 **Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Living and trusting in god’s amazing grace we welcome all to worship, learn and serve in celebration of Christ’s love.

**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 12, 2021 9:00 AM**

Three weeks ago we heard Peter’s confession of faith as told in John’s gospel. This week we hear Mark’s version, when Peter says, “You are the Messiah.” In John, the stumbling block is Jesus’ invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus’ words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus’ words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,

and of the ☩ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN “You Are Mine” ELW #581**

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear My voice  
I claim you as My choice  
Be still, and know I am here

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light  
Come and rest in Me

Chorus: Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
[I love you and you are mine](http://cs-lyrics123.blogspot.com/2014/11/you-are-mine-david-haas-lyrics.html)

I am strength for all the despairing  
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free  
And all will know My name Chorus

I am the Word that leads all to freedom  
I am the peace the world cannot give  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain  
Stand up, now, walk, and live Chorus

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF BIBLES**

**WORD**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today’s reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God’s steadfast love.

4The Lord God has given me  
  the tongue of a teacher,  
 that I may know how to sustain  
  the weary with a word.  
 Morning by morning he wakens—  
  wakens my ear  
  to listen as those who are taught.  
 5The Lord God has opened my ear,  
  and I was not rebellious,  
  I did not turn backward.  
 6I gave my back to those who struck me,  
  and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
 I did not hide my face  
  from insult and spitting.

7The Lord God helps me;  
  therefore I have not been disgraced;  
 therefore I have set my face like flint,  
  and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
  8he who vindicates me is near.  
 Who will contend with me?  
  Let us stand up together.  
 Who are my adversaries?  
  Let them confront me.  
 9aIt is the Lord God who helps me;  
  who will declare me guilty?

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 116:1-9 Reading Responsively**

I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,  
  and listened to my supplication,  
 2**for the Lord has given ear to me**  
  **whenever I called.**

3The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
  I came to grief and sorrow.  
 4**Then I called upon the name of the Lord:**  
  **“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”**

5Gracious is the Lord and righteous;  
  our God is full of compassion.  
 6**The Lord watches over the innocent;**  
  **I was brought low, and God saved me.**

7Turn again to your rest, O my soul.  
  for the Lord has dealt well with you.  
 8**For you have rescued my life from death,**  
  **my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**  
 9I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
  in the land of the living.

### **Second Reading: James 3:1-12**

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

1Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. 3If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. 4Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.  
  How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! 6And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, 8but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. 10From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. 11Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? 12Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” ELW p. 142**

### **Gospel:  Mark 8:27-38**

*This story provides the turning point in Mark’s gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

27Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” 28And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” 29He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” 30And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.  
  
  31Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”  
  34He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. 36For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**   **The Journey Pastor Tim Larson**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “Borning Cry” ELW # 732**

1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized

to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,

with a faith to suit you well;

in a blaze of light you wandered off

to find where demons dwell."

2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word

I was there to cheer you on;

you were raised to praise the living Lord,

to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time

and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme

from dusk till rising sun."

3 "In the middle ages of your life,

not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night,

complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in

and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been,

with just one more surprise."

4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized

to see your life unfold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937

Text © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** **ELW p. 227**

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING INTERLUDE – NOISY OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**  **“Create in Me a Clean Heart”** **ELW 186**

Offering plates and Noisy Offering will be brought to the altar during hymn.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word. Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters (*recent destructive events may be named here*). Restore forests and curb overflowing waters. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. Strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Amplify voices that go unheard and inspire us to advocate for the those who are overlooked. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**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.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “Lord, Be Glorified”**  **ELW # 744**

1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

in our song, Lord, be glorified today.

3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

in your church, Lord, be glorified today.

4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

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**DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor – Timothy P. Larson

Musicians – Alison Nelson & Mariah Rudningen

Lector – Jesse Nelson

Ushers – Darrell and Dorothy Toutge

Acolytes – Stella and Cora Doering

Greeter- Ann Hanson

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** *(Periodically these prayer concerns will be moved to the prayer concerns list in the newsletter)* Kathy Schol, Dennis Doering, Donna Baker, Calvin Carls

**Stewardship Snippet:**  **The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost , Mark 8:35 –** Jesus taught, “For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?”

*Jesus debunks the prevalent lie that the more we accumulate, the happier and more secure we will be. Steward/disciples learn that when we give ourselves fully to God, we save our lives and find true joy.*

*--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission.*

**Baptism:** Being baptized today is Granger Wayne McCleary, son of Nick and Brianna McCleary. Granger was born on July 31, 2021, at the Glacial Ridge Health System in Glenwood, MN. His sponsors are Matt and Danielle Haats and Sara and Ryan Anderson. Welcome to the KLC family.

