

RADISSON-LANGHAM LUTHERAN PARISH

First Saskatchewan Lutheran Church
Langham, SK

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Radisson, SK

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 21, 2020

St. Paul, Radisson/First Saskatchewan, Langham
Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Ministers: Members of the Congregation
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Greeting: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Prayer of the Day:

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18

Second Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

Reflection - Pastor Melissa

As God's beloved children, we've been called to the difficult task of speaking and enacting the truth of Christ's death and resurrection. It's a task that takes courage.

In proclaiming God's message, Jeremiah learned that nobody wants to hear about death: especially the connection between our sin and the death and destruction it causes. Thousands of years later, we still don't want to face our own deadly ways when sin that rears its head among us - even

within our own Church bodies. Abuses of power, discrimination based on race or gender, complacency and apathy in the face of suffering ... the Gospel calls us to let those things die so we can rise anew.

Christ has not only shown us the power of God's life-giving love in his own death and resurrection, but calls us to participate in it, to see Christ in our neighbour and lift them up in dignity, to give freely all we have received and stop grasping for power. We can only move forward with hope centered in Christ, not ourselves.

When we are living out our faith as we are called to do, there will be backlash. And in some instances, Jesus warns, his followers' lives will be in peril--after all, Jesus himself was repaid for his ministry with state execution.

Though Jeremiah suffered, he comes round at the end of his rant and affirms that God is with him through it all. His trust is in God to make all things right, and he continues to live out his role in God's plan to make that happen. God continues to be by our side through it all too, even when things seem at their worst. May the fire of the Spirit in our bones drive us to courageously share God's Word in our words and actions. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession:

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A Brief Silence

Expansive God, you bring diverse voices together to form your church. Open our hearts and unstop our ears to learn from one another, that differences might not overshadow our baptismal unity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Providing God, your creation shows us that life comes from death. Renew the places where our land, air, and waterways have been ill for too long. Direct the work of all who care for birds and their habitats. Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Protecting God, sustain and keep safe all who work to defend others across the world. Revive and strengthen organizations dedicated to caring

for refugees and migrants while their homelands struggle for peace. Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Loving God, you promise to be with all who are persecuted for your sake. Guide all who speak your word of justice and console any who are tormented or targeted for being who they are. Bring mercy and relief to those who are injured, sick, or suffering (especially...). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, you are with us and we are never alone. Bless all fathers and father figures who strive to love and nurture as you do. Comfort all who long to be fathers and all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reigning God, you bless us with guides and caretakers in the faith. As we give thanks for those who have died, increase our care for one another until we walk with them in newness of life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Blessing: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

Let us remember in our prayers: Darren Wilkie, Connie Verishine, Susan Wonko, Gloria Hamp, Guy Norton, Heather Penno, Inga Abrahamson, Genie Thompson, Linda Hartshorn, Logan Kane, Lynn Sherstobitoff, Don Wenner, Alma Krueger, Anthony Flath, Elsie Flath, Conrad Olson, Ethel Kuny, Ida Muller, Mark Anderson, Roger Wilkie, Lisa Hamp and to everyone affected by COVID 19

Also, Nancy Black and family on the passing of Rob Dyck on Thursday.

THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, June 23 & Wednesday, June 24: 9:00a-5:00p - Spring Cleaning Session at First Sask. Pack a lunch and come prepared to work!

Happy Father's Day to all fathers and those in fatherly positions in life.

Pastor Melissa's worship video can be found at:
<https://youtu.be/YFMwzVEqL3Y>

For other worship services/devotions you could check out the following:

- Livestreams are available at:
<https://elcic.ca/publichealth/livestreaming.cfm>
- There is a resource available through the ELCA for in-home worship each Sunday:
<https://blogs.elca.org/worship/2248/>
- Pastor Randy Fiege at 11:00a on Facebook, as well as YouTube.

Thank you to those who stay connected and in touch with our members who may feel isolated and lonely, the elderly and others in our community by a phone call or sharing online worship services with those who do not have internet.

Eternity for Today is in your mailbox at St. Paul for those who receive it and First Sask, yours will be available next week.

Donations to your church can still be given:

First Sask - You can mail your cheque to Roxanne Elke, P.O. Box 272, Grandora, SK S0K 1V0.

St. Paul - You could send your cheque to Darlene Kindt, Box 97, Radisson or drop it off at the church.

Happy Birthday this week: Danielle Sawatzky, Bradley Beaver, Dianne Kieper, Grace Schensney, Brayden Brown, Jessica Flath, Orville Johnson, Rob Rothenburger, Amanda Waldner, Ida Muller, Cynthia Walker

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 20:7-13

⁷ O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;

I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.

¹⁰ For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!"

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends

are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.

¹² O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³ Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 6:1b-11

6 Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound?

² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:24-39

²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.