

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2016

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**FIRST READING. Genesis 18:1-10a**

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

**SECOND READING. Colossians 1:15-28**

[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

**GOSPEL. Luke 10:38-42**

Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

# NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



July 17, 2016

**Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**

July 17, 2016  
9:30 a.m.

First Lutheran Church  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota  
(218) 739-3348

Website: [www.firstlutheranchurchff.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurchff.org)

Online  
Giving  
(QR Code)  
email: [firstlc@live.com](mailto:firstlc@live.com)



Martha is very distracted in today's gospel reading. Mary sits at Jesus' feet and listens. Martha compares herself to Mary until she is visibly upset! In many ways, we are like Martha and like Mary – overwhelmed, distracted, and competing with one another.

Prelude

Announcements

\*Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

C: **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Just and gracious God,

C: **we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to you, ☩ "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

C: **Amen.**

\*Opening Hymn

*Here I Am, Lord*

ELW 574

\*Apostolic Greeting

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\*Kyrie

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This Week at Lutheran:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship  
1 p.m. **Bridal Shower (Fellowship Hall)**

Monday: 5:00 p.m. AI-Anon  
**Valley Fair Day!**

Tuesday: **MESSENGER DEADLINE**  
9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
1-7 p.m. **Red Cross Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)**

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. AI-Anon  
9:30 a.m. Sarah Circle (Pioneer Pointe)  
10:00 a.m. AA  
1:00 p.m. Hannah Circle (Kairos Room)  
1-7 p.m. **Red Cross Blood Drive (Fellowship Hall)**

Thurs.: 8:45 am Morning Watch – Pastor Jennifer – KBRF AM 1250  
9:30 a.m. Sr. Bible Study & Coffee  
5:30 p.m. Worship

Friday: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Next Sunday, July 24:

9:30 a.m. Worship



**OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE Followed by POTLUCK PICNIC** on SUNDAY, August 14th, 2015 10 a.m. at the PEBBLE LAKE PICNIC SHELTER (Old Gun Club North of Golf Course) HOT DOGS, BUN AND BEVERAGES PROVIDED PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE Bring a lawn chair for best seating. THERE WILL BE NO 9:30A.M. WORSHIP THAT SUNDAY In case of bad weather worship will be held at First Lutheran at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior Pastor: Saul Stensvaag  
Associate Pastor: Jennifer Rose  
Visitation Pastor: Stan Satre  
Sunday School Superintendent: Cindy Larson  
Council President: Elizabeth Abrahams  
Organist: Keith Melberg  
Lector: Madisen Becker  
Cantor: Harriet Wicklund  
Acolyte: Brandon Hinsverk  
Greeters: Katie Haugrud & Doris Teberg  
PA Operator: Brian Becker

**Fellowship and Refreshments** this morning are in the Narthex, serving today are the Love Days Quilters.

**Altar Flowers** are given by Missy Mattson in memory of her mom, Kathy Mattson, on her birthday.

**Visitors!** If you didn't get a "Visitors Bag" when you came in this morning please pick one up on your way out after worship. You'll find them in a basket located on the small table on the ramp coming up from the narthex into the sanctuary.

**Large Print Edition** of the order of worship, the lessons, and the hymns for today are available. If you would like copies for worship, please ask an usher.

**August Messenger** deadline is Tuesday, July 19th; please have all items into the church office to have them included in the August Messenger.

**Open House Bridal Shower** for Scott Lembcke & Lesli Johnson this Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. For more information please see the kiosk under Upcoming Events.

**Physical Offering for Convention:** At the 2016 SWO (WELCA) convention we are asking you to bring gently used purses filled with items all ladies need and use. These purses will be distributed through Someplace Safe, a non-profit organization working to eliminate violence in West Central Minnesota and beyond. Please see the poster in the Narthex for items to include in the purses.

