

Augustana

Lent 2, 2021 – setting 8 ELW – February 28, 2021

Welcome to worship. ...

- where Lutherans and Anglicans worship together in treaty six territory and the homeland many people of the Metis Nation.
- You are welcome: as followers of Jesus the people of Augustana aim to share the unconditional love of God with people of all genders, orientations, abilities, ages, races, cultures, ethnicities. This is a work in progress and you are welcome to join us on our way.

Thanks just like on a Sunday morning when we worship together there are many who make it possible for us to worship together. Look at the end of the video for all those names.

GREETING

As we begin our time of worship: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: and also with you [I have not put in a response before]

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day

CHILDREN'S TIME

- We just sang “Kyrie eleison” which is Greek for “Lord have mercy”
- “Lord have mercy, on our world and on our way → we’re going on a journey or a trip
- There are happy trips and sad trips and trips that are a bit of both
- Happy journeys like a trip to Disney land or Hawaii. Sad journeys like a trip to the dentist or to a test at school you’re just not ready for.
- Red -- Happy
- Blue – sad ...
- Mixed together (red & blue) makes purple. Just like the colour for Lent
- And our journey through Lent has happy bits: God loves us ... Bible stories about Jesus healing and caring for people
- And it has sad bits ... because we know that at the end of Lent is Good Friday when we remember that Jesus died on the cross.
- Lent is a mixture of happy and sad ... purple.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Loving God: as we journey through Lent and through life we ask you to accompany us through the happy times and the sad times. Help us to trust in you always. AMEN.

READING: Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Word of God, Word of life **Thanks be to God**

Please join in singing our Gospel Acclamation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
 Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
 Save us as you promised we will trust your word.
 Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark 8:31-38

Glory to you O Lord

Mark 8:31-38

New Revised Standard Version

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel,^[a] will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words^[b] in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of our Lord; **Praise to you, O Christ**

MEDITATION

- A wise person once told me “Don’t make people guess what you’re trying to tell them ... just tell them ... straight out tell them what you want them to know” So I am going to try to do that.
- We have been talking a lot about journey’s ... Lent is always a journey of faith, but this Lent especially ... Walk from Syria going on throughout Lent ... Kyrie uses the language of journey as we are “on our way” ... our Gospel acclamation reminds us that God’s steadfast love accompanies us.
- So I am trying very hard to take the wise advice to be as straightforward as possible.
BUT

Have you ever opened your mouth to say something and the complete opposite came out of your mouth? How does that happen? Your brain says yes, but no comes out. So many misunderstandings stem from that kind of brain mouth disconnect.

Misunderstandings abound. And that’s what it seems to be with Peter and Jesus: Jesus says terrible things are going to happen to him It is disturbing ... Jesus is upsetting everyone around him with such negative talk.

So Peter took him aside Hey, buddy, come on. You're upsetting people. Watch what you're saying, you don't really mean that.

But that is what Jesus really meant: his brain and his mouth were sending the same message. This journey he was on was going to be difficult Deadly for him. The journey his followers were on was also not always going to be a jolly holiday. Lose that idea. If you want to follow me Pick up your cross. What? Picking up a cross that's talking about excepting a death penalty ... how does that work?

Dead people don't make very good followers. What is Jesus saying?

Mark does not soften Jesus' words ... Peter would have liked to have soften Jesus' words ... but they come down to us in that stark harshness: put to death all that holds you back, lay your burden down ... there are no promises that accompany Jesus' invitation to journey with him except this one: lose your life to save it.

There are many who journey: Sarah and Abraham journeyed, the Alhamad-Wahid family are journeying, and we are journeying through Lent. There is also the Apostle Paul who struggled to understand and explain how this journey is a gift of faith. A gift of faith that comes from God.

Like those who have gone on before us, we are enabled to begin and continue on in this journey by the grace of God. Knowing that God accompanies us every step of the way makes the difficulty of the journey possible. Knowing that Jesus has already made this journey gives us comfort. But, like Paul and many others along the way have discovered, it is God who gives us the faith to keep putting one foot in front of the other.

Prayer: Merciful God, as you travelled with Sarah and Abraham and Paul and countless others travel with us as well. Every step of the way remind us of your steadfast loving kindness. Strengthen our faith so that we may believe and act as though we believe this. In Jesus' name we pray.

Choir Anthem "I Cried All Night"

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed be the Trinity + one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion. Fountain of living water,

Pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace; by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **AMEN.**

Sharing of the peace – *share the peace with those who with you now & with those you meet or talk to in the week to come.*

Prayers of Intercession

Let us join hearts and voices together in prayer. Each short prayer will end with the words “hear us, O God” and you can make the prayer your own by responding “**your mercy is great**”. ... Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Bless the ministry of the clergy and people of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland and Bishop John Organ and The dean, council, and congregations of the Georgian, Huronia and Bay Areas of the Eastern Synod Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All the needs of the earth worship you. From galaxies to micro-organisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's wellbeing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Help us to dream of and work towards a time when all people are vaccinated. And instead of returning to the old “normal,” help us to work towards a new and just normal. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression especially Angie

Remus and family as they mourn the death of Gordon and Lorene and family on the death of her brother-in-law ... and for Elsie, Audrey, Orville and Carol, Bruce, Marie, Gloria, Anna Marie, Marcus, Brodie, Karin, Anthony, Robert, Curtis, Linda, Marci, Gayle, Evelyn, Lisa, Danielle, Shelby, Alice, Deanna, Ron, Marlene, Mildred, Minnie, and all those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts*(a pause to offer time to name others)*.

Give them courage and peace in the face of illness and grief. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray also for the many who are experiencing extra anxiety and stress during this time of Covid 19. Give them courage and peace to face each day as it comes. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Help families and friends to support each other during this time of physical distancing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As Abraham and Sarah sought a safe home we pray for all refugees who seek a safe place to call home. We pray especially for the Wahid-Alhamad family and the Iqbal family in their journey.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

LORD'S PRAYER

Knowing how God loves us as a Mother and a Father we pray in the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

WALK FROM SYRIA UPDATE

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

You are what God made you to be; created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbour. God bless you that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **AMEN**

Go in peace to love and service the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

SENDING SONG # 808 “Lord Jesus You Shall Be My Song” v. 1 & 4 (**This was recorded already for August 30th, 2020**)

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

I'll tell everybody about you wherever I go.

You alone are our life and our peace and our love.

Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.

I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;

but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

And with all of the family you saved by your love,

we'll sing to your dawn at the end of your journey.

THANKS

Worship Assistant: Vange Lundgren

Musicians: Deborah Buck, Augustana St. Timothy Choir, Echo Fettes

Technicians: Bryan Tastad & Greg Fowlie-Neufeld

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Intercessory prayers, blessing, dismissal, Confession and Forgiveness adapted from Sundays and Seasons 2021; © Augsburg Fortress