



“Sin, Forgiveness and Freedom”

September 6, 2020

Friendship Celebration

Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod

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Elders Serving: 9:00am Ralph Cavaliere ~ 11:00am Tom Buuck

September 6, 2020

Preservice Song: "Jesus, Draw Me Close"

Jesus, draw me close
Closer, Lord, to You
Let the world around me fade away
Jesus, draw me close
Closer, Lord, to You
For I desire to worship and obey.

Jesus, draw me close
Closer, Lord, to You
Let the world around me fade away
Jesus, draw me close
Closer, Lord, to You
For I desire to worship and obey.
For I desire to worship and obey.

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Welcome & Announcements

Invocation & Call to Confession (*Psalm 32:3-5*)

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Congregation: Then I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

—Psalm 32:3-5, NRSV

Confession of Sins

All: God of love, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done, we have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to You. Forgive us and renew our lives through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor: Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, it is my privilege to announce to you that all your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And all the people of God say. . .

Congregation: Amen.

Opening Song Set: “And Can It Be”

And can it be that I should gain
An int’rest in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

He left His Father’s throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam’s helpless race!
‘Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O my God, it found out me.
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray:
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

No condemnation now I dread:
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, thru Christ my own.
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

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“Cry of My Heart”

It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow
All of the days of my life.

It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow
All of the days of my life.

Teach me your holy ways, O Lord,
So I can walk in Your truth.
Teach me Your holy ways, O Lord,
And make me wholly devoted to You.

It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow
All of the days of my life.

Open my eyes so I can see
The wonderful things that You do.
Open my heart up, more and more,
And make it wholly devoted to You.

It is the cry of my heart to follow You.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.
It is the cry of my heart to follow
All of the days of my life.
All of the days of my life.
All of the days of my life.

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Sharing of the Pics (11am)

Old Testament

Ezekiel 33:7-9 ESV

9:00am: Karl Bokenkamp

11:00am: John Wiemer

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

Epistle

Romans 13:1-10 ESV

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20 ESV

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Children’s Message

Sermon Song: *“It Is Well”*

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea-billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”
It is well.
With my soul.
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control.
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
It is well (echo)
With my soul (echo)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

My sin-o, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well (echo)

With my soul (echo)

It is well, it is well, with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,

The clouds be rolled back as a scroll.

The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,

“Even so” it is well with my soul.

It is well (echo)

With my soul (echo)

It is well, it is well, with my soul.

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Sermon: “Sin, Forgiveness, and Freedom”

Ezekiel 33:7-9 & Matthew 18:15-20

1) The impact of our sin on ____ and _____;

A. Hiding from _____

B. Hiding from _____

C. Hiding our sins impact upon others _____, _____, and _____.

2) Our Lord’s call to _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____.

3) Acts 3:19-20 “_____ therefore and turn again that your sins may be _____ (and) that times of _____ may come from the presence of the Lord. . .”

A. This is the “_____” moment of _____, and it’s our Lord’s _____ to us today and every day through _____ in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior.

Life Group Questions

Head (what?)

According to the Ezekiel text, what will happen to Christians who choose not to warn people of the consequence of their sin?

What makes humility such an important part of Christian living?

Why Jesus say it’s better for a person be lame, crippled or blind rather than fall into sin?

Heart (so what?)

What temptation of sin most affects you? How is God helping you to overcome it?
How does the parable of the lost sheep remind you of God's compassion for lost people?

What type of freedom comes with God's forgiveness?

Hands (now what?)

When is God calling you to show someone their sin in a loving way?

What are you doing to show gratitude for the freedom God has given you?

How does discipleship guide our freedom in Christ?

Offering *You may give your offering by giving online through the church website at www.friendshipcelebration.org, by signing up for automatic withdrawal which links to savings/checking account or debit/credit card (form is also available on church website), or by mailing your check to the church office.*

Prayers

Pastor: Guide us, O God, by Your Word and Spirit, that in Your light we may see light, in Your truth find freedom, and in Your will discover Your peace,

(Petitions)

Pastor: By Your power You raised Jesus from death to life. Through His victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God. In His rising to life You promise eternal life to all who believe in Him. We praise You that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Words of Institution

Preparation for The Lord's Table

Holy Communion: We celebrate the Lord's Supper today by receiving the Body and Blood of Christ which is given in, with and under the bread and wine. In this meal, we receive the forgiveness of sins, the promise of life everlasting and the strength we need to live faithfully. We invite to the Lord's Table baptized believers who are truly repentant of sin and seek the grace in this meal, forgiving of one another as we have been forgiven, and gladly believe and confess the Real Presence of Christ in this meal. All people are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Participating in the meal is how the church proclaims the Lord's death, resurrection and imminent return. **Red wine** is used to best visually convey the blood of Christ. For personal or medical reasons, **white grape juice** is also available in the center of the trays.