**Bible Presentation:** The following youth will be receiving Bibles this morning during the worship service:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **3 Year Old** | **4 Year Old** | **5 Year Old** | **Second Grade** |
| Rory Carlson | Emmett Wersinger | Weston Wersinger | Leah Chan |
| Kasen Schaefer | Addilyn Hennes | Anabelle Jurek | Novalee Miller |
| Cameron Kelm |  | Chloe Muller |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Fourth Grade** | **Sixth Grade** | **Seventh Grade** |
| Sydney Carlson | Stella Doering | Brady Guse |
| Lauren Chan | Makenna Grothe | Jay Harkema |
| Cora Doering | Zoey Harkema | Landon Henry |
| Caleb Grothe | Joshua Jurek | Jake Holtkamp |
| Bryce Guse | Odin Winter | Avery Miller |
| Henry Harkema |  | Wyatt Rudningen |
| Ava Muller |  | Leah Wagner |
|  |  | Alex Zurn |

**Noisy Offering:** Today is noisy offering Sunday. The youth will be passing their pails for your change (bills and checks are great too!) during the offering interlude. The noisy offering for September is designated for the KMS Backpack project.

**Fellowship Hour:** Please join us for coffee and fellowship this morning in the parish hall following worship services.

**Luther League:** All youth in grades 6-10 and their parents are reminded of the invitation to attend the KLC Luther League Kickoff today from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Plans are for a kickball game at Centennial Park, grilling together for lunch and to do some planning for the year ahead. Hope you have brought your ideas of what you would like to do for the upcoming year. Come and join us for this fun and fellowship.

**This Week . . .**

**Tuesday, September 14**

11:30 am NAPS Food Box Distribution

**Wednesday, September 15**

6:00 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation

7:00 pm Gr. 9-10 Confirmation

8:00 pm Gr. 11 Confirmation

**Next Sunday, September 19, 2021**: **The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion. Service is both in person and Live Streamed

10:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

**Volunteer needed:** Tuesday, September 14, the food truck will bring the NAPS food boxes for senior citizens in our community. We are currently delivering 7 boxes all within town. The boxes weight about 40 pounds. We are looking for someone to deliver these boxes. It takes about an hour to make the deliveries. We will also be placing an order for our backpack program and will need assistance to unload the pallets. Please contact the church office if you can help with this. Thank you.

**KMS Backpack Program:** We are preparing to start packing and bringing to the school the Friday food bags as soon as the school provides us with the number of bags necessary to pack. Our account for purchasing food is running low and we are seeking donations to be able to continue this service project. You can now donate on line <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> This link is available on our Kerkhoven Lutheran Facebook page and also is available on our website <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/>

**Memorial for Pastor Bill: “A Grateful Congregation Remembers”** At the September 8, council meeting a decision was made to donate $250 to a memorial for Pastor Bill. During the Sunday, September 19, worship service there will be a plate available for additional contributions from members and a card will be available to add your signature and condolences to the Miller family.

**Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild is in need or 2 additional people to work with another team member to prepare the sanctuary for worship each week. For more information contact Barb Norton: [barb@theinwell.com](mailto:barb@theinwell.com) or 320-894-2128. Thank you.

**KLC Worship Services are also available for viewing on YouTube!**

**KLC Office Hours for the Week of September 13 – September 17:** Church office hour will be Monday – Thursday 9:00 -3:00. The church office is closed on Friday. If you have questions or need assistance please call: Ann Hanson – 320-894-4464, if no answer please leave a message or send a text.

**Sunday Musicians:** Do you play the piano or organ? Would you be interested in helping to lead our congregation’s Sunday morning worship music? We are looking for musician to substitute on Sunday mornings when neither Alison nor Mariah are able to be here. KLC does pay $50 per service for leading worship. If you would like to be put on a list of people who would be interested in filling in when needed. Please let the church office know or contact a member of the KLC Board of Worship and Witness. Thank you.

**Let Us Know:** If you have a prayer request to be **added or removed** from the KLC prayer list, please notify the church office. [kerkhovenlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:kerkhovenlutheran@gmail.com) or 320-264-2823.

**Stay In Touch:** If you have not been receiving bulletins, newsletters or prayer requests and would like to, please contact the church office with your information. [kerkhovenlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:kerkhovenlutheran@gmail.com) or 320-264-2823

**KLC Website:** We again have a website. It can be found at <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/>

**On-Line Giving:** It is now possible to give your offering or a donation to KLC on-line at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> This link will now be available on our Kerkhoven Lutheran Facebook page and is available on our new website (see link above).

**Opportunity for Textile Recycling:** A new opportunity to recycle items that would normally be thrown into a landfill is now available in our area. The following items can be either brought to Cornerstone Construction, 1020 N Hwy 71, across from the Flags of Honor, on Wednesdays, anytime from around 9:30 am – 3:00 pm. Bring to North overhead door, box is to the immediate left. Textile items (fabric material) includes clothing, bedding, towels, pillows, curtain, tablecloths etc. Items need to be laundered, but can be stained, or torn. They should not have been used with chemicals such as gasoline or kerosene. No purses, belts or shoes ( shoes can be donated to the Lions). These items can also be dropped off with Bonnie Kluver (blkluver@tds.net).

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**Kristin Stivers, Secretary Leif Carlson**

**Tom Baker, Liasion to Council Julia Carlson**

**Loretta Falk**