

Vasa Lutheran Church

“Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

August 6, 2023

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Today’s Bumper Sticker is: “Love the sinner, hate the sin. The folly of this saying is that this saying is not found in the Bible. We are called to be neighbors, not sinners. The main idea: In humbleness we are called to recognize our tendency to judge our neighbors negatively while lifting ourselves up and above them.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God’s mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of † Jesus Christ.
Amen.

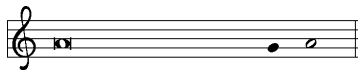
GATHERING HYMN: ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY ELW 461

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.

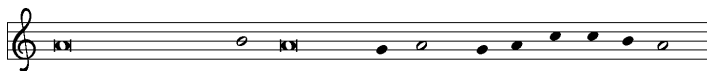
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



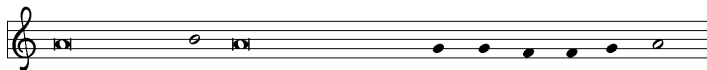
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

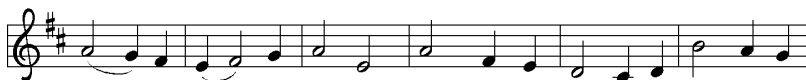
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty and ever-living God, **you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Psalm 51:1-17

L: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

C: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

L: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

C: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

L: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

C: so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

L: Indeed, I was born guilty,

C: a sinner when my mother conceived me.

L: You desire truth in the inward being;

C: therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

L: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

C: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

L: Let me hear joy and gladness;

C: let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

L: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

MUSICAL RESPONSE: Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 188

1 John 4:7-21 7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21 The

commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Matthew 7:3-5 3 Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

RESTORE IN US, O GOD

ELW 328

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

LORD, SPEAK TO US THAT WE

ELW 676

CONFESSION OF FAITH using the words of the Apostles' 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.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

HOLY COMMUNION

L: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

L: The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

L: Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

C: We bless you, O God.

L: We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

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.

L: Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

L: We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We will receive communion by kneeling at the railing. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: We thank you, generous God, **for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ON OUR WAY REJOICING

ELW 537

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

L: The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed
‡ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age. **C: Amen.**

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Eileen Anderson,
Irene Carpenter, Deloris
Clemens, Paul Mikaelson,
Scott Sorenson, Max
Tilderquist, Ivan Nelson,
Dale Safe, and Dan Hedeem.**

Music for Sunday, August 6, 2023

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

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Restore in Us O God

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Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

Music: Robert Schumann, 1810-1856

On Our Way Rejoicing

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Music: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

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Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Roger Guttromson

Reader: Roger Guttromson

Hospitality: Lora Gruber

Comm. Asst:

Worship Assistants Next Week (August 13, 2023)

Usher: Randy Klein

Reader: B-J Norman

Hospitality: Gail Strusz-Klein

PARISH PULSE:

July 26 & 30, 2023

Participating in Worship:

53

+10 live-streams

Total Offerings:

\$1,505.00

REMINDERS:

❖ **The Museum Board is Meeting tomorrow night (August 7) at 6:30, at the Vasa House.**

❖ **The cemetery committee will be meeting at 6:00pm on Tuesday August 8 to weed-whip the church property. Anyone who would like to help anytime before Tuesday evening, please feel free to do so. All help is greatly appreciated.**