Distribution Songs: “Behold the Lamb”

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away
Slain for us, and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross
So we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King

The Body of our Savior Jesus Christ
Torn for you, eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one
So, we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin
Shed for you, drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God
So, we share in this Bread of Life
And we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King

And so, with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth

As we share in His suffering
We proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heav'n
Around the table of the King,
Around the table of the King,

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“O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer”

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Greatest treasure of my longing soul.
My God like You there is no other.
True delight is found in You alone.
Your grace a well too deep to fathom.
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach.
Your truth a fount of perfect wisdom.
My highest good and my unending need.

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Strong defender of my weary heart.
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver.
And my shield against his hateful darts.
My song when enemies surround me
My hope when tides of sorrow rise.
My joy when trials are abounding.
Your faithfulness my refuge in the night.

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Gracious Savior of my ruined life.
My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders.
In my place You suffered bled and died.
You rose the grave and death are conquered.
You broke my bonds of sin and shame.
You rose the grave and death are conquered.
You broke my bonds of sin and shame.

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer,
May all my days bring glory to Your Name.
May all my days bring glory to Your Name.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sending

Pastor: Sisters and brothers, let us claim the freedom Christ gives us by His self-giving on the cross. May He enable us to serve together in faith, hope, and love. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Blessing:

Pastor: 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.

Congregation: Amen

Closing Song: "Greater"

Bring your tired
And bring your shame
Bring your guilt
And bring your pain
Don't you know that's not you're name
You will always be much more to me

Every day I wrestle with the voices
That keep telling me I'm not right
But that's alright

'Cause I hear a voice and He calls me redeemed
When others say I'll never be enough
And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world
In the world
In the world
And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world

Bring your doubts
And bring your fears
Bring your hurt
And bring your tears
There'll be no condemnation here
You are holy, righteous and redeemed

Every time I fall
There'll be those who will call me
A mistake
Well that's OK

'Cause I hear a voice and He calls me redeemed
When others say I'll never be enough

And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world
In the world
In the world

And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world

(Instrumental)

There'll be days I lose the battle
Grace says that it doesn't matter
'Cause the cross already won the war
He's Greater, He's Greater

I am learning to run freely
Understanding just how He sees me
And it makes me love Him more and more
He's Greater, He's Greater

There'll be days I lose the battle
Grace says that it doesn't matter
'Cause the cross already won the war
He's Greater, He's Greater

I am learning to run freely
Understanding just how He sees me
And it makes me love Him more and more
He's Greater, He's Greater

'Cause I hear a voice and He calls me redeemed
When others say I'll never be enough
And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world
In the world
In the world

And greater is the One living inside of me
Than he who is living in the world

There'll be days I lose the battle
Grace says that it doesn't matter
'Cause the cross already won the war
He's Greater, He's Greater

I am learning to run freely
Understanding just how He sees me
And it makes me love Him more and
Our God is greater
Than he who is living in the world!

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Sharing of the Pics *(9am)*

Friendship Celebration Announcements ~ September 6, 2020

We are happy to announce that there will be a short **Sunday school gathering** of children directly after the 9am outdoor worship service (around 10am) for any children. Rebekah Brune will be praying with the children and passing out a Sunday school take home bag. We hope to see you soon.

From the Church Office - We are pleased to announce Nicole Peters has accepted the position of church secretary, beginning Tuesday, September 15th. Welcome, Nicole! Thank you to all who expressed interest and support as we filled this position. As this role transitions, we are also very thankful for Joan Hammerson for her faithful years of service. Joan's official last day in the office is Sept. 25.

Please rejoice with us as **Dick & Paulette Meyer are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary** today.

Friendship Celebration is happy to announce a new ministry! STUDENT CARE - Ministry for At-Home Schooling. We care about families & youth at FCLC. We seek to provide a fun, safe, & Bible-centered affordable option for families in our local community who need a place for their student(s) to learn during this unique time we find ourselves in. STUDENT CARE is for families of Preschoolers through 6th Graders who need a day(s)/week or even a partial day or week. We will be following the West Ada school calendar. This means that we will begin September 8th with coverage from 7am to 6pm. Registration forms are available on our website: www.friendshipcelebration.org

Youth Yard Sale: A big thank you goes out to anyone who donated to this year's annual yard sale. Because of your donation we were able to raise \$2,054.00 this year for Jr. & Sr. High Ministry! We could not have done that without you.

