



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 19, 2020

Serving us in worship today:

Jim Craver, Pastor; Kim Kauitzsch, Lay Reader

Annette Stout, Roxanne Heckmann- Music

Welcome to Worship!

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church, a people who love and follow Jesus Christ our Lord! We are blessed and honored that you chose to be with us today!

Today Pastor Jim continues a sermon series called "*Faith Foundations, the essentials of our relationship with Jesus.*" So far we have looked at the Bible's core teaching about Baptism, the Lord's Supper and the Bible as our foundation. Today we focus on the Inspiration of the Bible! As Lutheran Christians: We believe, teach and confess that all Scripture is given by the inspiration of God the Holy Spirit and that God is therefore the true Author of every word of Scripture. We acknowledge that there is a qualitative difference between the inspired witness of Holy Scripture in all its parts and words and the witness of every other form of human expression, making the Bible a unique book. The Word of God that guides us is from 2 Peter 1: "*20 Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, 21 or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.*"

As we worship outside today, we encourage you to fellowship with other believers while maintaining a safe distance and observing our COVID-19 protocols.

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Lisa Owen

Please stand

OPENING HYMN: "*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*" (LBW # 389) Verses 1,3, 4

- 1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
as soldiers of the cross,
lift high his royal banner;
it must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
his army he shall lead,
till ev'ry foe is vanquished
and Christ is Lord indeed.

- 3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
stand in his strength alone;
the arm of flesh will fail you,
you dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor;
each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger,
be never wanting there.
- 4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
the strife will not be long;
this day the din of battle,
the next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming,
their crown of life shall see,
and with the King of glory
shall reign eternally.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P 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.

C Amen.

P *If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness. (1 John 1: 8-9, NLT)*

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most Merciful God,

C We confess that we are in bondage 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.

Pastor announces forgiveness in Christ Jesus

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sharon Stollewerk

READING FROM GOD'S HOLY WORD: 2 Peter 1:12-21

Today God speaks to us from 2 Peter chapter , in this lesson Peter reminds us of the uniqueness of God's Word – that it comes to us from God Himself.

¹² Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them and are standing firm in the truth you have been taught. ¹³ And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live. ¹⁴ For our Lord Jesus Christ has shown me that I must soon leave this earthly life, ¹⁵ so I will work hard to make sure you always remember these things after I am gone.

¹⁶ For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw His majestic splendor with our own eyes ¹⁷ when He received honor and glory from God the Father. The voice from the majestic glory of God said to Him, "This is My dearly loved Son, who brings Me great joy." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard that voice from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹ Because of that experience, we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, ²¹ or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God."

A: Here ends the reading.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"I Love to Tell the Story"* (LBW # 390)

- 1) I love to tell the story
of unseen things above, (continued on next page)

of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.

Refrain

I love to tell the story;
I'll sing this theme in glory
and tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

2) I love to tell the story:
how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3) I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

SERMON: *"The Inspired Word of Our God"*

Pastor Jim

(Please see sermon notes on the back of your bulletin)

OFFERTORY: *"LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL..."* (LBW Pg. 86)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION with THE LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

Please Stand

BENEDICTION

Pastor Jim

CLOSING HYMN: *"Bless Be the Tie that Binds"* (LBW # 370)

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.

4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

P: Go In Peace To Love And Serve The Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

"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 Pat Dikes in honor of their children, grandchildren and family members.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been given to the glory of God by Alan and Nicole Kuntschik in celebration of Kailey's 16th birthday.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	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	Debbie Lehmann
Callie Atchley		

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Month to Date (As of July): **\$24,629.03**; YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$288,492.76**
(2020 budgeted offerings is **\$549,000**)

PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the family of Janette Stallman, mother of Dianne Chambers. Janette passed through death into eternal life on Saturday, July 11, in New Braunfels. Funeral services were held in Garwood on Thursday, July 16.

Prayers requested for the family of Willie May Bronstad, the mother of our departed Donna Boelter and husband Melvin. Mrs. Bronstad passed into eternal life on Sunday, July 12. Funeral services were held in Grandbury on Friday, July 17.

Prayers also requested for the family of Margaret Lillick Blade, mother of Nancy Hartfiel. Margaret passed through death into eternal life on Sunday, July 12, here in Seguin.

Please keep Dianne, Nancy, Melvin and their families in your prayers as they mourn their loss in the days and weeks to come.

COVID19 AND WORSHIP AT FAITH

COVID19 is again surging in Texas, including Guadalupe County and Seguin. **Faith has had four members with confirmed cases.** I, like many of you, dearly miss worshipping together in our sanctuary and look forward to the day we can resume worship inside. I know that many of our members feel strongly about inside worship and outside worship, and I appreciate that. However, in the Christian spirit of love - for God, others and ourselves - we must continue to worship outside for the time being. I know this is not going to be well received by all, but we must fall on the side of love. Given the fact that summer is now upon us, we will adjust the start time for worship outside to **8:30 AM to beat the Texas heat beginning July 5.** Let us all follow the command of Jesus in John 13: *"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples."* Sincerely, Pastor Jim Craver

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

Thank you for those of you that have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. The July item is canned meat. This includes tuna, salmon, chicken, stew, chili, and corned beef. This week's update is **24 items** as of July 9.

THE SOUTH TEXAS PREGNANCY CARE CENTER BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

This campaign was canceled in April due to the Covid shutdown. The Social Concerns Team would like to reschedule this event in support of this wonderful ministry. The STPCC has continued to operate and see to the needs of young mothers and families. Beginning Sunday, July 19, we will have baby bottles available for you to pick up and fill with whatever donation you are able to give. We will also distribute them on July 26 and August 2. You may put in coins, bills, or checks made out to STPCC and return the bottles to church. There will be a display in the narthex for pick up and return of the bottles. Please return all bottles (filled or empty) by August 9.

YOU ARE NEEDED!

The South Texas Pregnancy Care Center - STPCC - has an urgent need for volunteers. You would be encouraging new mothers and fathers as they become parents for the first time or are adding to their family. There are many positions open in various capacities that would require as little as 3 hours of your time a week to as much as you are willing to

give. If you feel this calling to help others, please call STPCC at 830-303-2151 and ask to speak to Amy Cantrell. Please visit the center's Virtual Walk for Life at <https://www.southtexaspregnancycenter.com/events>

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!

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.fithsequin.org. See the Israel Trip tab, or contact Pastor Jim.

Sermon notes *The Inspired Word of Our God* (Foundations sermon series, part 4)

Big Idea: The Lord's Supper is not a ritual we remember but a meal that transforms sinners to love and live for the Lord!

Peter then raises three important, non-negotiable truths that we must know about the Word of God

1. The Word of God is LIGHT in a sin darkened world!

God's Word came from God, not the mind of man: *"We have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts."*

2. Where the Bible came from - ORIGIN of the Bible: (Vs 16-18)

"For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw His majestic splendor with our own eyes".

In 2 Timothy 3 Paul speaks the same truth: *"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work."* (Think of Genesis 1, God breathed life into Adam)

Implications for us: God's Word is truthful and helpful for us!

3. How the Word of God came to us: TRANSMISSION of the Bible. (Vs 20-21)

The Inspiration the Bible does not mean dictation. God used the different views, experiences, emotions... of the writers to give us His Word.

Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God."

God is the master architect of Scripture. It comes from His heart, and He directed and moved in the lives of these writers and, by His Holy Spirit, protected their words that they wrote for eternity would be His message, all true and without error.

4. Application for us today:

TREASURE the Word of God, IMMERSE yourself in the Word, TRUST God's Word!

"A Bible that's falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't." -

Charles Spurgeon