



Not Glee and Gratitude, but Rejection and Resentment

Peace Lutheran Church
Houghton, Michigan
Sunday, July 7, 2024

Welcome to Worship

God's grace welcomes you, and so do we — the pastor and members of Peace! Jesus Christ is the only Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death and triumphant resurrection, Jesus saves all sinners. We learn these truths from the Bible — God's complete plan for our salvation and his guidebook for our lives. Peace greets you with a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

About Our Service

The gospel (or good news) is not just information about what Jesus did to save sinners. It is also the power God uses to work faith in our hearts, transform our lives, and give us lasting peace. Therefore, Lutheran Worship places the gospel in central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In the message and meal (Holy Communion), in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Lutheran worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children). For your ease and convenience, the order of service is printed out on the following pages. If a song is not found in this service folder, it can be found in the red or blue hymnals located on the chair in front of you.

Series Explanation: Meaningful Ministry

“Ministry” is one of those churchy words that is often used, yet perhaps not fully understood. Ministry comes from the Latin word for “service.” Ministry involves serving others with love, compassion, and empathy. Helping someone with physical needs is sometimes called “compassion ministry.” Helping someone with their spiritual needs, sharing the good news of Christ, is generally called “gospel ministry.” We misunderstand ministry if we think of it as something only ministers do. While pastors are called to perform gospel ministry on behalf of others, ultimately every believer is called by God to reflect Christ-like love and share the message of salvation as God provides those opportunities.

In this worship series we will see our efforts to meet the needs of those God brings into our sphere of influence as meaningful ministry. In our service to them, those people see God's love and God sees our faith.

Current Worship Series: Meaningful Ministry

July 7: *Not Glee and Gratitude, but Rejection and Resentment*

July 14: *Sent with God's Own Authority*

July 21: *Jesus Models a Compassionate Shepherd's Heart*

July 28: *God Meets Our Needs to Meet Others' Needs*

August 4: *Fear Not, for the Lord Is with You*

Today's Focus: Not Glee and Gratitude, but Rejection and Resentment

If ministry involves serving others with love and compassion, you would think that people would respond only with glee and gratitude for the help they received. Sometimes, but not always. If you offer to help a family member who is having trouble paying his bills, he might be offended, wondering if you are implying that he is not a good provider. Likewise, if you try and share the gospel with someone, he might resent the message that he is a sinner in need of salvation. You are trying to minister to this man's greatest need. Your intentions are loving. Yet he responds with rejection and resentment.

When our ministry efforts are met not with glee and gratitude but rejection and resentment, we are in good company. The prophets, apostles, and even Jesus himself all had those who responded negatively to their ministries. When that happens to us, it doesn't mean our ministry is no longer meaningful. For if others do not appreciate our efforts to serve them, God still appreciates our efforts to serve him.

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

God wants his people to prepare the sacrament of Holy Communion because it is a powerful meal. For a personal examination guide, see page 156 in the red hymnal.

Service Participants:

Computer Organ: Mary Ann Krug

Pastor of Peace: Pastor Welch



THE SERVICE

Hymn

Christ Be My Leader



1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day;
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;



safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way. ____
drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth. ____
death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor



Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care, ____
Grant me to trust him; though shift - ing as sand, ____
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain can



dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Tune: Irish

Text: © 1964, ren. 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734944

Tune: Public domain

Please stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession and Absolution

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

Therefore, it is by Christ's command and with his authority that I say to you what God says to you: In the name of Jesus T your sins are forgiven.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called the children of God.

And that is what we are! Thanks be to God!

The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

1 John 1:8

1 John 1:9

The use of the keys of absolution is that special right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to proclaim the forgiveness of sins through Jesus. See John 20:21-23.

1 John 3:1

Glory to God

Reformation Song sts. 2, Ref, 3, Ref

Jesus said that the angels in heaven rejoice over one sinner who repents. In response to the repentance expressed through confession and absolution, the church sings as the angels sang on Christmas night: "glory be to God on high."

2 Thro' faith a - lone we come to you;
3 In Christ a - lone we're jus - ti - fied;

we have no mer - it we can claim.
his right - eous - ness is all our plea.

Sure that your prom - is - es are true,
Your law's de - mands are sat - is - fied;

we place our hope in Je - sus' name.
his per - fect work has set us free.

Refrain
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, glo - ry to God a - lone.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, glo - ry to God a - lone.

