And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit....

# and god saw that it was good. Genesis 111-12

# Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 30<sup>th</sup> / August 31<sup>st</sup> 2020

*Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church* 1501 Thomas Street Marinette, WI 54143 (715) 732-9868 *Trinity Ev. Lutheran School* 1216 Colfax Street Marinette, WI 54143 (715) 732-2956



## 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 392 vv. 1-3)

 Not unto us, not unto us be glory, Lord; Not unto us
 but to your name be praise; Not unto us
 but to your name all honor be giv'n
 For matchless mercy, forgiveness, and grace.



Not unto Us

2. Amazing grace that chose us ere the worlds were made; Amazing grace that sent your Son to save; Amazing grace that robed us in your righteousness And taught our lips to sing glory and praise.

## Please rise

3. O faithful love —
that shepherded through faithless years; Forgiving love —
that led us to your truth; Unyielding love —
that would not let us turn from you But sent us forth to speak pardon and peace.

## **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

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

## <u>Please be seated</u>

## Epistle Lesson

The fact that God brought us into his kingdom and into his family is pure grace. God warns us not to get proud of our position. It's a common temptation to think that we're just a little bit (or maybe a lot better) than people outside of grace. After all, we're forgiven. We're going to heaven. God loves us!

God's grace is not a reason for pride; it's a reason for humility. We know who we are. We know the sins we've been forgiven and we know how often. We know how much we need God's grace every single day. So, God's grace is also a reason to reach out in love.

The apostle Paul spoke highly of his ministry to the Gentiles, but it wasn't out of pride. He was desperately trying to reach his own people. They rejected Jesus, but they still need him.

We talk glowingly about the church, but not out of pride. We're amazed that God brought us in and we want to reach everyone with God's grace. Far too many people reject Jesus, but everyone needs him. The church is filled with people who desperately need Jesus and have been miraculously grafted into family. Let's not give up on anyone. God didn't give up on us! He shows mercy to all.

#### Romans 11:13-15,28-32 (EHV)

<sup>13</sup> I am speaking to you Gentiles. For as long as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I am going to speak highly of my ministry. <sup>14</sup> Perhaps I may make my own people jealous, and so save some of them. <sup>15</sup> For if their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, what does their acceptance mean other than the dead coming to life?

<sup>28</sup> In regard to the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But, in regard to election, they are especially dear for the sake of the patriarchs, <sup>29</sup> because God's gracious gifts and call are not regretted. <sup>30</sup> For just as you were once disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy due to their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so also now they have become disobedient, so that by the mercy shown to you they may be shown mercy too. <sup>32</sup> For God imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may show mercy to all.

#### Gospel Lesson

Only twice in the Gospels does Jesus calls someone's faith great. Neither one was an Israelite, but both were members of God's family. Neither one had a high opinion of themselves, but both had an incredibly high opinion of Jesus. Both trusted Jesus to take care of them and tenaciously hung onto his promises.

That's what the church is like. It's not a group of strong, righteous people doing good. It's a group of powerless sinners clinging to Jesus and his promises. It's also a group of people that Jesus loves deeply. It's a group of people who have been washed clean of their sins, brought into God's family, and who are walking with Jesus every day. It's people who are growing in faith and getting better at obedience. It's people like the Canaanite woman—people who are suffering and who desperately need Jesus. People who don't deserve his attention—much less his love. It's people who hang on by faith. And it's people who receive his attention and his love and his forgiveness. People who live by God's grace.

It's church—God's people, forgiven by the incredible sacrifice of our Savior.

#### Matthew 15:21-28 (EHV)

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> There a Canaanite woman from that territory came and kept crying out, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David! A demon is severely tormenting my daughter!"

<sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her a word.

His disciples came and pleaded, "Send her away, because she keeps crying out after us."

<sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

<sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt in front of him, saying, "Lord, help me."

<sup>26</sup> He answered her, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to their little dogs."

<sup>27</sup> "Yes, Lord," she said, "yet their little dogs also eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, your faith is great! It will be done for you, just as you desire." And her daughter was healed at that very hour.

