

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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"LISTEN NOW TO THIS WORD."

JEREMIAH 28:7, NRSV

6 p.m. Sat., June 27, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., June 28, 2020



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(6 p.m. Sat., June 27 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., June 28, 2020)

Servants of God's House

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Mabel Huldeen

Ushers: Jack Smith Team

Missionaries: Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat., Marlis Hilden; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Charlotte Grothaus

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER A battle has been raging over the centuries between those who ignore the hard truth that we are sinners, hopeless by ourselves, and those who have realized the real good that our Lord has graciously won for us. At the time of Jeremiah, self-proclaimed prophets such as Hananiah preached a false peace even as Israel was in exile in Babylon. In Paul's day, members of the Early Church thought freedom from God's Law meant they could ignore it. And when Jesus was calling new disciples, He warned that following Him would mean "a sword" coming between them and even members of their families. In Christ, the peace that only God can bestow has been given to us by grace. Because of the truly good news of Jesus' death and resurrection, we can face the hard truth of our sinfulness and then sing with the psalmist of the real good, "the steadfast love of the Lord, forever" (Psalm 89:1).

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Worship Service

(The congregation is invited to respond with the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

Hymn of Invocation

"Today Your Mercy Calls Us"
(stand as you are able for the last verse)

The Hand of Fellowship

LSB 915

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation *Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

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

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution *Psalm 124:8; 130:3–4*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Because we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition and have sinned in thought, word, and deed, let us employ the faith the Holy Spirit has given us and go to our gracious heavenly Father, asking His forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God has given His only Son to bear the punishment of our sins on the cross so that we might know the peace of His presence now and the joys of heaven hereafter. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit *Psalm 89:15–18; antiphon: v. 1*

P: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

C: with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

P: Blessed are the people who know the festal shout,

C: who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face,

P: who exult in Your name all the day

C: and in Your righteousness are exalted.

P: For You are the glory of their strength;

C: by Your favor our horn is exalted.

P: For our shield belongs to the LORD,

C: our king to the Holy One of Israel.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

C: with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Lord God, we hear voices proclaiming false peace and promising abundant blessings in exchange for our lip service and loving intentions.

C: Open our ears to hear the severity of Your Law and our hearts to be overwhelmed by the mercy You offer because of the sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The First Reading Jeremiah 28:5–9 (Jeremiah condemns Hananiah for preaching peace while God has exiled most of the people to Babylon.)

⁵Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles.

⁷Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm *Psalm 119:153–156*

L: Look on my affliction and deliver me,

C: for I do not forget Your law.

L: Plead my cause and redeem me;

C: give me life according to Your promise!

L: Salvation is far from the wicked,

C: for they do not seek Your statutes.

L: Great is your mercy, O LORD;

C: give me life according to Your just decrees.

The Epistle Lesson Romans 7:1–13

(The purpose of the Law is to show the gravity of our sin.)

¹Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ²Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.

³Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

⁴Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

⁷What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." ⁸But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment,

produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹²So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

¹³Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

Verse Matthew 10:39

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel Matthew 10:34–42 (Jesus warns that following Him must take precedence over every relationship.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

³⁴[Jesus said:] "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷Whoever 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. ³⁸And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Whoever 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. ⁴¹The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward,

and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.
⁴²And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

(on the back cover of the hymnal)

(Please be seated)

Hymn of the Day "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" LSB 685

Sermon "A Prophet or A Salesman?" Jeremiah 28:5–9

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.

Matthew 6:19-20—Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Offertory Hymn "Lord of All Good" LSB 786

(stand as you are able)

The Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the Church around the world and for all people in their various circumstances.

In Jeremiah's day, most of the Israelites were in exile in Babylon. Let us pray for people who are displaced from their homes, communities, and countries.

Heavenly Father, use humanitarian efforts on every level to supply what they lack, until the eyes of world's power brokers are open to see their plight and put people's needs above their own political aspirations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Prophets regularly "prophesied war, famine, and pestilence." Let us pray for refugees from warfare, those who lack the basic necessities of life, and all who are dealing with long-term ills or sudden emergencies.

Lord Jesus, use compassionate people and agencies to provide food, clothing, and shelter where they are needed; guide emergency and medical professionals as they tend those under their care; and open our eyes to see opportunities in which we may serve. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Paul wrote that because we belong to one another in the Body of Christ and have died to the law, “we may bear fruit for God.” Let us pray for ourselves and the Church wherever it gathers in Christ’s name.

O Holy Spirit, strengthen us and our brothers and sisters around the world as we seek to give our lives in loving service to You, reaching out to the lost, strengthening the weak in faith, and rejoicing together as we receive the real good that comes to us through Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Jennifer Barnes, Jayce Frank, Daniel Martin, Kristen Zediker, Isabel Hannemann, Mia Schroeder, Richard Sulzbach, Brooks Wagner. Lord in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

P: These and any other things You would have us ask, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for we dearly desire to sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

(on the back cover of the hymnal)

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn “Lord of All Hopefulness”

LSB 738

Silent Prayer

Postlude

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A Prophet or A Salesman?

Date: 06/28/2020

Text: Jeremiah 28:5–9

Verse for Meditation

As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.” Jeremiah 28:9

Points to Ponder

1. What is a prophet?
2. How can we tell a prophet is from God?
3. Hananiah vs. Jeremiah
4. What is the will of God?
5. What do we do with the message from a real prophet?