

"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ... So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Matthew 10:29,31



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Larimore, ND
June 25, 2023
4th 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!

*CENTERING HYMN “*Draw Me Close to You*”

Draw me close to you. Never let me go. I lay it all down again. To hear you say that I’m your friend.

You are my desire. No one else will do. Cause no one else can take the place. To fill the warmth of your embrace.

Help me find a way. Bring me back to you. *Chorus*

***Chorus:* You’re all I want. You’re all I’ve ever needed. You’re all I want.**

Help me know you are near. *Repeat*

*CONFESSION

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

*FORGIVENESS

Our God is a great God, He knows our needs for all areas of life. He knows our weakness and our unbelieving hearts. Yet, He loved us enough to die on a cross to provide forgiveness of our sin. Now the focus is not one the faith that we can muster, but on the great fits He gives daily as we trust Him. God has given us 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** *“What a Mighty God We Serve”*

What a mighty God we serve. What a mighty God we serve.

Angels bow before Him, heav’n and earth adore Him;

What a mighty God we Serve. Repeat

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray, **Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-18

⁷ O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, “Violence and destruction!” For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ If I say, “I will not mention him or speak any more in his name,” then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰ For I hear many whispering: “Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!” All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. “Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him.” ¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹² O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³ Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers. ¹⁴ Cursed be the day on which I was born! The day when my mother bore me, let it not be blessed! ¹⁵ Cursed be the man who brought the news to my father, saying, “A child is born to you, a son,” making him very glad. ¹⁶ Let that man be like

the cities that the LORD overthrew without pity; let him hear a cry in the morning and an alarm at noon, ¹⁷ because he did not kill me in the womb; so my mother would have been my grave and her womb forever pregnant.

¹⁸ Why did I come forth from the womb to see toil and sorrow and spend my days in shame? *WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. THANKS BE TO GOD.*

PSALM: Psalm 69:1-18 (read responsively, verse by verse)

¹ Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. ² **I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me.** ³ I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched. My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God. ⁴ **More in number than the hairs of my head are those who hate me without cause; many are those who would destroy me, my enemies who accuse me falsely. What I did not steal, must I now restore?** ⁵ O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you. ⁶ **Do not let those who hope in you be put to shame because of me, O Lord GOD of hosts; do not let those who seek you be dishonored because of me, O God of Israel.** ⁷ It is for your sake that I have borne reproach, that shame has covered my face. ⁸ **I have become a stranger to my kindred, an alien to my mother's children.** ⁹ It is zeal for your house that has consumed me; the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me. ¹⁰ **When I humbled my soul with fasting,^[a] they insulted me for doing so.** ¹¹ When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them. ¹² **I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate, and the drunkards make songs about me.** ¹³ But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me. With your faithful help ¹⁴ **rescue me from sinking in the mire; let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.** ¹⁵ Do not let the flood sweep over me or the deep swallow me up or the Pit close its mouth over me. ¹⁶ **Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good; according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.** ¹⁷ Do not hide your face from your servant, for I am in distress—make haste to answer me. ¹⁸ **Draw near to me; redeem me; set me free because of my enemies.**

SECOND READING: *Romans 6:1-11*

6 What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed^[a] from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “*Softly & Tenderly*” vs.1

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me. See, on the portals he’s waiting and watching, watching for you and for me. Refrain: “Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home.” Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, “O sinner, come home!”

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

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: *Matthew 10:24-39*

²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who

kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.^[d] ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For 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, ³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. ³⁷ “Whoever 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, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “*My Life is in You, Lord*”

Chorus: My life is in You, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;

My hope is in You, Lord; in You, it’s in You.

My life is in You, Lord; my strength is in You, Lord;

My hope is in You, Lord; in You, it’s in You.

I will praise You with all of my life, I will praise You with all of my strength, With all of my life, with all of my strength. All of my hope is in You. *Chorus*

***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** *“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich, Because of what The Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich, Because of what The Lord has done for us

***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** *“Sanctuary”*

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary Pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living Sanctuary for You.

***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 the beauty of God be reflected in your eyes, the love of God be reflected in your hands, the wisdom of God be reflected in your words, and the knowledge of God flow from your heart, that all might see, and seeing, believe. Amen

*SENDING HYMN “*How Majestic*”

O Lord, our Lord how majestic is your name in all the earth. O Lord, our Lord how majestic is your name in all the earth.

O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify Your name. Prince of peace, Mighty God; O Lord God Almighty. *Repeat*

*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.

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!**”**

CALENDAR

Today, 6/25/2023

9:00am—Worship

10:00am—Fellowship

Next Sunday, 7/2/2023—5th 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: May-June:** Grounds
- **Noisy offering:**
Collected on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month for the mission of the month(s).
- **Larimore Days:**
Mon., July 10th – Sun., July 16th
- **OSLC VBS (Vacation Bible School):** July 18-20.
- **Funeral:** Sandy Lein's funeral will be held at the Larimore Methodist Church: Saturday, July 8th @ 2:00pm.

Serving this Sunday

Ushers: Johnsons & Mutchs

Reader: Paul Mutch

Prayer:

Communion: N/A

Fellowship: Johnsons, Lebruns, & Stovers

Serving Next Sunday (7/2/23)

Ushers: please consider...

Reader: ...signing up...

Prayer: ...on the clipboard of fun!

Communion: R. & M. Johnson

Fellowship: Muirs & Voights

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Betty Olson, Family of Sandy Lein, Dillon Norman (USM), Family of Rita Carew (Julie Mutch's mom), 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