**WEST VIRGINIA FLOODING AND HOW YOU CAN HELP** Narrow valleys, steep mountains and torrential rain came together in West Virginia to produce deadly flash floods. least 23 people have been confirmed dead, hundreds of homes were severely damaged or destroyed and thousands of people were forced to evacuate. The cost and damage from the flooding has yet to be realized. We know that it will be a long road to recovery and Lutheran Disaster Response will stand with all those affected. We will respond and walk with survivors in the days, weeks, months and years ahead, for as long as we are needed. **Gifts designated for "West Virginia Flooding" will be used (100 percent) until the response is complete to help disaster survivors recover and rebuild their lives.** Your generous offerings of prayer and financial support will help address the many needs, especially long-term recovery efforts of those affected.

**The West Otter Tail County Fair** will be here July 20th through the 23rd. Thursday, July 21st is Senior Day at the Fair! There is free gate admission all day for attendees ages 55 and up! Once again, Otter Tail County Public Health will be hosting a senior resource fair in the commercial building – which is the former hockey arena - from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. This is a great way to learn about resources for seniors in our area! Come out for a fun filled day at the fair! See the flyer for more details about this event.

**Last Sunday**, our Gospel text told the story of "The Good Samaritan" who helped the unfortunate person who was lying bleeding and beaten in the ditch. Our First Lutheran Church Good Samaritan Fund is running very low. We use this fund to help church members and others who are in dire need of a little assistance. If you would like to help, please make out a check to First Lutheran Church with "Good Samaritan Fund" on the memo line, or, to give cash, use a pew envelope and put Good Samaritan Fund on the envelope. (You can also give by using the QR code printed in the bulletin.) Thanks for your generosity. Jesus said, "as you do it unto the least of these... you do it to me."

**\*Hymn of Praise**

*Glory to God*

**\*Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

**Special Music**

*Ten Thousand Reasons*

Matt Redman

Solo: Anthony Perez

**First Reading**

Genesis 18:1-10a

The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

**Second Reading**

Colossians 1:15-28

Sometimes Paul preaches with great attention to theological concepts. Here, however, Paul offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

**Gospel Acclamation**



(Congregational response sung after Gospel is announced: **Glory to you, O Lord.**)

**\*Gospel**

Luke 10:38-42

(Congregational response sung after Gospel is read: **Praise to you, O Christ**)

**Sermon**

*Distracted by Many Things*

Pastor Jennifer

**Hymn of the Day**

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

ELW 579 (v. 1, 2 & 5)

**Children's Event**

Pastor Jennifer

**\*Apostle's Creed**

Inside back cover of ELW

**\*The PEACE is shared**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

**Offering**

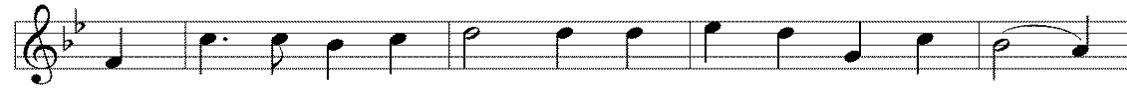
Solo: Anthony Perez  
Congregation join on v. 5 & 6



Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, as sol - diers of the cross,  
Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, stand in his strength a - lone;



lift high his roy - al ban - ner; it must not suf - fer loss.  
the arm of flesh will fail you, you dare not trust your own.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry his ar - my he shall lead,  
Put on the gos - pel ar - mor; each piece put on with prayer.



till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished and Christ is Lord in - deed.  
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, be nev - er want - ing there.

Text: George Duffield, 1818-1888, alt.  
Music: WEBB, George J. Webb, 1803-1887

**\*Offertory**



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir -



it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the



joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**\*The Prayers**

P ...Lord, in your mercy,

OR

P ... Let us pray to the Lord,

C hear our prayer.

C Lord, have mercy.

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

C 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

**\*Blessing**

**\*Threefold Amen**

**\*Sending**

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**\*Closing Hymn**

*The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

**ELW 551**

**Postlude**

\*denotes when to stand