

Vasa Lutheran Church

Jacob Wrestles with God

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

September 24, 2023

ANNOUNCING THE DAY

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN:

LORD GOD, WE PRAISE YOU

ELW 558

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.

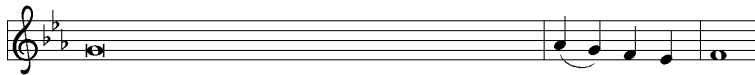
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



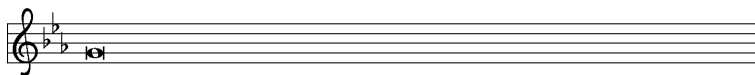
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



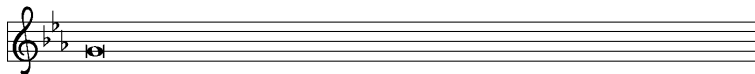
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE





For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, **your servant Jacob wrestled with your angel and prevailed. In honor of his persistence you gave him a new name. Teach us to persist in the face of struggle, and call us by name. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 32:9-13 and 22-30 And Jacob said, "O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O LORD who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your kindred, and I will do you good,' 10 I am not worthy of the least of all the steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan; and now I have become two companies. 11 Deliver me, please, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I am afraid of him; he may come and kill us all, the mothers with the children. 12 Yet you have said, 'I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted because of their number.'" 13 So he spent that night there, and from what he had with him he took a present for his brother Esau.

Genesis 32:22-30 22 The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. 23 He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. 24 Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. 25 When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. 26 Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." 27 So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." 28 Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. 30 So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL

ELW 250

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

BE THOU MY VISION

ELW 793

We will sing verses 1 and 2.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Lillian Samuelson, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism on this day.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister in Christ,
whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called her to yourself,
Enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished her in the community of faith.

Uphold your servant Lillian in the gifts and promises of baptism,
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: At your baptism, your parents and sponsors spoke for you and confessed that for a time, they would maintain faithfulness for you. On this day you are speaking for

yourself. Therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Confirmand: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Confirmand: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Confirmand: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All: 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.**

AFFIRMATION

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Confirmand: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support this sister in Christ and pray for her in her life in Christ?

All: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

At this time, the confirmand, her parents, baptismal sponsors, and family will gather around the communion rail. The confirmand may kneel and her family will gather behind and around her.

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Lillian the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

BE THOU MY VISION

ELW 793

We will sing verses 3 and 4.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with the words, "Lord, in your mercy,"
Please respond with "**hear our prayer.**"

GENEROSITY MOMENT

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

DISTRIBUTION *We will receive communion by kneeling around the altar railing. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to join you and will receive a blessing.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Blessed be your name, O God, **for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN ON WHAT HAS NOW BEEN SOWN

ELW 550

BLESSING

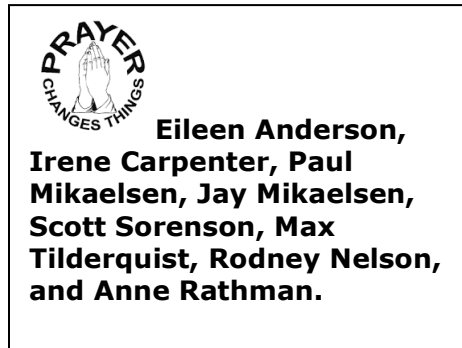
L: The God of glory,
✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.



PARISH PULSE: Sept. 17, 2023

Participating in Worship:
56
+14 live-streams
Total Offerings:
\$2,260

Today we celebrate the confirmation of Lilian Samuelson, niece and God-daughter of Stuart and Sue Samuelson. Congratulations, Lillian!