to be praised
And honored by the mighty,
Yet never once reflects
That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize
Above all things is he,
My Jesus, he alone.
What is the world to me!

3 The world seeks after wealth
And all that money offers,
Yet never is content
Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good;
Content with it I'll be;
My Jesus is my wealth —
What is the world to me!

Gospel Lesson/Sermon

How can you tell if someone just had a baby? Just wait—they'll tell you.

How can you tell if someone just got married? Just listen—they'll talk about it.

Of course they will say something! They have a love in their life that changes everything. It affects how they plan for their day, how they spend it and how they plan for their future! How could they not talk about it?

Jesus tells us that's the kind of love that faith generates. God changes us. He changes how we see things, plan for things, think about things, and do things. He changes how we see the future. And it changes our priorities, our thoughts and our behavior.

When someone gets married or has a child, their relationships change. They have to.

When the Holy Spirit brings us to faith, relationships change, too. And sometimes people don't like it.

Jesus tells us that when he becomes number one in our lives, there will be people who resent it. There will be people

who don't want to give up their place in your heart. They will want you to put them before God. It can cause friction and hard feelings or a rift in a relationship.

Then there will be the temptation not to bring up Jesus or church or religion. That's one of Satan's favorite tactics. It will starve your faith and it will keep your friends and family from hearing about God's love.

But, when Jesus fills your life and your relationships, he brings new life and light to our friends and family too!

"Whoever receives you, receives me, and whoever receives me, receives him who sent me."

How can you tell if someone loves Jesus? Don't wait. Just ask! Let's strengthen each other by talking about the wonderful works of God. At least, it's better than talking about the chaos, the confusion, the fear, and the division we hear all around us. At most, Jesus can lift us out of darkness of this sinful world and into his glorious light. Jesus is right here with us. Let's share our Savior.

Matthew 10:34-42 (EHV)

³⁴ "Do not think that I came to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I came to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶ A man's enemies will be the members of his own household.²

³⁷ "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰ "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward. Whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. ⁴² Whoever gives

² [Matthew 10:36](#) [Micah 7:6](#)

one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink because he is my disciple—Amen I tell you—he will never lose his reward.”

Special Prayer regarding Coronavirus

Jesus Christ, our Great Physician,

We come before you in great need. We ask that you would end this plague on our world. We do not ask because we are worthy, but because you are gracious and merciful. If it is your will, heal those who are afflicted. Comfort those who are suffering. Grant wisdom and success to those who are treating and researching this disease.

Teach us to celebrate your blessings and your love. Help us not to take for granted our health or the connections we have among family and friends.

In your name we come to you. Amen.

Prayers for Our family and Friends

Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Dorothy Johnson, Helen Johnson, Sally Kamps, Rose Karr, Dave Schacht, Lisa Schmitt and Owen Vieth.

Prayers for those called to protect

Military: Jesse Adams (Sue Connor’s son), **Greg Carow** (Dennis Carow’s godson/nephew), **Aeron Forsberg** (Linda and Gene Erickson’s grandson), **Dayton Godfrey** (Dave & Cindy Schacht’s great-nephew), **Joshua Jansen** (Isaac Jansen’s cousin), **Jesse Johnston** (Jim & Laurie Johnston’s son), **Patrick Noppenberg** (Denis & Deb Vieth’s son), **Aaron Stocker Jr.** (Martina (Dura) Stocker’s husband), **Dylan Vanko**, (Roy and Grace Chmela’s grandson), and **Thomas Weirich** (Mary Bush’s nephew).

Firefighter: Steve Campbell.

Police: Greg Haemker Raymond Cashaw (Pastor Sonnemann's niece's husband) and **David Peterson** (Jamie Tesch's uncle). Ask the Lord to bless them, strengthen them, and keep them safe.

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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

P: We who trust in Jesus Christ for our full and free salvation can give no higher honor to our Lord than to believe and to do what He has commanded us. For that reason, we have come here to obey Jesus' gracious invitation, partaking in His Holy Supper according to His words and commands.

P: Consider carefully the words of the Lord and diligently examine your heart's condition in view of His Word. Jesus said, *"This is My body, which is given for you...this cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."*

P: Jesus is telling us that this supper is for sinners. It is for sinners who grieve over their sin, its offense to God and its sentence to death. It is for sinners who long for the forgiveness of sins. It is for sinners who believe Jesus died the death our sins deserve. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: Jesus' clear and simple words also reveal a great mystery. In this Supper of bread and wine Jesus actually gives every communicant just what His words say: His body and blood that was crucified for you. Jesus' gifts of His body and blood are God's official seal that God Himself makes a covenant with each one who eats this bread and drinks this wine.

P: In this covenant God promises each communicant that his sins are forgiven and that he is God's child. The Bible states this truth also with warning. Anyone who comes to the Lord's

Supper, but *"eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself"* for he is *"guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord."* Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: Jesus said: *"Take and eat...this do in remembrance of Me."* And, *"all of you drink of the cup...do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me."* Here Jesus invites us and commands everyone who calls Him Lord to come to this blessed Supper frequently. He also instructs us to do it while remembering and celebrating the central truth of our faith – Christ Crucified!

P: Every time you commune you declare that Christ is your greatest treasure. That Jesus is your life. This confession by your actions encourages your fellow believers, proclaims the Gospel to a dying world and praises Jesus who commanded you to do this in memory of His death. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all compassion and the God of all comfort. For all this was not revealed to you by man, but by our Father in heaven. You are blessed to believe this.

P: In this Supper Jesus will forgive your sins, strengthen your faith, draw you into close communion with the Living God and His holy people, fill your heart with thankful joy, and renew your zeal to walk as a child of Light, loving each other as Christ loved you.

Words of Intuition:

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

P: Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Lord's Supper:

We now have the incredible privilege of approaching the Lord's altar at his invitation to receive His body and blood in the sacrament. We come, not because we are worthy, but because He invites us.

Come, for all things are now ready:

The Benediction:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn: 463 vv. 3,5

(Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult)

3. Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, "Christian, love me more. "

5. Jesus calls us! In your mercy,
Savior, help us hear your call;
Give our hearts to your obedience,
Serve and love you best of all!



⁴⁰ *"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.*

~Matthew 10:40

TRINITY'S CORE MISSION

Shining the Light of the Gospel in our community.

John 8:12 - *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Matthew 5:16 - *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*