



“The People’s Court”

September 13, 2020

Friendship Celebration

Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod

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Elders Serving: 9:00am Lynn House ~ 11:00am Aaron Hubler

September 13, 2020

Preservice Song: "Every Eye Shall See"

Every eye shall see,
Every knee shall bow;
Every tongue shall confess
To the glory of God
That Jesus is Lord,
He is Lord, He is Lord.

Every eye shall see,
Every knee shall bow;
Every tongue shall confess
To the glory of God
That Jesus is Lord,
He is Lord, He is Lord.

Every eye shall see,
Every knee shall bow,
Every tongue shall confess
To the glory of God
That Jesus is Lord,
He is Lord, He is Lord,
He is Lord.

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Welcome & Announcements

Invocation & Call to Worship

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

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: Praise the LORD, O my soul;

Congregation: all my inmost being, praise His holy name.

Pastor: Praise the LORD, O my soul,

Congregation: and forget not all His benefits—

Pastor: who forgives all your sins

Congregation: and heals all your diseases,

Pastor: who redeems your life from the pit

Congregation: and crowns you with love and compassion.

—Psalm 103:1-4, NIV

Opening Song Set: “O Jesus King Most Wonderful”

O Jesus, King most wonderful,
Thou Conqueror renowned,
Thou sweetness most ineffable,
In whom all joys are found!

When once Thou visitest the heart,
Then truth begins to shine,
When earthly vanities depart,
Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, Light of all below,
Thou Fount of life and fire,
Surpassing all the joys we know,
All that we can desire.

May every heart confess Thy name
And ever Thee adore
And, seeking Thee, itself inflame
To seek Thee more and more!

Thee may our tongues forever bless,
Thee may we love alone,
And ever in our lives express
The image of Thine own!

Public Domain

“Ten Thousand Reasons”

Solo

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.

All

Every eye shall see,
Every knee shall bow;
Every tongue shall confess
To the glory of God
That Jesus is Lord,
He is Lord, He is Lord.
The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the ev'ning comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.

Women

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

All

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.

Instrumental

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.
I'll worship Your holy name.
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.
Worship Your holy name.
Worship Your holy name.

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Confession of Sins

Leader: Lord God,

All: We have given more weight to our successes and our happiness than to Your will. We have eaten without a thought for the hungry. We have spoken without an effort to understand others. We have kept silence instead of telling the truth. We have judged others, forgetful that You alone are the Judge. We have acted rather in accordance with our opinions than according to Your commands. Within Your church we have been slow to practice love of our neighbors. And in the world we have not been Your faithful servants. Forgive us and help us to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior. 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.

—from Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7, NRSV

Prayer for the Word (9am)

Pastor: Prepare our hearts, O God, to hear Your Word and obey Your will, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Sharing of the Pics (11am)

Old Testament

Genesis 50:15-21 ESV

9:00am: Judy Sivey

11:00am: Gena Josephson

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you." And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.'" Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Epistle

Romans 14:1-12 ESV

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.

²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.

⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35 ESV

²¹Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

Apostles’ Creed

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.

Children's Message

Sermon Song: *"Speak, O Lord"*

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise,
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

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Sermon: “The People’s Court”

We all have our opinions, don’t we? When it comes to the faith, we are fellow servants of the Master and His thoughts counts more than ours. Perhaps if we focused more on being personally accountable to God we would be less concerned about passing judgment on one another.

A Losing Argument

What do those who are weak in faith need? (v. 1)

Diets, days & disputes

Whether We Live or Die

Jesus is Lord over both the _____ and the _____

Why judge others?

One Judge, One Jesus

“We will all stand before the judgment seat of God.” (v. 10)

What will you say? What will God say?

The ultimate “all rise” and the universal “all bow”

Life Group Questions

Head (what?)

How can we have standards of living (God’s standards) without judging those who choose not to abide by them? Without judgment, doesn’t everything become relative?

