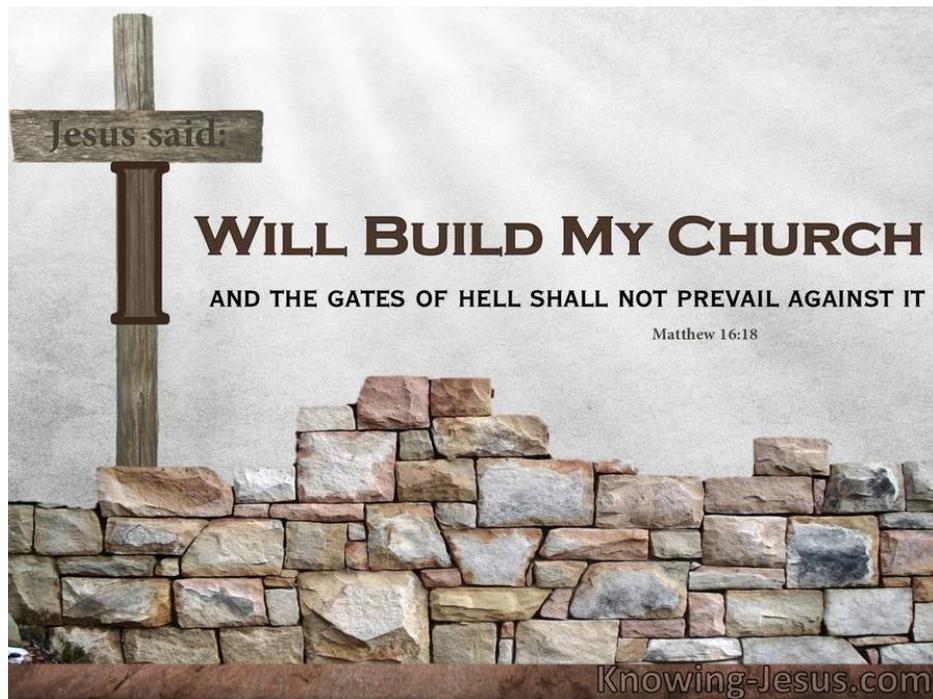


SHEPHERD OF THE DESERT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Twelfth Week after Pentecost August 22, 23, 2020

Mission:

"Created, Redeemed and Called by God, we reach out to all, by sharing our gifts and the unconditional love of Jesus."

Vision:

"To be an intergenerational congregation that puts the Love of Christ into action from one generation to another and from our community to our world".

Welcome to Worship at Shepherd of the Desert

✠ Please stand as you are able when noted.

Prelude "Rejoice Now Christian Souls BWV 734" J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome and Ministry Moments Pastor Daniel Defassio

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

A In the presence of God, who sees our hearts and our minds, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A God our strength,

C we confess that we are captive to the power of sin that dwells within us.

We put ourselves first and others last.

What we think will make us happy leaves us longing for more.

Even when we want to do what is good, we find ourselves doing the opposite.

Rescue us from death's grip on our lives, and raise us up day by day, that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

P Sisters and brothers, all have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are justified by God's grace as a gift.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in † Christ Jesus, in whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation.

C Amen.

P Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship...

✠ Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

P O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

1st Reading

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

L The Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 138:1-8

L ¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart;
before the gods I will | sing your praise.

C ²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your
steadfast | love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things.**

L ³When I called, you | answered me; you increased my | strength within me.

C ⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words | of your mouth. R**

L ⁵They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,
that great is the glory | of the LORD.

C ⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty | from afar.**

L ⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall
save me.

C ⁸**You will make good your pur- | pose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of
your hands. R**

2nd Reading

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L The Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

‡ Gospel Verse

P Alleluia. You are | the Messiah,

C the Son of the | living God. Alleluia. (Matt. 16:16)

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th Chapter. C Glory to you O God

‡ Holy Gospel

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Defassio

† Hymn

"Built on a Rock"

ELW 652



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
 5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
 ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with
 prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.
 world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
 Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
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Affirmation of Baptism Reception into Membership (the service continues to the Sharing of the Peace, pg 8)
 New Members: George Natonick, Judy & Lee Lloyd, Sefanie Seabridge, Jessica Goodwin, Jan Goodwin

✠ Apostles' Creed

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.