Looking to Hire: our new STUDENT CARE ministry is looking to hire someone part time for Thursday mornings + other shifts. Starting pay is \$8 to \$12 per hour depending on experience. Please contact Brett Lindemood if you are interested: blindemood@friendshipcelebration.org

Attention Quilters! The Quilter Group is resuming this Wednesday, September 9th at 10:00am. We will be physically distancing for health concerns and face masks are encouraged. However, those not wearing a face mask will be accommodated. Please enter the church building through the north (Chinden/office) entrance. Everyone entering will have their temperature checked. If you are not feeling well, please do not attend. Contact Janice Eacker (208-371-3776) for more information. We look forward to getting back to making quilts for the various charities.

Keyboardist/Worship Team Members Needed! Love to sing or play a musical instrument? FCLC's Music Ministry can put your talents to good use. If you are interested in serving this year, please know that you are welcome if you are a strong singer or play an instrument and have a heart for music ministry. Please email Linda Hausch at lhausch@gmail.com.

THIRTY DAY CHALLENGE Did you know there are thirty separate commands in Romans 12:9-21? Here is a September calendar that provides one command to focus on each day. Thanks to Ralph Cavalieri for writing and sharing this resource based on Pastor Matt's sermon from Aug. 30. These thirty commands are all marks of Christian living. Let's grow to become more like Jesus one day at a time! Hard copies are available at on the Welcome Desk. To request a PDF copy, please email the church office: (office@friendshipcelebration.org).

Sunday school teachers needed for this fall! Classes are split into two groups- primary age (Pre-k to 2nd grade) and elementary age (3rd-6th grade). Materials are provided. We are looking for several teachers for each group so that we can rotate times and hopefully teach just 1 or 2 times a month. We will start in October. Please let Becky Brune know if you are interested. You can call or text at 208-477-8158 or e-mail at rebekahbrune@yahoo.com.

Sharing of the Pics! Many thanks to all who have been sending in photos. If you have a fun photo, a family photo or anything that shares what you have been up to during the COVID19 stay-at-home mandate, we want to see and share it. Photos should be landscape orientation (turn your phone sideways), high resolution and .jpg format is preferred. Please email pictures to office@friendshipcelebration.org. Please send them into the office by Friday mornings; so that we can get them into each Sunday's video. The slideshow will be part of the online worship services which are available through Facebook Live and the church website. No names or information will be shared, just the picture. As photos are submitted, we'll have a new slideshow each week as a way of helping us stay connected and mindful of one another.

Prayer Chain-Prayer Requests - Call Jenny Kandler at 208-362-5410 or e-mail bob54109@msn.com to request prayer chain or if there are updates. If you email, also please call to let her know you've sent a prayer request via email. In the event that Jenny Kandler can't be reached for prayer chain, please call/notify, Donnette House (208-297-0775) at donnette15@gmail.com.

Stay Connected! FCLC's Friendly 411 is an e-newsletter that comes directly to your email inbox on Friday afternoons. If you are interested in signing up to receive the Friendly 411, please email the church office at office@friendshipcelebration.org and mark the subject "Subscribe 411". You may also request a PDF copy of our monthly Friendly Findings newsletter. Just include "Subscribe FF" to the subject line in your email. Our newsletter is also available online at our church website. (www.friendshipcelebration.org).



Friendship Celebration's Top Ten Core Values

1. **Bible-centered Preaching, Teaching and Discipleship**
(2 Timothy 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:8-10)
2. **All People Matter to God**
(Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 28:18-20)
3. **Praise and Worship**
(Acts 2:42; Psalm 26:8; Colossians 3:16)
4. **Well-Mobilized Lay Leadership and Ministerial Staff**
(Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Peter 4:10)
5. **Life, Nurture, Support and Other Small Groups**
(Hebrews 10:25)
6. **Prayer**
(Matthew 7:7-11; James 5:13-18)
7. **Excellence, Process and Evaluation**
(Romans 8:32; Colossians 3:23)
8. **Financial Responsibility**
(2 Corinthians 8-9)
9. **Fellowship, a Loving Christian Community**
(Acts 2:42; 1 Timothy 6:17)
10. **Evangelism, Outreach and Lifestyle Witness**
(Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15)

Our Mission Statement

Celebrating: God the Father's love for us in creating us and giving His Son

Connecting: In faith with Jesus, Our Savior, and with others in love and care

Communicating: God's love in the power of the Holy Spirit