



THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT ...
IS THE GUARANTEE OF
OUR INHERITANCE
UNTIL WE ACQUIRE
POSSESSION OF IT,
**TO THE PRAISE OF
HIS GLORY.**

EPHESIANS 1:13-14. ESV

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14, 2024

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

CREATIVE WORSHIP

As We Gather: Calling A Faithful Pastor

O Gracious Father, You led Your holy apostles to ordain ministers for the proclamation of Your Word and the Faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a suitable pastor according to Your will for the blessing of Your Church in this place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peace Handbell Choir

"Jubilate, Amen" – Ruby Shaw Hollis

OPENING HYMN

"Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun" LSB 868

- 1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun
Thy daily stage of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth and joyful rise
To pay thy morning sacrifice.
- 2 In conversation be sincere,
Thy conscience as the noonday clear;
Think how the_all-seeing God thy ways
And all thy secret thoughts surveys.

3 All praise to Thee, who safe hast kept
And hast refreshed me while I slept;
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake,
I may of endless light partake.

4 Lord, I my vows to Thee renew;
Disperse my sins as morning dew;
Guard my first springs of thought and will
And with Thyself my spirit fill.

5 Direct, control, suggest this day
All I design or do or say
That all my pow'rs with all their might
In Thy sole glory may unite.

△ 6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt. Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the
Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION *Psalm 124:8; 130:3–4; Luke 18:13*

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 Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon
Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this
altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess
before God and one another that we have sinned in
thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free
ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His
people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God,
our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of
Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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

PSALM RESPONSE

85:1–7

P LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the
fortunes of Jacob.

**C You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered
all their sin.**

P You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot
anger.

**C Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away
Your indignation toward us!**

P Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong
Your anger to all generations?

**C Will You not revive us again, that Your people may
rejoice in You?**

P Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your
salvation.

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for
you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a

called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PSALM

85:8–13

P Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.

**C Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.**

P Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**C Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

P Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

**C Righteousness will go before him
and make his footsteps a way.**

**C 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.**

KYRIE

L In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above and for our salvation.
Let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of
the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to
the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

COLLECT

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the
temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim
repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow
Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death;
through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Amos 7:7–15

⁷This is what [the Lord God] showed me: behold, the
Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with
a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, “Amos,
what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord
said,

“Behold, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass by them;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,

and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

“Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.”

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, “I was no prophet, nor a prophet’s son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. ¹⁵But the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:3–14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he

lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:14–29

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus’ name had become known. Some said, “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him.” ¹⁵But others said, “He is Elijah.” And others said, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” ¹⁷For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because he had married her. ¹⁸For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, ²⁰for

Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²²For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." ²³And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." ²⁴And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." ²⁵And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. ²⁷And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison ²⁸and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE HYMN

"Through Jesus' Blood and Merit" LSB 746

- 1 Through Jesus' blood and merit
I am at peace with God.
What, then, can daunt my spirit,
However dark my road?
My courage shall not fail me,

For God is on my side;
Though hell itself assail me,
Its rage I may deride.

- 2 There's nothing that can sever
From this great love of God;
No want, no pain whatever,
No famine, peril, flood.
Though thousand foes surround me,
For slaughter mark His sheep,
They never shall confound me,
The vict'ry I shall reap.
- 3 For neither life's temptation
Nor death's most trying hour
Nor angels of high station
Nor any other pow'r
Nor things that now are present
Nor things that are to come
Nor height, however pleasant,
Nor darkest depths of gloom
- 4 Nor any creature ever
Shall from the love of God
This ransomed sinner sever;
For in my Savior's blood
This love has its foundation;
God hears my faithful prayer
And long before creation
Named me His child and heir.

Text: Simon Dach, 1605-59; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Text: Public domain

MESSAGE

**"Solving the Mystery of God's Will"
Ephesians 1:3-14**

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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 will 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.

OFFERTORY *"Take My Life and Let It Be" LSB 783 (v. 1, 4)*

- 1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79 Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" LSB 700*

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

- 2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
 Into ev'ry troubled breast;
 Let us all in Thee inherit;
 Let us find Thy promised rest.
 Take away the love of sinning;
 Alpha and Omega be;
 End of faith, as its beginning,
 Set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
 Let us all Thy life receive;
 Suddenly return, and never,
 Nevermore Thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing,
 Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
 Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
 Glory in Thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then Thy new creation,
 Pure and spotless let us be;
 Let us see Thy great salvation
 Perfectly restored in Thee,
 Changed from glory into glory,
 Till in heav'n we take our place,
 Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
 Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88 Text: Public domain

CLOSING PRAYER

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may

live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give ☩ you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Almighty Father, Bless the Word" LSB 923

1 Almighty Father, bless the Word
 Which through Your grace we now have heard.
 Oh, may the precious seed take root,
 Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

2 We praise You for the means of grace
 As homeward now our steps we trace.
 Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
 May all at last in heav'n appear.

△ 3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text (sts. 1-2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Text: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Organist