

Vasa Lutheran Church

Binding of Isaac

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Nick Kees

Sunday, September 14, 2021

ANNOUNCING THE DAY Today's Scripture lesson is from Genesis, chapters 21 and 22; variously referred to as *The Binding of Isaac*, or *The Command to Sacrifice Isaac* and it is one of the most difficult texts in the entire Bible. The command to sacrifice is almost beyond our comprehension, yet we also remember how God sent Jesus to earth to bring salvation to the world. In John 1:29 The next day [John the Baptizer] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: PRAISE MY SOUL THE KING OF HEAVEN

ELW 865

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.**

]

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen
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Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain



God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of promise, **You stayed the hand of Abraham and fulfilled the promise you made to him, that he would father a great nation. Keep your promises to us, that we become inheritors of eternal life. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Selected readings from Genesis 21 and 22

Genesis 21:1-3 The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. 2 Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. 3 Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.

Genesis 22:1-14 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. 5 Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." 6 Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. 7 Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. 9 When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. 11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." 13 And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

L: Word of God, word of life,

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN:

GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE

ELW 509

SERMON

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: Hear us,
O God. Please respond with: **Your mercy is great.**

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

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

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT:

SENDING HYMN:

GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER

ELW 618

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.



Jay Mikaelson, Scott
Sorenson, Lorrie
Samuelson, Dale
Anderson, Lynda Rosener
Sack, Merle Pearson, Rita
Pearson, Terri Fredin,
Terri Mandelkow, Jake
Jacobson, Max Tilderquist,
Connor Mikolichuk
(Rosann Pearson's
grandson), and Roger
Guttromson.

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Marv Fredrickson
Reader: Kathy Tilderquist
Hospitality: Lora Gruber

Worship Assistants Next Week

Sept 21

Usher: Randy Klein
Reader: Sid Featherstone
Hospitality: Mo Hauck
Communion Asst: Geri Lindholm

Parish Pulse:

September 5 & 7 53

Participating in Worship: **32**

+ **0** Live Streams (office error)

Total Offerings:

September 7 : **\$410.00**

MUSIC FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

PRAISE MY SOUL THE KING OF HEAVEN

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847 Music: John Goss, 1800-1880

GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925, alt.

Music: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.

Music: Early American

GUIDE ME EVER GREAT REDEEMER

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

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9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN TODAY after worship at 10:15 at the Lutheran Center.

7/8 CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEDNESDAY, 9/17, at 5:45, at the Lutheran Center.



American Red Cross

VASA'S NEXT BLOOD DRIVE WILL BE:

Thursday, September 18, 1-7 pm

Friday, September 19, 9 am – 2 pm



Just a reminder that **Ages and Stages Women's Bible study** has **been rescheduled to NEXT week, September 24, 2025. 9:30AM,** in the Fellowship Room at the Lutheran Center.



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