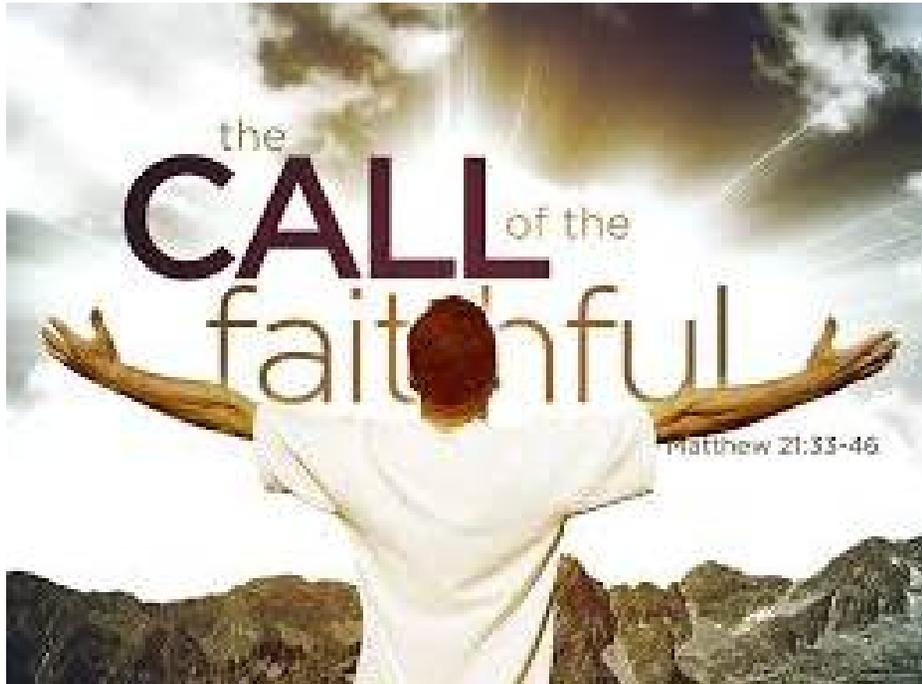


SHEPHERD OF THE DESERT EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



The Eighteenth Week after Pentecost October 3, 4, 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 "Fanfare Fugue in C Major" 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 God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

1st Reading

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!
L The Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:7-15

L ⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

C ⁸**You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;**
you cast out the nations and | planted it.

L ⁹You cleared the | ground for it; it took root and | filled the land.

C ¹⁰**The mountains were covered | by its shadow**
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.

L ¹¹You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea and its branches | to the river.

C ¹²**Why have you broken | down its wall,**
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?

L ¹³The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

C ¹⁴**Turn now, O | God of hosts, look | down from heaven;**

L ¹⁵behold and | tend this vine; preserve what your right | hand has planted.

2nd Reading

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

‡ Gospel Verse

P *Alleluia.* Jesus says, I chose you and ap- | pointed you

C **to go and bear fruit | that will last. *Alleluia.* (John 15:16)**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21th Chapter. C **Glory to you O God**

‡ Holy Gospel

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Defassio

✚ Hymn

"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

ELW 769



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite
 Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
 Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-705998

✠ 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 With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

A Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation (*especially Francis of Assisi, whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders (*especially*) seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all managers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard (*especially Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society*). May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of 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 Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.

Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 Blessing

A The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you you in His grace.
C Amen.

✠ Post Communion Prayer

A We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
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 "Toccata in B Minor"

Eugene Gigout

Announcements

Understanding the New Testament Tuesday at 2:00 pm and Wednesday's at 6:00pm

Discover the history behind the 27 books of the New Testament and gain insight into the word at the time and the people who produced the text. This is a 30 minute video course with discussion following make plans to come!

Lutheran 101 The New Testament Thursday evening at 6:00 pm

Healthy Living: Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month we have a personal trainer (TJ) that meets with us for a nutritional discussion and light workout tailored to the needs of the class from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Healthy Living does not meet on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month.

I-Help: The first 2 Sundays of each month we open Walton Hall to a LSS sponsored group of homeless. The participants are interviewed and selected by LSS. We offer a safe place to spend a monitored night including a hot meal along with breakfast and a sack lunch to go.

Mission of the Month for October: *Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission*, Rock Point AZ exists to connect diverse communities to the needs of the Navajo People by creating a safe environment where the values of education, culture and spiritual formation are accessible to all people.

Best Pancakes in Sun City and they are free! Take out only Due to COVID-19

Always the last Saturday Month, October 31st. Serving 8:00 am to 10:00 am

Candy Donations for Drive through Trunk or Treat

If you would like to donate individually wrapped candy you can drop it off in the church office or if you would like to donate funds for the purchase candy please note that on your offering envelope. Lets make this year another successful event for the kids! Even during COVID-19

SHEPHERD OF THE DESERT LUTHERAN CHURCH

11025 N 111th Avenue, Sun City, Arizona 85351

Phone: 623.933.1359 * Fax: 623.933.1008

Senior Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Daniel R. Defassio

Organist: Dr. Lorraine Miller * Deacon: Chuck Hyland

Pastors in Residence:

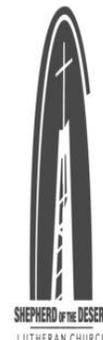
The Rev. Ed Aho * The Rev. Art Goetz * The Rev. George Natonick

The Rev. Paul Nordeen

Website: www.shepherdofthedesertlca.org

Email: Kristen: sodsecretary@qwestoffice.ne

Sue: shepherdofthedes@qwestoffice.net



A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

The Bible – Old Testament
Daily Devotions - Week 13

THEME: SOLOMON'S PROVERBS

DAILY DEVOTIONS: In our studies, we learn about Samuel as a young boy. He heard a voice calling to him at night, but he wasn't sure what the voice meant. A wise old priest by the name of Eli told him to return to the quietness of his room and say, "Speak to me Lord, for your servant is listening." That is what daily devotions are. It is going to your room, being quiet, and praying, "Speak to me Lord, for your servant is listening." May we daily listen to the voice of God speak to us through the Word.

You know by now that daily devotions consist of four parts: 1. Opening prayer; 2. Bible reading; 3. Intercessory prayer of others; 4. The Lord's prayer. Then highlight the designated verses, reading carefully as you highlight. Then read the whole chapter. The verses that you are highlighting are important verses in the chapter.

Day 1: Read Proverbs 10. Highlight 10:1, 8, 17, 20, 26-27. Select and write down a favorite proverb.

Day 2: Read Proverbs 11. Highlight 11:20, 22, 24-25, 28. Select and write down a favorite proverb.

- **Day 3:** Read Proverb 12. Highlight 12:17, 24-25. Select and write down a favorite proverb.
- **Day 4:** Read Proverb 13. Highlight 13:1, 11-13, 16, 18, 20, 23-24. Select and write down a favorite proverb.
- **Day 5:** Read Proverb 14. Highlight 14:2, 6, 9, 16-17, 21, 26, 29, 31. Select and write down a favorite proverb.
- **Day 6:** Read Proverb 15. Highlight 15:2, 4-5, 12, 16-17, 23, 26, 31-33. Select and write down a favorite proverb.
- **Day 7:** Read Proverb 16. Highlight 16:2, 12-13, 16, 20, 24, 27, 32, 17:3. Select and write down a favorite proverb.

Discussion Question: With another select three favorite proverbs. Now tell each other why they selected these proverbs and what they mean.