



The
**KINGDOM
OF GOD**
is Like...

**Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
Larimore, ND
July 30, 2023**

9th Sunday after Pentecost

GREETING



***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made

Assembly: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: We praise and thank you for your amazing grace & life-giving power!

ALL: Let us worship and give praise to God!

***CONFESSION**

Lord, I confess my lack of faith. I see a glimpse of what I ought to be and I know I fall short of the goal. I desire faith that is solid and unchanging, yet I crumble under trials and temptations. I want to be strong, but I know my weakness. My sinful condition strips me of any spiritual gain that I humanly devise. Lord, forgive me. Accept me as I am, unworthy for the task, yet gifted for Your purposes, Grant me Your gift of Faith.

***FORGIVENESS**

My God is a great God, He knows my needs for all areas of life. He knows my weakness and my unbelieving heart. Yet, He loved me enough to die on a cross to provide forgiveness of my sin. Now the focus is not on the faith that I can muster, but on the great gifts He gives daily as I trust Him. God has given me the gift of faith – faith for the moment...faith for every trial...faith for every temptation...faith for every difficult situation. Praise God for His gift of faith!

***GATHERING HYMN** *"I am a C"* pg.156 3X's (progressively faster)

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray, Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

The FIRST READING 1 Kings 3:1-15. PB 266-267.

Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt; he took Pharaoh's daughter and brought her into the city of David until he had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem. ² The people were sacrificing at the high places, however, because no house had yet been built for the name of the LORD. ³ Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. ⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?" ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. ¹⁴ If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life." ¹⁵ Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem, where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being and provided a feast for all his servants.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. THANKS BE TO GOD.

The PSALM 119:129-136. PB 496.

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. ¹³⁰**The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.** ¹³¹With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. ¹³²**Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.** ¹³³Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me. ¹³⁴**Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.** ¹³⁵Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. ¹³⁶**My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.**

The SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39. PB 919-920.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes^[o] with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And God,^[p] who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit^[q] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together^[r] for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.^[s] ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ^[t] who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all

day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE.*
THANKS BE TO GOD.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “*My Jesus, I Love Thee*” pg.144 vs.2

P: The Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 13:31-33,44-52* PB 795

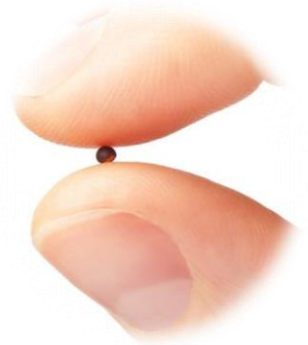
P: The Gospel of our Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “*The B-I-B-L-E*”

- 1.) The B-I-B-L-E. Yes that’s the book for me. I stand alone on the Word of God, The B-I-B-L-E.
- 2.) The B-I-B-L-E. I’ll take along with me, I’ll read and pray and then obey, The B-I-B-L-E.
- 3.) By F-A-I-T-H, I’m S-A-V-E-D, I’ll stand alone on the Word of God, The B-I-B-L-E.
- 4.) The B-L-O-O-D That Jesus shed for me, Cleansed me-from-sin, I belong to Him, The B-I-B-L-E.



***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I have faith in God, in response to overwhelming love...I believe that God created me and all that I have, and has given to me gifts beyond measure...I have faith in Jesus, who emptied himself out of his love for me...I believe that Christ died on a cross for my sin, conquered death and the power of evil, and was raised to life on the 3rd day. His death is mine, His resurrection is mine, new life is mine because of Jesus' words and work...I believe in the Holy Spirit in response to overwhelming love...I believe that the Holy Spirit is present here among us and lives within each person. The spirit continues to call people by the gospel, and creates and builds the church of Christ. Through the power of the Spirit I have power to stand in strength and against all adversity...I believe that Jesus is preparing a place for me and will come again to take each of us to be with Him. AMEN.

***OFFERING** *"Praise Him, Praise Him"* pg.167 vs.3

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray, All good gifts come from you, dear Lord, and from these riches we bring this offering. Help us to use it for the furtherance of your purpose in this place, and for the benefit of those in need. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** *"Just As I Am"* pg.119 vs.5

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

May abundant grace and profound peace be multiplied to you in every way. May countless blessings chase and overtake you, and may you notice when they do. May God heal your heart, soul, mind, and body, and may you approach life with eternity in mind. May you know the wholeness God always intended for you, and may your faith be renewed. Amen

*SENDING HYMN “Do Lord!” pg.41

*DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, be a warrior of prayer and a light of hope in a darkened world! **We will! Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Welcome! We are glad you are with us today! If you are interested in joining our church, please contact Lori at 218-791-2671 or Julie at 701-741-5683. If you have an emergency, call Wayne Knudson (church president) at 218-779-3594 -or- Camilla Stover at 218-791-2678.

CALENDAR

Today, 7/30/2023—9th Sunday of Pentecost

9:00am—Worship

10:00am—Fellowship

Next Sunday, 8/6/2023—10th Sunday of Pentecost

9:00am—Worship—w/Holy Communion

10:00am—Fellowship

Every day:

An opportunity to show we are Christians by our love.



OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Mission of the Month for: Jul-Aug:** Kids Closet
- **Noisy offering:**
Collected on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month for the mission of the month(s).
- **Thank you!:** To all those that helped out with OSLC—VBS on July 18-20!

Our Savior's Mission Statement:

"~~Excited~~ ~~by~~ ~~faith~~, we are called to **serve all**, gathered to **WORSHIP**, **inspired** to teach, **we are our Savior's!**"

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Family of Pam Amundson (sister of Brian Welder), Walter James Keskey (Mary Amundson's great-grand-nephew), Mark Sletten, Family of Gene Swanson, Ron Petsinger, Betty Olson, Family of Sandy & Clint Lein, Dillon Norman (USM), Pr. Rena Peterson, OSLC Call Committee, Cindy Olson, Bonnie Olson, Marv Jemtrud, David Barnett (relative of Robert Stover), Arlene Lilja, Donna Willoughby (daughter of Gordon Peterson), LaVonne Jacobson, David Sletten (cousin to Camilla Stover), Robbie Leake

Serving this Sunday

Ushers: ??

Reader: Ray Johnson

Prayer: ??

Communion: N/A

Fellowship: Johnsons & Stovers

Serving Next Sunday (8/6/23)

Ushers: ??—sign up on the clipboard

Reader: ??—sign up on the clipboard

Prayer: ??—sign up on the clipboard

Communion: Teresa Welder & Friend

Fellowship: Lebruns & Melbys

