



# ***HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH***

**Time after Pentecost – September 11, 2022**

**+ Service of Word & Prayer + 10:30 am**

**“RALLY DAY”**

**Rev. Herbert C. Dolich, Pastor**

One Pastor, Many Ministers

Lenna Harris- Music Director/Organist

Tim Warren – Assisting Minister

## Introduction

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

## + GATHERING +

**Welcome & Announcements** *(see the last page for additional, important announcements)*

**Prelude**                      **"Amazing Grace"**                      arr. by J. Ray

Please Stand

**Gathering Hymn**    **"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**    ELW 807

## Greeting

P    For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)

P    The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C    And also with you.**

P    In the beginning was the Word,

**C    and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

P    In the Word was life,

**C    and the life was the light of all people.**

P    The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**C    and we have seen His glory, full of grace and truth.**

**Kyrie – page 203**

**Canticle of Praise – page 204** (Glory be to god in heaven...)

## Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

P O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, You lead back to Yourself all those who go astray. Preserve Your people in Your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to You and may follow all things that sustain our life in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

Please be seated

+ **WORD** +

## First Reading – Exodus 32:7-14

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.*

**L The first reading is from Exodus, Chapter 32**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" <sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" <sup>14</sup>And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 51:1-10** (Read responsively by full verse)

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Second Reading – 1 Timothy 1:12-17**

*The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

**L The second reading is from 1 Timothy the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter**

<sup>12</sup>I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

## **Gospel Acclamation – page 205 (Alleluia! Lord and Savior...)**

### **Holy Gospel – Luke 15:1-10**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

Please be seated

## **Sermon**

### **Time for reflection**

Please stand

**Hymn of the Day**

**"Amazing Grace"**

ELW 779

## **Apostles Creed – Confession and Forgiveness**

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C Pray in the Holy Spirit.**

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

**C have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

A As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

*A brief silence.*

A Your people receive mercy and Your grace overflows in our lives. Fill Your church with faith and love, and give understanding hearts to those who work to strengthen our ecumenical and interreligious commitments. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, and habitats. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Your world is shattered and the nations rage. Remember us in Your mercy. Teach wisdom to our elected leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Your children wander homeless and the hungry cry for bread. Seek out those who are lost or lonely, anxious or depressed, or struggling with addiction or illness. Provide for those in any need *especially those we name before you now*. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Build up the ministries of this community (*local ministries and partnerships may be named*), that we serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in Your name. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A Your blessed saints who have died now rest in Your presence. Give us thankful hearts for those who have been examples of faith in our lives, and receive us with joy when we come to share eternal life with You. God of grace,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to You; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## **Peace**

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

**Please share our Lord's Peace with one another**

Please be seated

## Responding to God's Faithfulness with Giving

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>"Praise to the Lord Almighty"</b>	arr. by H.S. Livingston
<b>Anthem</b>	<b>"Jubilate, Sing Praise"</b>	D. Hannibal

Please stand

### Offering Prayer

- A Let us pray.
- A God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon You, and You open Your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at Your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.
- C Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer – page 208

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father, who art in heaven...**  
**Amen.**

**+ *SENDING* +**

### Blessing

- P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
- God, the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.
- C Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**     **"Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"**     ELW 676

### Extinguishing of candles

## Dismissal

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus"

Webb / Ray

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**Welcome to All Visitors** who worship with us this morning. Jesus came to make God's love known to our world. May your worship with us make God's love known in your heart and in your life this day and always. We invite you to sign our Guest Register and introduce yourselves to the pastor after worship.

**Flowers and Bulletins are given to the Glory of God in Memory of all those who lost their lives during 9/11.**

**~Please keep the following people in your daily prayers~**

Rosie Lichner, Rhonda (Millheim) Fries, Bernadette Roeder (Anna Herb's sister),  
Linda Spangler, Jack Weasner, Patty Hager, Cathy Clark and Garry Dorney.

