



Second Sunday after Pentecost June 14, 2020

Serving us in worship today:

Jim Craver, Pastor

Annette Stout, LeAnne White, and Andrew Cave, Music

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

PASTOR JIM

OPENING HYMN: "I, The Lord of Sea and Sky" (WOV #752)

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,

I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,

I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

INVOCATION:

P: We begin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

P: Sisters and brothers, God's Word encourages us to "*Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.*" (James 5:16)

C: Dear Father in heaven, I confess to You that I struggle to trust You at all times. Among my many sins is the way I keep You at the edges of my life. I believe in Jesus, but I often do not live fully as a Christ-follower. Please forgive me for the trust I put in the temporary things of this world. Forgive me for all the times I allow this world to influence me more than You. Give me the power and desire to have a closer relationship with God my Savior. Amen.

Pastor announces forgiveness in Christ Jesus

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "*Lord I Lift Your Name On High*"

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM – *Hattie Vesper Harvey*

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY: Hebrews 12: 1-4, 14-17, 25-29

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. ² We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. ³ Think of all the hostility He endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. ⁴ After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin...

¹⁴ Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord. ¹⁵ Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many. ¹⁶ Make sure that no one is immoral or godless like Esau, who traded his birthright as the firstborn son for a single meal. ¹⁷ You know that afterward, when he wanted his father's blessing, he was rejected. It was too late for repentance, even though he begged with bitter tears...

²⁵ Be careful that you do not refuse to listen to the One who is speaking. For if the people of Israel did not escape when they refused to listen to Moses, the earthly messenger, we will certainly not escape if we reject the One who speaks to us from heaven! ²⁶ When God spoke from Mount Sinai His voice shook the earth, but now He makes another promise: "Once again I will shake not only the earth but the heavens also." ²⁷ This means that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakable things will remain.

²⁸ Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping Him with holy fear and awe. ²⁹ For our God is a devouring fire.

A: Here ends the reading

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Andrew Cave

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Shine Jesus Shine" (WOV #651)

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain*

2. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain*

SERMON: "Being faithful to Jesus in troubled times!"

Pastor Jim

(Please see sermon notes.)

OFFERTORY: "CREAT IN ME A CLEAN HEART..." (LBW Pg. 96)

APOSTLES CREED:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian* Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

(* The ancient text reads "catholic", meaning the universal Christian Church.)

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING and BENEDICTION

Pastor Jim

P: Church, who are we?

C: "We are imperfect people, saved by grace, willing to risk it all to share the Good News of Jesus Christ!" (Faith Lutheran's mission statement)

P: *Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. ²⁵ All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen. (Jude 24-25)*

C: AMEN.

CLOSING HYMN: *"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"* (WOV #721)

- 1) "Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.
- 2) "Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
- 4) "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.
I the Lord will smile upon you, and give you peace.
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter and Brother.
Go, my children, I will keep you, and give you peace."

"WORDS OF FAITH" BROADCAST SUNDAYS AT 8 AM ON KWED 1580 AM RADIO

This week has been sponsored to the glory of God by John and Patricia Dikes in thankfulness for His many blessings and in honor of all of our military personnel.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	Dorothy Burriss	Judy Saunders
Nora Lavelett	Carolyn Sagebiel	Walt Fruehling
Kathy Ersch	Ric Landvatter	Dot Day
Gladys Fruehling	Teresa Kiel	Sue Blumberg
Pat Sagebiel	Faye Talley	Johanna Lange
Hagan Boysen	Kelton Lange	Mike Andrews

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Month to Date (As of May 31): **\$57,509.38**; YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$223,347.83**
(2020 budgeted offerings is **\$549,000.**)

HATTIE VESPER HARVEY

Today Hattie receives the Promise, which is given in Holy Baptism. Together with her parents, Jason and Megan, and proud big brother Crew, we share their joys as Hattie Vesper is received into the Kingdom of God. The prayers of our church family are requested for Hattie as she begins a New Life in Christ. The sponsors for Hattie Vesper are Carissa Roseland, Clarence Chandler and members of Faith Lutheran Church.

FAITH COMMITTEE NIGHT

Our committees (Ministry Teams) will meet again on July 7! Since this is our first post-COVID-19 meeting, we have lots to work on! Pastor Jim and Diana will provide supper for all this evening. If you would like to attend to learn more about our committees at Faith, how things get done or to find where you might serve, join us July 7 at 6 pm for supper! Committee meetings will start at 6:30.

LCMC TEXAS DISTRICT ANNUAL GATHERING

Will be held in Victoria July 31 – August 1. Keynote Presenters will be Dave Drum from *J17 Ministries* in Tucson, Arizona; Ric and Robyn Bezanson from *Amazing Grace* in Glendale, Arizona; Ted Doering from *Narrative Church* in Round Rock, Texas.

Preachers are Bryce Formwalt - *LCMC Texas / Harvest Workers* and Enrique Estrada - *Mission Mexico International*. For registration, go to:

<http://www.lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering/>

RENOVATION UPDATE

Thanks to a generous donor, the Activity Center has been remodeled: a new kitchen, several sliding walls removed and the walls have been painted. In addition to this, the connecting hall between the Activity Center and the main building all the way to, and including, the entry hall to the Worship Center has been painted! We are excited for you to see this and to begin using the buildings again!

WALL OF CROSSES

With the new renovation, we are re-purposing the walls in the hall off the Narthex. Three bulletin boards will be located on the South side and a new Wall of Crosses will be created on the North side of the hall! Pastor Jim and Diana Craver have donated the first of what we hope to be many crosses! Hand-made or store bought, let's honor the cross of Jesus with a wall of crosses!

VBS REGISTRATION

In order to provide the highest quality safety measures for VBS this year, we are limiting the number of participants. Member's children and grandchildren have priority and **MUST** be registered by Sunday, June 21st. If a member's child or grandchild is **NOT** registered by June 21st, we cannot guarantee them a spot. Dates for VBS are July 13th-17th. To register please call the church office.

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

Thank you for those of you that have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. This week's update is **64 items** taken as on Monday, June 1.

NEWS FROM YOUR SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY TEAM

Faith will not be hosting the SA Food bank food distribution in June. The city and other government organizations have teamed up to hold "mega distributions" in the community. We encourage you to volunteer with them to help this cause.

FAITH'S HOLY LAND TRIP NOVEMBER 2021

If you are interested in visiting the Holy Land, Faith is sponsoring a trip to Israel in November of 2021. Details for this trip are available on our website: www.faithsequin.org. See the Israel Trip tab, or contact Pastor Jim.

Sermon Series: *Living for Jesus in troubling times*
Sermon Theme: *Being faithful to Jesus in troubled times!*

1. How do we live for Jesus in troubling times? (Vs 1)

The writer of Hebrews likens living for Jesus to running an endurance race. The Greek word translated "endurance/endure" means to contend with/fight, agony. That meaning tells us that living for Jesus may involve agony and pain.

We need endurance if we are going to truly live for Jesus! There should be no stopping!

Look at the words "*let us run with endurance*". The Christian life is not a solo deal! We should have learned this during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"...a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith..."

2. So, how can we remain faithful to Jesus in troubling times?

1) "*...let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up...*"

2) "*We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus*"

Jesus is the end goal of the race we run. "*Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ⁹ and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ.*" Philippians 3:8-9

3) Commit to holy living to God's glory. "*...work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.*" (Vs 14)

Did you wander into sin or a sinful lifestyle / habit during COVID-19? Repent and strive for holiness!

4) Endure the shaking that is to come. (Vs. 25-29)

Jesus did challenge us to do this: "*If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow Me.*" Matthew 16:24