

July 15-21, 2020

Sharing good news from
Reformation Lutheran Church



Peace and Joy in Every Day.
—Isaiah 55:12

The Weekly Word

Scripture Readings for Sunday, July 19, 2020
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

All Readings Have Been Included in this week's Weekly Word

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

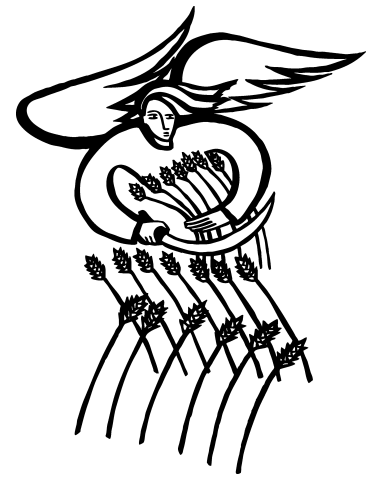
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



“You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace. The mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.”

—Isaiah 55:12

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

■ FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

■ PSALM: Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name. ¹²I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore. ¹³For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death. ¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes. ¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth. ¹⁶Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid. ¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

■ SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

(continued next page)

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Praise to you, O Christ!



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Go of the harvest, you sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into your field. Help your church throughout the world to be both diligent and patient, full of resolve and gentleness, that our witness may be faithful to your intentions. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of all space and time, your whole creation groans in labor pains, awaiting the gift of new birth. Renew the earth, sky, and sea, so that all your creation experiences freedom from the bondage of decay. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of the nations, teach us your ways, that we may walk in your truth. Mend the fabric of the human family, now torn apart by our fearful and warring ways. Guide us by your mercy, grace, and steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of hope, you accompany those who suffer and are near to the brokenhearted. Open our hearts to your children who are lonely and abandoned, who feel trapped by despair, and all who suffer in any way, especially (*names*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of the seasons, in the midst of summer, give us refreshment, renewal, and new opportunities. We pray for the safety of those who travel. We pray for those who cannot take the rest they need. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God of life, those who have died in you shine like the sun in your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints of all times and places and saints close to us, especially (*names*). Gather us with them on the day of salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.





THERE WILL BE NO TABLE TALK TONIGHT...We will meet on Wednesday July 22 at 5:30 P.m. on Zoom. Our next book discussion will be; "Oneness Embraced" by Dr. Tony Evans. Copies are available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble websites.

Returning to Worship

Recently, the Church Council appointed a sub-committee to investigate reopening procedures for both the Childcare and for in-person worship. As a result of those meetings, our target dates are Monday, July 27th for reopening of the Childcare; and Sunday, August 16th for reopening in-person worship. We will continue to have worship services at both 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Learning and Living will NOT meet during this initial phase. **Please recognize that these dates are targets and are subject to change if the number of positive Covid-19 cases warrants that change.** Masks will be required for participating in worship. If you do not have one, masks will be provided. **Policies and Procedures for Reopening are attached to this email.** Please read them carefully and watch closely for further updates.



OUR NEWEST LITTLE LUTHERAN was born on **Friday, June 26th!** Stan and Suzanne Zacker welcomed baby Haley Elizabeth Zacker. Our congratulations to Stan and Suzanne on their beautiful baby girl. We can't wait to meet her!

zoom **SUNDAY, July 19th** **JOIN US!**

TO CALL INTO A ZOOM MEETING Audio conferencing participant will need to call: **(415) 762-9988 or (646) 568-7788 AND follow the verbal instructions.** Enter the meeting ID you wish to join followed by the # key. You will be asked to enter your participant ID. If you do not know your participant ID, simply press the # key. Please join us!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ONEITA ERICSON
Saturday, July 18th

MARY ARMBRISTER
Monday, July 20th

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE MENCHVILLE HOUSE FUNDRAISER

In addition to the information that was sent from our Parish Office concerning the Menchville House Dinner, we are collecting donations in lieu of the Talent Show.

Please make your donations to Reformation Lutheran Church and put Menchville House in the memo section. We will then be able to send in one check from Reformation to Menchville House. Thank you.