 **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 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 3, 2021 9:00 AM**

Today’s gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus’ saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God’s law. Jesus’ rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

**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 “Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW # 781**

1 Children of the heav'nly Father

 safely in his bosom gather;

 nestling bird nor star in heaven

 such a refuge e'er was given.

2 God his own doth tend and nourish,

 in his holy courts they flourish.

 From all evil things he spares them,

 in his mighty arms he bears them.

 3 Neither life nor death shall ever

 from the Lord his children sever;

 unto them his grace he showeth,

 and their sorrows all he knoweth.

4 Though he giveth or he taketh,

 God his children ne'er forsaketh;

 his the loving purpose solely

 to preserve them pure and holy.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**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**

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**WORD**

### **First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24**

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

### 18Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." 19So out of the ground the Lord GOD formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. 21So the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."24Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 8 Reading Responsively**

###  1O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. **2Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

###  3When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; **4what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

### 5Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.**6You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,**

###  7all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, **8the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

### 9O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God’s right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

1Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. 3He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

### 5Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. 6But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? 7You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, 8subjecting all things under their feet."Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,

### 9but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.10It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, 12saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

### **Gospel:  Mark 10:13-16**

13People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 14But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 15Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." 16And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**    **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**

**OFFERING INTERLUDE**

**OFFERTORY “As the Grains of Wheat”** **ELW# 465**

Offering plates will be brought to the altar during hymn

*Refrain* As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill

 were gathered into one to become our bread;

 so may all your people from all the ends of earth

 be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,

 may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come

 when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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**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.*

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians (*specific individuals known to the congregation may be named*), that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship with us (*especially*) and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. 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.**

**MEAL**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND 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.**

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

 **“Just As I Am, without One Plea” ELW # 592**

1 Just as I am, without one plea,

 but that thy blood was shed for me,

 and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,

 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am, though tossed about

 with many a conflict, many a doubt,

 fightings and fears within, without,

 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,

 wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;

 because thy promise I believe,

 O Lamb of God, I come, I come,

4 Just as I am; thy love unknown

 has broken ev'ry barrier down;

 now to be thine, yea, thine alone,

 O Lamb of God, I come, I come. Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871

 **“Jesus Loves Me!” ELW # 595**

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,

 for the Bible tells me so;

 little ones to him belong,

 they are weak, but he is strong.

*Refrain*  Yes, Jesus loves me,

 yes, Jesus loves me,

 yes, Jesus loves me,

 the Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! he who died

 heaven's gates to open wide;

 he will wash away my sin,

 let his little child come in. *Refrain*

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay

 close beside me all the way;

 when at last I come to die,

 he will take me home on high. *Refrain*

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

 **“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” ELW # 596**

1 My hope is built on nothing less

 than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

 no merit of my own I claim,

 but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain* On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;

 all other ground is sinking sand,

 all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,

 I rest on his unchanging grace;

 in ev'ry high and stormy gale

 my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood

 sustain me in the raging flood;

 when all supports are washed away,

 he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,

 oh, may I then in him be found,

 clothed in his righteousness alone,

 redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us

through the healing power of this gift of life;

and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us,

through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love

toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

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

**SENDING SONG “Blest Be the Tie that Binds”**  **ELW # 656**

1 Blest be the tie that binds

 our hearts in Christian love;

 the unity of heart and mind

 is like to that above.

2 Before our Father's throne

 we pour our ardent prayers;

 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,

 our comforts and our cares.

3 We share our mutual woes,

 our mutual burdens bear,

 and often for each other flows

 the sympathizing tear.

4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,

 and sin we shall be free;

 and perfect love and friendship reign

 through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor – Timothy P. Larson

Musicians – Alison Nelson & Mariah Rudningen

Lector – Hunter Weddington

Ushers – Leif and Bonnie Carlson

Acolytes – Eero and Magnus Nelson

Greeters- Hunter, Ashley and Rowan Weddington

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

**Stewardship Snippet:**  **The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Psalm 8:4, 6 –**What are human beings that you [Lord] are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet. *God gives us dominion over God’s creation, which means we’re in charge. But that also means we have a duty to treat the created world respectfully and use its resources responsibly. How do you think we’re doing? As steward-disciples, how can we do better?*

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

**Fellowship Hour:** Please join us for coffee and fellowship this morning in the Fellowship Hall following worship services. Today we are celebrating the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Jerry and Viva Lundberg.

**Open House Wedding Anniversary:** You are invited to attend the 60th Wedding Anniversary open house for Jerry and Viva Lundberg this afternoon from 1:00 – 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Baptism:** Being baptized today is Olivia Rose Baker, daughter of Nick and Megan Baker. Olivia was born on 8-25-2021 at Rice Memorial Hospital. Her sponsors are Matt Knigge and Shelby Baker. Welcome to the Lord’s family and KLC.

**Church Council Update:** The KLC Church Council will have it’s October meeting on Sunday, October 10 at 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Church boards please schedule your meetings at a time convenient for your members prior to this meeting to submit any items for the agenda by Wednesday, October 6. Thank you.

**This Week . . . October 4 – 10, 2021**

 **Wednesday, October 6**

6:00 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation

 6:30 pm WELCA General Boards meet

 7:00 pm Gr. 9-10 Confirmation

 8:00 pm Gr. 11 Confirmation

**Next Sunday, October 10, 2021**: **The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

10:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

10:45 am Church Council meeting

**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 or 320-894-2128. Thank you.

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

**KLC Office Hours for the Week of October 4 – October 8:** Church office hour will be Monday - Tuesday 9:00 -3:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 – 4:00, Thursday 8:00 – 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 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 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).

 **KLC Executive Board** **Board of Christian Education**

 **Ted Almen, President** Jesse Nelson Amber Doering

 **Scott Mitteness, Vice Pres**. Shelly Lottman Kris Cortez

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 Kristin Schmidt \*Alison Nelson \* Reid Carlson Ryan Carlson

 Ashley Weddington Tony Olson Andrew Forsell

**KLC CALL COMMITTEE**

**Amber Doering, Chairperson Lee Meyer**

**Kristin Stivers, Secretary Leif Carlson**

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

**Loretta Falk**