## Hymn: 399

## To God Be the Glory

 To God Be the Glory; great things he has done! He so loved the world that he gave us his Son, Who yielded his life an atonement for sin And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

## <u>Refrain</u>

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice! Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son And give him the glory – great things he has done!

2 Oh perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, To ev'ry believer the promise of God; The vilest offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

## <u>Refrain</u>

 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
 And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son, But purer and higher and greater will be our joy and our wonder when Jesus we see.

## <u>Refrain</u>

## Sermon Text – No Matter Who

What kind of people are in the church? Reason and logic would tell us that the best people are the church, the good people, the wise and the righteous. In fact, we might think that normal people wouldn't belong there. They might not fit in. Maybe they wouldn't even want to be with that kind of people.

Scripture shows us something completely different. The church is filled with sinners. God's grace reaches out into every segment of the population and brings broken, lost, contaminated people into his family. And then he washes them clean.

Rahab was not one of the good people. She wasn't even an Israelite. Rahab was a prostitute. She was a part of a godless, enemy city. And Rahab was afraid. So, it makes sense that she would try to cut a deal. But, it does not make sense that she would do it out of faith in the LORD. What reason could she have to believe in the God of free and faithful love?

God reached her. And brought her into his family. Clearly, God brings all kinds into his church. And he didn't stop there! God chose this outsider, this prostitute from a godless country, to carry the seed of the Messiah. That is grace. The same grace that he shows in every generation. He reaches into the darkest places of filth and despair—and he brings people into his family.

Thank God, he chooses people like us. We know who we are. We know how much we need him. And he comes. Jesus came and endured the wrath of God to bring people like Rahab, people like us out of the dungeons of sin and into his glorious freedom and light.

#### Joshua 2:8-21 (EHV)

<sup>8</sup> But before the men lay down, Rahab came up to them on the roof. <sup>9</sup> She said to the men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land. Because of you, terror has fallen upon us, and all the inhabitants of the land are melting in fear before you. <sup>10</sup> Indeed, we have heard that the LORD dried up the waters of the Red Sea in front of you when you came out of Egypt, and we heard what you did to the two Amorite kings east of the Jordan—to Sihon and to Og. We heard that you devoted them to destruction. <sup>11</sup> We heard, and our hearts melted, and no one's courage could hold up anymore against you, because the LORD your God is God in the heavens above and on the earth below. <sup>12</sup> So now, please swear to me by the LORD that since I have shown kindness to you, you in turn will show kindness to my father's house. Give me a trustworthy sign <sup>13</sup> that you will preserve the lives of my father and mother and my brothers and sisters and everyone who belongs to them, and that you will spare our lives."

<sup>14</sup> The men said to her, "If you do not reveal what we are doing, our lives are pledged for your lives, even to the point of death. Then when the LORD gives us the land, we will show mercy and faithfulness to you."

<sup>15</sup> She let them down through the window with a rope, since her house was built into the city wall, and she was living inside the wall.

<sup>16</sup> She said to them, "To the hill country! Get moving, so the pursuers do not catch up with you. Hide there for three days until the pursuers return, and then you can go on your way."

<sup>17</sup> The men said to her, "When we come into the land, we will be free from this oath that you made us swear <sup>18</sup> unless you tie this bright red cord in the window through which you let us down, and you gather your father and mother, your brothers, and your father's entire household into your house. <sup>19</sup> If any one of them goes outside the doors of your house, his blood will be on his own head, and we will be free of guilt. Anyone who is with you in the house, his blood will be on our heads if a hand is laid on him. <sup>20</sup> If you reveal what we are doing, we will be free from the oath that you made us swear."

<sup>21</sup> She said, "It will be done just as you have said!" Then she sent them out, and they went away. She tied the bright red cord in the window.

#### **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

The Beaumont Family, Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Ardice Cerney, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Dorothy Johnson, Rose Karr, Noah & Kristin Olson, Dave Schacht, Lisa Schmitt, and Aaron Wood

#### 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.

## 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 321 vv. 1,3)

#### Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name

 Savior, again to thy dear name we raise With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
 Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease, Then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.

 Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night; Turn thou for us its darkness into light.
 From harm and danger keep thy people free, For dark and light are both alike to thee.

## 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.