

Vasa Lutheran Church

Seven Practices of Jesus: Generosity

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

Sunday, June 13, 2021

ANNOUNCING THE DAY:

A companion of Francis of Assisi, Brother Juniper is remembered as a "fool for Christ," and there are all sorts of wild stories about his antics. He was notorious for constantly giving his possessions away and living with a winsomeness that sometimes got him into trouble. At one point, he was ordered by a superior not to give away his outer garment to the beggars anymore. But it wasn't long before he met someone in need who asked him for some clothing. He said, "My superior has told me under obedience not to give my clothing to anyone. But if you pull it off my back, I certainly will not prevent you." Francis is said to have joked about how he wished for a forest of Junipers.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

MORNING HAS BROKEN

ELW 556

We will sing verses 1 and 3.

GREETING

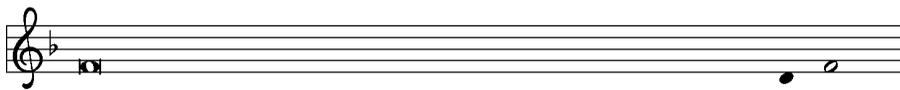
L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: and also with you.

KYRIE



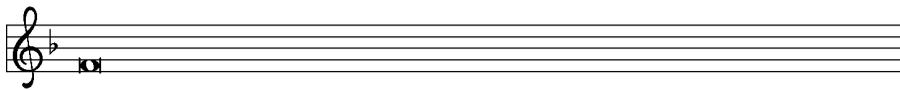
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



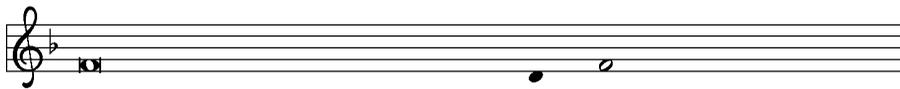
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



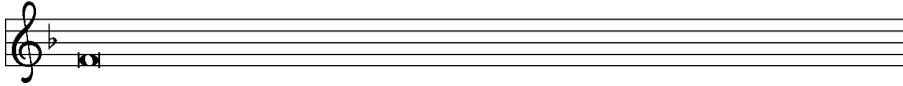
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



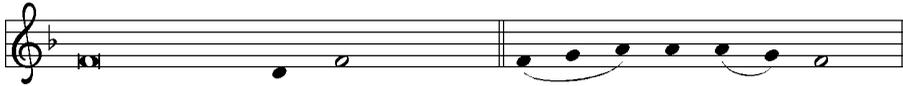
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

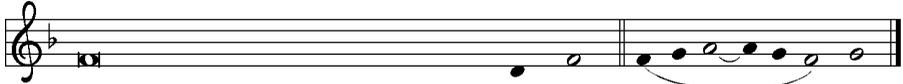


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty and eternal God, **you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

2 Corinthians 8:1-15 2 We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; 2 for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, 4 begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints-- 5 and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, 6 so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. 7 Now as you excel in everything-- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you-- so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. 8 I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. 9 For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. 10 And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something-- 11 now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. 12 For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has-- not according to what one does not have. 13 I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between 14 your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. 15 As it is written, "The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little."

Matthew 20:1-16 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; 4 and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. 5 When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. 6 And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' 9 When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. 10 Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. 11 And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? 14 Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

L: Word of God, word of life,

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING

ELW 678

SERMON

HYMN CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

ELW 715



APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 CONGREGATION: Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

THE 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.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

SENDING HYMN: GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

ELW 543

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
C: Thanks be to God.

Food for thought:

Fifth-century monk and bishop Paulinus of Nola wrote, "We have no right to our possessions; they have been entrusted to us for the good of all. Let us then invest with the Lord what he has given us, for we have nothing that does not come from him: we are dependent upon him for our very existence. And we ourselves particularly, who have a special and a greater debt, since God not only created us but purchased us as well; what can we regard as our own when we do not possess even ourselves?"



Scott Sorenson, Linda Thompson, Max Tilderquist, Eileen Anderson, and Paul Mikaelson, Michelle Pearson (Rita and Merle's daughter), Irene Carpenter, Gregorio (a construction worker injured on the job at Radio & Television Caranavi) and Katie Featherstone.

Parish Pulse:

June 6, 2021

Participating in Worship: All – In Spirit

(67 in-person + 4 WEW 6/09/21)

Total Offerings: \$2,245.00

Assisting with Worship Today:

Usher: Kevin Eckblad

Reader: Marilyn Hanson

Assisting Next week:

Usher: John Featherstone

Reader: BJ Norman

Communion Assistant: Andrew Featherstone



website next week.

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School will be held from **August 23-26** from 5-6:30pm at the Lutheran Center. All children, ages 3 through 5th grade are encouraged to attend and bring a friend. Registration forms are available in the office, OR Emily can email one to you. They will be available on the church

Students grade 6 and above are welcome to attend as helpers. We always need extra hands and eyes to supervise. Adult helpers will be welcomed also.



Garbage Handler Change

Vasa recently moved to P.I.G. (Paul's Industrial Garage) as our garbage handler. Our pickup day will be on the third Tuesday of the month. This handler is very clear that there is to be no construction debris or yard waste (weeds, lawn clippings, twigs) in the dumpster. If you are tending to a grave, please take the yard waste to the burn pile or carry it home.



Radio and Television Caranavi

Word has reached the Vasa Community that Gregorio, a long-time construction worker for Radio & Television Caranavi, fell from a scaffold while working on a building for the mission. He broke his wrist and has just had surgery to reset the bones properly. The cost for the surgery is \$3000. Vasa has been invited to assist with defraying these costs.

We ask for your prayerful consideration in support of this need. The Endowment Team will match all gifts up to \$1500.00. Checks should be made out to Vasa Lutheran Church with Radio Caranavi written in the memo line. The last day that donations will be accepted is Sunday, June 27th. Due to the nature of transferring the funds internationally, this is a hard deadline and no late donations will be accepted.

Fourth of July at Vasa!



Vasa Congregation and Museum will host a Fourth of July Celebration on Sunday, July 4th. This event is occurring in part because Covid restrictions prevented adequate planning time to organize the Vasa-Spring Garden Tractor Parade.

Events to look forward to:

- ❖ Outdoor worship at 9:00 a.m. with Tom Erickson playing his accordion
- ❖ The museum will be open all afternoon.
- ❖ Root beer floats served by the Museum team
- ❖ Sandwiches and chips will be available
- ❖ Dedication of a new Swedish flag
- ❖ Vasa parade at 3:00. We encourage everyone that would normally drive their tractor in the Midsommar parade to consider driving in the Vasa parade this year.



Vasa Lutheran Church

office@vasalutheran.org

****Note new church email address!***

651-258-4327