**Please, take a few minutes to read through the prayer list and let Pastor or Diane in the office know if any names should be added or removed.**

## This Week at Hope

Today - 09/11 -

**Time after Pentecost – 14**

**Rally Day – Sunday School – 9:00 AM**

**Service of Word and Prayer - 10:30 AM**

**Council Meeting**

Al-A-Non group 11:00 AM - Social Hall

09/12 – Monday -

**WELCA – 10:00**

AA 8:00 PM Social Hall

09/13 - Tuesday -

**Sr. Choir - 7:00 PM**

AA 10:00 AM – Social Hall

09/14 – Wednesday-

09/15 – Thursday -

AA Tatamy Women's Group 6:30 PM

AA, Al-A-Non 7:30 PM

09/16 – Friday -

09/17 – Saturday -

09/18 – Sunday -

**Time after Pentecost – 15**

**Sunday School & Bible Study – 9:00 AM**

**Service of Holy Communion - 10:30 AM**

**Birthdays this week**

09/11 – Jeffery Raub, Sr.  
09/13 – Michael Frace, Bill Keifer  
09/14 – Cheryl Karba

**Anniversaries this week**

09/15 – Joe & Rosie Lichner

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**Looking Ahead.....**

- **September 13<sup>th</sup> – WELCA will resume their meetings in the Social Hall at 10:00 AM.** All women of Hope are invited to attend. The program will be Scams and Safety.
- **September 25<sup>th</sup>** – we will have our annual **Pet Blessing** outside with a rain date of October 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> - Apple Festival at Grace Lutheran Church, 5907 Sullivan Trail in Belfast from 12 noon to 5:00 pm. Information posted on the bulletin board.
- **October 2<sup>nd</sup>** – we will be receiving **new members**. If you are a visitor and interested in joining our Hope Lutheran Church family, please see Pastor after the service.
- Hope Lutheran Church’s **WELCA** will be collecting **175 each of Soap and Washcloths** for the Easton / Bethlehem Mission District Christmas Ingathering. The following will benefit from their efforts – New Bethany Ministries, Safe Harbor Shelter, Hellertown Food Bank, Bright Hope, Turning Point, Victory House, and ProJeCt. Please place items in the box by the front door **by November 27<sup>th</sup>**.
- We need volunteers to sign up for **Safe Harbor in Easton** – pick up food donations at Wegman’s on the first Saturday of each month and deliver to Safe Harbor. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board – for more information, see Bill Kiefer.
- A **“Congregational Challenge”** – The Evangelism Committee has come up with a challenge for every church member – ask a non-member friend, family member, or a neighbor to come to church with you. Each member who brings a (non-member) visitor, will be eligible to a quarterly drawing in our **“Each One – Reach One”**. Place your name and the visitor’s name in the fishbowl located on the table in the Narthex. Prizes will be gift certificates for Giant Food Store. Each One – Reach One slips are located by the fishbowl. For more information, see Brenda Knowles.

# ***“Hope -- An Anchor for the Soul”***

**Hebrews 6:19**

**September 11, 2022**

**LECTIONARY 24**

**Peripheral Vision**

“Look straight forward and raise your hand on the side where you see the blinking light in the corner of your eye.” Maybe you have taken a peripheral-vision test at an optometrist’s office or at a DMV while renewing your driver’s license. Peripheral vision, like peripheral hearing and other sensory parallels, is the ability to perceive things that occur outside the center of one’s focus.

In today’s gospel, Jesus tells a story about a shepherd who seems to have good peripheral senses. He loses one sheep out of a hundred and immediately notices and sets off to look for it. This story may be so familiar that it is easy to take his actions for granted. But should we? It seems that many people looking at such a large group of nearly identical animals would have a difficult time noticing the disappearance of just one.

Yet this is precisely what Jesus does throughout his ministry. He is always noticing people on the margins of society whom others don’t see—whether because of disease, profession, gender, economic status, or past wrongs. Again and again he is criticized by other religious leaders for moving beyond the people they are focused on and toward others they see as peripheral. As Jesus’ followers, we are called to let him shift our attention to people who need the love and attention of God—even when it takes us beyond the comfort of our normal focus.

Today, as you gather to worship, ask yourself: Who is missing from the picture? Who is at the periphery of your assembly? Who is Jesus inviting to this table? In your church, in your community, in your neighborhood, or in your work, who does Jesus see that you have missed, and what would it look like to seek after them?