✠ Prayers of the Gathered Community

A Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A You call us into this community (*name*), in which we, though many, are one in Christ. May we recognize in ourselves and in one another the unique gifts you have given us for the building up of the church for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead (*especially*). Bring us with them to our heavenly home. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

‡ Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C And also with you.

Offering Prayer

A God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

C Amen.

‡ Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

✠ Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✠ Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

✠ Eucharistic Prayer

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.
We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared
for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P In the night in which he was betrayed
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

‡ Lord's Prayer

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.

‡ Agnus Dei

L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
C have mercy on us.
L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
C have mercy on us.
L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
C grant us peace.

The Communion

Distribution - by continuous tables. All baptized Christians who believe Christ is truly present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion are welcome at Christ's table at Shepherd of the Desert. Please follow the directions of the ushers as you come forward to the altar rail by the center aisle. You may kneel if you are able. Gluten Free wafer are available...let the Pastor know by raising your index finger when served. Once you have been served, you then may return to your seat by the side aisles. You may also share your offerings as you come forward for Holy Communion. Railing cloths are a reminder that area is reserved for the infirmed and handicapped. During this time of the COVID-19 Virus, only the host will be shared. Lutherans historically believe you may receive both in one kind. It is proper to extend your hands, palms up, one on the other as a "throne" and the host will be placed on it.

‡ Post Communion Prayer

A God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.
C Amen.

‡ Benediction

P May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

‡ Dismissal

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

‡ Postlude "Toccatà in D BWV 538"

J.S. Bach

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A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

The Bible – Old Testament Daily Devotions - Week 7

THEME: MOSES: THE SPIRITUAL GIANT

In our studies, we have learned “that Noah was the only good person of his time and lived in fellowship with God.” We also learned that God is pleased when we have fellowship with the Divine Presence. We learned that fellowship means to have daily prayer, praise and conversation with God. That is what affirming our Baptism is all about: learning to be in fellowship and prayerful conversation with God and God’s Word. It is our prayer that God will touch our hearts in such a way that we will be open to the voice speaking to you within the Words. The Bible is a living book; God is alive in-with-and-under the pages of the Bible. As you read, always be asking: “What is the living God saying to me through these living words?”

You know by now that daily devotions consist of four parts: 1) opening prayer; 2) Bible reading; 3) intercessory prayer for others; 4) the Lord’s Prayer. Also each week, there are verses to highlight. Have your opening prayer. Then highlight the designated verses, reading carefully as you highlight. Then read the whole chapter. The verses that you are highlighting are the most important verses in the chapter.

Day 1: Read Exodus 1. The Israelites are Treated Cruelly. Highlight 1:6-8, 17, 22. Why did the king want to have all the baby boys killed?

Day 2: Read Exodus 2. The Birth of Moses. Highlight 2:2-3, 10, 12, 23-24. Why did Moses flee to Midian?

Day 3: Read Exodus 3. God calls Moses. Highlight 3:5-6, 10-11, 14. What is God’s name?

Day 4: Read Exodus 4. God Gives Moses Miraculous Power. Highlight 4:10, 12-13. God gave Moses the power to perform what three miracles?

Day 5: Read Exodus 5-6:13. Moses and Aaron Before the King. Highlight 6:3-4, 7-8. What did the king command concerning the bricks?

Day 6: Read Exodus 6:28-7:25. The Lord’s command. Highlight 7:16, 20-21. Why did God want the king to let the Israelites go?

Day 7: Read Exodus 8 and 9. The Plagues. Highlight 8:1, 15, 20; 9:13, 29-30. What are the six plagues described in these two chapters?

In these opening stories about Moses there are several miracles (e.g., the burning bush, a stick becoming a snake and a hand becoming diseased with leprosy). Moses is called a miracle worker. Knowing that everyone has their own ideas, what do you believe and think about miracles in the Bible and miracles today?

Take a letter from the New Testament – go through that letter and in pencil (in your Bible) make the letter a personal letter to you and your family, your church your community....(Replace the biblical town names with local community names, individual names with yours and others, who you know. Do this throughout the whole letter). As if the letter was written to you – it was!