



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

September 17th, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost



PRELUDE

Pastor Brian

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian

ORDER FOR 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 Love Round

Love, love, love, love, love.
Christians, this is your call:
love your neighbor as yourself,
for God loves us all.

Jesus, Jesus,
You're the Way and Truth and Life.
We love you 'cause from the beginning,
You loved us first.

Holy Spirit,
You O Holy Breath of Life,
dwell in us and guide our loving,
Presence of God.

GREETING

In the name of God the Creator, in the name of Christ the Redeemer, in the name of the Guiding Spirit,
Alleluia, Amen.

Come let us worship God (repeat throughout).
Come let us worship God.
Welcome everyone,
To the Love of God.

Rest for the weary...
Food for the hungry...
Hope for the children...

KYRIE

Ray Makeever

Kyrie eleison...	Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison...	Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie...	Kyrie.
Christe...	Christe.
Kyrie...	Kyrie.
Christe...	Christe.
Kyrie, Christe eleison.	Kyrie, Christe eleison.

[Repeat last line two more times in a round.]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Let us pray together.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 50:15-21

*[The congregation will read the **bold** words.]*

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said,

**“What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us
and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?”**

So they approached Joseph, saying,

**“Your father gave this instruction before he died,
'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers
and the wrong they did in harming you.'**

**Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants
of the God of your father.”**

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said,

“We are here as your slaves.”

But Joseph said to them,

“Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?

Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good,
in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.

So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.”

In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:8-13 (the congregation responds with the bold words)

God, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

**you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.**

You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

**As a parent has compassion for their children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O God.**

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

(The congregation reads the bold words.)

[Paul writes:]

Welcome those who are weak in faith,
but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat;

for God has welcomed them.

Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?

It is before their own god that they stand or fall.

And they will be upheld, for God is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike.

Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord.

Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God;
while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

If we live, we live to God, and if we die, we die to God;

so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are God's.

For to this end Christ died and lived again,
so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your sibling?
Or you, why do you despise your sibling?
For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
For it is written,
“As I live, says God, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”
So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S CONVERSATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Open Your Ears #519 (verse 1)
(red hymnal, front section)

Open your ears, O faithful people, open your ears and hear God’s word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-35

The gospel lesson for this Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from the 18th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, beginning with the 21st verse.

Glory to you, O God.

(The congregation shall read the bold words.)

Peter came and said to [Jesus],
“Lord, if another member of the church sins against me,
how often should I forgive?
As many as seven times?”
Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared
to a ruler who wished to settle accounts with their slaves.
When the ruler began the reckoning,
one who owed the ruler ten thousand talents was brought to the ruler;
and, as the debtor could not pay, the ruler ordered the debtor to be sold,
together with their spouse and children and all their possessions,
and payment to be made.
So the slave fell on their knees before the ruler, saying,
‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.
And out of pity for the debtor, the owner of that slave released them
and forgave the debt.
But that same slave, as they went out,
came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed the slave a hundred denarii;

and seizing the fellow slave by the throat, said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then the fellow slave fell down and pleaded with the first slave, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But the forgiven slave refused; then the forgiven slave went and threw the fellow slave into prison until they would pay the debt. When the other fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their owner all that had taken place. Then the forgiven servant's owner summoned that servant and said, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger the owner handed the forgiven servant over to be tortured until that one would pay their entire debt. So my Abba in heaven will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your sibling from your heart."

This is the gospel indeed.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Open Your Ears (refrain)

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

SERMON

Pastor Brian

SERMON HYMN

Drawn to the Light #593 (red hymnal, rear section)

People who walk in darkness have sought
a light in the heart of the darkest night.
Just when we thought all would be lost,
we are drawn to the light of God.

REFRAIN

Dawn is in sight! God is the night,
drawn to the light and the morning.
Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight
to be drawn to the light of God.

How can we tell a heaven from hell
if ev'ryone dwells in the dark of night?
Morning dispels, gently compels,
and we're drawn to the light of God.

REFRAIN

Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none!
The Lamb is the one who is shining bright,
bids us to come! Life has begun
when we're drawn to the light of God.

REFRAIN

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 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 PEOPLE

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy, especially,

- Jim Dean and wife – friends of the Sperow's – critically fighting an infection
- Reverend Caro and Jill – seeking to resolve conflict with neighbors
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Robin Karas – back at Bayside for continued rehab
- Mark Shuck – Gail B.'s brother –recovering from shoulder surgery
- Christian – Heidi Carney's son – dealing with multiple ailments
- Dick Williams – enjoying healing of his back
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello's sister – dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Joyce Bauer – being monitored for condition
- Wes, brother of John Cribb – facing the choice between kidney dialysis and kidney transplant

- Byron Nelson - friend of Jacoby's - Cancer
- Mike Johnson - lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter – dealing with illness
- Heidi Carney – Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport – preparing to move to assisted living
- Linda Hermann - mother-in-law of Katie Edson's daughter, leukemia
- Aaron Brochtrup - for perseverance and patience while he works to recover from his injuries
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas – learning to live with condition
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- weighing treatment options for persistent infection
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID
- For the people in Turkey suffering from the earthquake, and the IMPACT Missionaries
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For the earthquake victims in Morocco, flood victims in Libya, and fire victims in Maui
- For Kea McKee who celebrates her birthday this week.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We pray also, O God, for those whom we have not named yet, but are also in need of our support and intercession, especially,
[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world *like Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, whom we commemorate today.* Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING SONG

Ray Makeever

What have we to offer? What have we to share?
Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.
God will not falter; so let us dare
lay it at the altar there.

What have we to offer? What have we to bring?
Love, ripe with laughter; hope that we can sing;
dreams of what we're after, promises of when.
Lay it at the altar then.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?
Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won't live;
truth that must be spoken, justice somehow.
Lay it at the altar now.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (spoken)

Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it
and gave it to his disciples saying,
"Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,

“Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood, shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.’

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

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.

CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON US ALL

Ray Makeever

**Christ have mercy on us all.
Keep us steadfast e'er we fall.
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**God, be with us at the feast.
Grant us wisdom, give us peace.
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**Holy Spirit, breathe again.
Light the darkness, be our friend.
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**Bake a great loaf; give it time;
choose the best grapes from the vine.
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:
**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.**

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN O Sing to the Lord #822 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Oh, sing to the Lord, oh sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to the Lord, oh sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to the Lord, oh sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.**

**For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.**

**So dance for our God, and blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God, and blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God, and blow all the trumpets.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.**

**Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.**

**For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

Thank you to:

- **Cindy Haener** for serving as assisting minister
- **Pastor Brian** for accompanying.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer and others** for preparing communion.

- **Janet Lorenzo, Jim Luke** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling bulletins and the newsletter.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.
- **The Church Council**, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight on Zoom at 7:00 pm. We will be discussing Season 3, Episode 4.
- The **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will meet tomorrow, Monday, September 18th. The lessons to be discussed will be Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16.
- The **Confirmation Class** will meet this Monday, September 20th at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall for the Orientation session. All students and parents/grandparents are encouraged to attend.
- The **Bible Study** will meet this Wednesday, September 20th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- The **Outreach Committee** will meet this Wednesday, September 20th at 1:45 pm in the fellowship hall.
- The **Worship Planning Committee** will meet this Saturday, September 23rd, 9:30 to 11:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- There will be a **Pancake Brunch** after worship on Sunday, September 24th. A free will offering will benefit our Compassion Child, Charite. There are also **Thrivent Generosity T-shirts** for sale for a very reasonable donation which will also benefit the same cause.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. (bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

**Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events:
morrobaylutherans.org**