Prayer

Almighty, eternal and righteous God, you revealed your divine Word to teach us what we should do and what we should avoid. Strengthen and lead us by your Holy Spirit that we serve you in new obedience here until we come to complete holiness before you in that life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word



First Reading

Ezekiel 2:1–7

¹He said to me, “Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you.” ²As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

³He said: “Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. ⁴The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says.’ ⁵And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them or their words. Do not be afraid, though briars and thorns are all around you and you live among scorpions. Do not be afraid of what they say or be terrified by them, though they are a rebellious people. ⁷You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen, for they are rebellious.

The LORD sends Ezekiel to prophesy to the Israelites, knowing that most will not be grateful for the prophet’s message but resentful.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 2:1–13

¹You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. ³Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. ⁵Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor’s crown except by competing according to the rules. ⁶The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. ⁷Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, ⁹for which I am suffering even to the point of being

St. Paul’s ministry resulted in him being chained like a criminal. Yet God’s Word cannot be chained.

chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him,
we will also live with him;
¹²if we endure,
we will also reign with him.

If we disown him,
he will also disown us;
¹³if we are faithless,
he remains faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Lesson

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Ezekiel 2:7

Alleluia. You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen. Alleluia.

For centuries in preparation for hearing the Gospel, Christians have sung or spoken "Alleluia!" and a Scripture verse reinforcing the theme of the day.

Speak, O Lord st. 3

3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the



dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.

And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll

walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your

Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Text and tune: © 2006 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 734944

Gospel

Mark 6:1–6

¹Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ²When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

“Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.

⁴Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” ⁵He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.

⁶He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

Many in Jesus’ hometown rejected his ministry.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

Onward, Christian Soldiers



1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,
2 Like a might - y ar - my moves the Church of God;
3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, king - doms rise and wane,
4 On - ward, then, ye faith - ful, join our hap - py throng,



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.
broth - ers, we are tread - ing where the saints have trod.
but the Church of Je - sus con - stant will re - main.
blend with ours your voic - es in the tri - umph song:



Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, leads a - gainst the foe;
We are not di - vid - ed, all one bod - y we,
Gates of hell can nev - er 'gainst that Church pre - vail;
Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or un - to Christ the King;



for - ward in - to bat - tle see his ban - ners go!
one in hope and doc - trine, one in char - i - ty.
we have Christ's own prom - ise, and that can - not fail.
this through count - less a - ges saints and an - gels sing.

Refrain



On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924, abr., alt.
Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Ezekiel 2:1-7

Please stand

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

Please be seated

Offering

The members of Peace have joined together in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) to do the Lord's work of sharing the message of Jesus. Visitors need not feel obligated. You are our guests!

Members and visitors, kindly fill out one of our Connection Cards. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

Prayer of the Church

Please stand. The Pastor will speak the prayer of the church and the congregation will join in the Lord's prayer.

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.**



The Sacrament

We believe what God's Word says. God's Word clearly teaches that along with the bread and wine we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:26,28; Mk. 14:22,24; Lk. 22:19-22). God's Word also tells us that those who take Communion together are to:

- 1. Recognize that Christ's true body and blood are miraculously present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 10:16; 11:29),*
- 2. Examine their hearts (1 Cor. 11:28), and*
- 3. Be united in faith with the congregation with which they commune (1 Cor. 10:17).*

Therefore we ask that those who have not had the opportunity to understand our Scriptural confession would speak with the pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. If you would like to come forward to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms as the pastor approaches. It is our sincere desire to share in the blessings of the Lord's Supper with you according to the pattern Jesus himself has given in his Word.

Introduction to the Lord's Supper

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us glorious assurance and hope that, following their example of faith, we may run with perseverance the race marked out for us, and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name.

These opening words mark the beginning of the Sacrament and are among the oldest words in the liturgy. Christians have been speaking these words to each other for thousands of years.

Words of Institution

The pastor speaks the words of institution according to 1 Corinthians 11. Afterward, the congregation will sing the song below.

Lamb of God

John the Baptist declared Jesus to be God's Lamb, who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have
sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died: the hum - ble King they named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and
rod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the
ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious
blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Tune: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Text and tune: © 1985 Mountain Spring/Straightway Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: Peace Ev. Lutheran Church no. A-734944

Distribution

After the song, please be seated. Communicants will come forward at the usher's direction.

Please stand

Thanksgiving

Psalm 136:1

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Cor. 11:26

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.

Amen.

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

O Church, Arise



1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the
2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to
3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give—



call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the
Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to



they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.
wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.
neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!
win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -
When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -
As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle
out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for
merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger



cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
which he died— an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.
for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.