What’s the difference between passing judgment and warning others of the consequences of their sin?

How should judgment differ from outside the church and inside the church?

Heart (so what?)

What would life be like if we only judged ourselves?

If you died today, what kind of personal account would you have to give?

What techniques do you use to avoid judging others?

Hands (now what?)

What practical things can you begin, today, to change your personal account?

How can discipleship lead to accountability?

Where is God leading you to love, not lecture, those people in your sphere of influence?

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.*

Song of Response: *“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”*

Lord, whose love through humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Offered mercy's perfect deed.
We, Your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose
Ev'ry gift that You impart.

Still Your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles
Still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision,
Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness,
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving,
Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to Your service,
Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom
May Your mercy know and live.

Prayers

Pastor: Loving and faithful God, we bless You for calling us to be a holy people, living for You in service to each other for the sake of Your world. We pray that our congregation will experience a rich and free sharing of the gifts You have generously given us. Knowing that we are called to be saints, we humbly ask that You will work powerfully through us to accomplish Your purposes in the world. We pray for the courage, the patience, and the generosity of spirit that comes from imitating the love You have shown us in Christ. We long for Your Spirit's power to make us more Christlike in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

Help us to think of others and their needs even now as we pray for
creation, in its groaning . . .
the world, in its suffering . . .
our nation and city, in their need of healing . . .

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

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.

Sending

Pastor: Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

—from *Ephesians 4:1-6, NRSV*

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: “This Is Amazing Grace”

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
Who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Whoa, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory, the King of Glory
Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You lay down Your life
That I would be set free
Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave

Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy! Worthy! worthy!

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You lay down Your life
That I would be set free

Whoa, Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

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Sharing of the Pics *(9am)*

Friendship Celebration Announcements ~ September 13, 2020

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.

Sunday school teachers are still 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.

Baptism! Caleb Vernon Brink, newborn son of Jeff and Laura Brink, was baptized at their home by Pastor Matt on Friday. Caleb was born on September 2nd in Boise. We welcome Caleb to the family of God!

Feast of the Bible -- Did you know there are seven appointed feasts in the Bible? The feasts outline God's redemptive plan as they all point to Jesus (Yeshua). Understanding the Jewish feasts and calendar helps us to appreciate their roots, fulfillment, symbolism and promise. There is a lot to appreciate and discover! You are invited to join a new class on Zoom on Wednesday evenings, 7:00-8:15 pm, beginning Sept. 23. The class will go for 8 sessions. To sign up, e-mail Pastor Matt at mhenry@friendshipcelebration.org.

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 with coverage from 7am to 6pm. Registration forms are available on our website: www.friendshipcelebration.org

Now Hiring! Our 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.

Western Zone LWML Virtual Fall Rally—Ladies, mark your calendar for Saturday, October 3rd for the Western Zone LWML Virtual Fall Rally on ZOOM at 10am. The theme is "Separated, but Bound by Love". The Bible study will be presented by Pastor Matt. For more information, contact Betty Reimann (208-376-8687) or Terri Bentley (208-861-7871).

LWML-GivingTuesday - Two out of every three people do not know Jesus as their Savior. Lutheran Women in Mission is reaching out to a world in need of the Gospel through mission grants. You have the opportunity to help reach others with the saving Word of Jesus. This year, LWML is celebrating GivingTuesday on September 15th. You may donate toward the 2019–2021 LWML Mission Goal by using LWML Facebook, lwml.org/givingtuesday. Your donation will be doubled on that day, thanks to the commitment of a generous donor. You can HELP by sharing on GivingTuesday. (If you are unable to donate online, you may send your contributions to the LWML office at 801 Seminary Place Suite L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Be sure to note GivingTuesday 2020 with your contribution.)

30-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).

Sharing of the Pics Continues! Don't forget to send in your fun photos, family photos 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 by 9am Friday mornings to be included in the following Sunday's video. 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