

Vasa Lutheran Church

"God Doesn't Make Mistakes"

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Nick Kees

August 13, 2023

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Today's Bumper Sticker is: "God doesn't make mistakes." The folly is that too many times people use this saying to enforce 'normalcy.' The main idea is that God is beyond all of our human characteristics and categories.

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD GOD ALMIGHTY

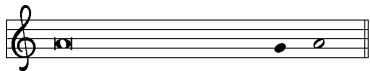
ELW 413

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.

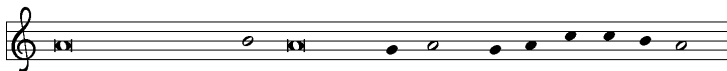
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



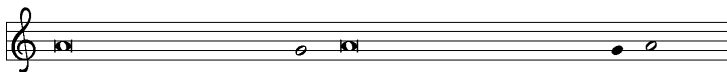
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



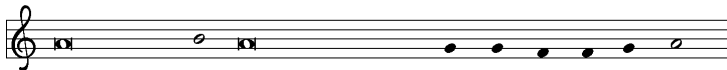
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, **through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Isaiah 55:8-13 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. 12 For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. 13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Matthew 14:22-33 22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, 24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. 25 And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." 28 Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

BLESSED ASSURANCE

ELW 638

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ROCK OF AGES

ELW 623

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.**

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF GOD

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share this peace with the people around us.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

SENDING HYMN

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

ELW 660

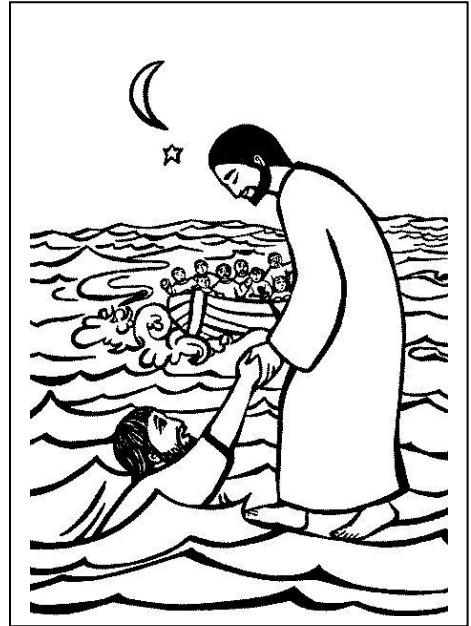

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.**

PARISH PULSE:
August 2 & 6, 2023
Participating in Worship:
50
+8 live-streams
Total Offerings:
\$770.00



Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Randy Klein

Reader: B-J Norman

Hospitality: Gail Strusz-Klein

Worship Assistants Next Week (August 20, 2023)

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Reader: Geri Lindholm

Hospitality: Lyle Ness

Comm. Asst: Roger Guttromson



Just a reminder that Vasa's Make Waves With Jesus VBS starts tomorrow afternoon. We will meet from 5:30 to 7:00pm. All children ages 3 through grade 6 are welcome, with older kids and adults encouraged to volunteer as helpers!

Music for Sunday, August 13, 2023

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

Restore in Us O God

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

Rock of Ages

Text: Augustus M Toplady, 1740-1778

Music: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

Lift Hight the Cross

Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under

ONE LICENSE #A-740635

All rights reserved



We, the Vasa Congregation,
Called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together,
Growing in Faith,
Serving Others, and
Welcoming and loving all!