

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 6, 2020

**Faith Lutheran Church**

**Online**

**Georgetown, TX 78628**

512-863-7332

flcms.org

*(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)*

**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION:**

*Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 32:7, 11*

*Pastor: You, [O LORD,] are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.*

**People: Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

*Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,*

**People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN:** “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing” (Lutheran Service Book, #737 verses 1, 2, 7)

Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing,  
A cheerful trust maintain;  
For God, the source of ev’rything,  
Your portion shall remain.

He is your treasure, He your joy,  
Your life and light and Lord,  
Your counselor when doubts annoy,  
Your shield and great reward.

Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,  
And trust His guiding love;  
Then like a rock your peace shall stand  
Here and in heav’n above.

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## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:**

*Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

*Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

*Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,*

**People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,*

**People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

*Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*Pastor: Let us pray:*

**People: Speak to us through Your holy word, Lord Jesus, for all that You say is intended for our blessing. Grant that we receive Your teachings with faith, Your warnings with sobriety, Your guidance with humility, Your forgiveness with thanksgiving, and Your promises with joy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, never seeking the death of sinners but always their repentance unto eternal life. Amen.**

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Ezekiel 33:7–9***

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, you shall give them warning from Me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at

your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

**RESPONSORY:** *Psalm 32:1-2*

*Lector: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*

***People: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity  
and in whose spirit there is not deceit.***

**EPISTLE READING:** *Romans 13:1–10*

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**RESPONSORY:** *Psalm 32:8a, 10*

*Lector: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go.*

***People: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one  
who trusts in the LORD.***

*Lector: Please rise, as you are able.*

*Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter:*

***People: Glory to You, O Lord!***

**GOSPEL READING:** *Matthew 18:1–20*

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

“Whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father Who is in heaven. For the Son of Man came to save the lost. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of My Father Who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them.”

*Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**People: Praise to You, O Christ!**

*Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Apostles' Creed*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!**

**HYMN:** "On Some You Lay the Burdens, Lord" (Tune: St. Flavian)

On some You lay the burdens, Lord,  
of governing by law.  
That righteously they bear this sword  
fill them with rev'rent awe.

For presidents and potentates,  
police and judges, too;  
for governors and magistrates,  
we pray, O God, to You.

Your public servants, Lord, invest  
With stout integrity  
that seeks for all fair justice, blessed  
by true equality.

Grant us the grace, dear God above,  
our rulers to obey,  
not out of fear but out of love  
in Christ the Savior's way.

*Walter A. Pohland*

*September 1, 2020*

**SERMON:** "Good Citizens" (*Romans 13:1-10*)

**OFFERTORY:**

While the Coronavirus may have closed our front doors temporarily, it has not closed the doors of Christ's Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and

giving today. Simply mail your offering via the US Postal service to "Faith Lutheran Church, 4010 Williams Dr., Georgetown, TX 78628" (please do not mail cash), or give online by clicking either the "Give" button to the right of the video player or going to our website at [www.flcms.org/index.php/give](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/give).

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** "The Law of God is Good and Wise" (LSB, #579, verses 1, 3)

The Law of God is good and wise  
And sets His will before our eyes,  
Shows us the way of righteousness,  
And dooms to death when we transgress.

To those who help in Christ have found  
And would in works of love abound  
It shows what deeds are His delight  
And should be done as good and right.

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## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

### **THE 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.**

### **BENEDICTION:** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

*Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**People: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN:** "God of Grace and God of Glory" (LSB, #850)

God of grace and God of glory,  
On Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient Church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage

For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.

Cure Your children's warring madness;  
Bend our pride to Your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving You whom we adore,  
Serving You whom we adore.

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**In Christian Service:**

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

*with*

Proclaimer – Rev. Bill Crowe

Liturgist – Rev. Walt Pohland

Reader (Online) – Ken Alford

Reader (9:30) – Joanna Roche

Reader (11:00) – Rick Schmidt

Musicians:

Adam Perez and Austin Angerman

Organist:

Leland Frese