

and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Especially today we ask you to have mercy upon,

Kimberly Armino, David Baird & family, Christina Bedes, Jeanette Burgess, Robin Coon, Alana Daley & family, Stephanie Fiore, Jack Gade, Charlotte Gardinier, Charlie Gardinier, Terri Herteux, Richard Kibwassali, Paul Lamb, Debbie LeHerissier, Danielle Luft, Maryella Luft, Rit Marrero, Cindy McCarthy, Peter Oriyavong, Ann Phipps, Bill Preuss, David Ray, Doug Schultz & family, family of Greg Steele, Susan, AT, RT, Lisa Tebbe, Mary Yurian, all those who are suffering during the pandemic, and those we name aloud or in our hearts. (*a brief silence*)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of education, you have blessed us with the ability to learn and people and institutions to make learning possible. As school begins this fall, we ask you to keep safe all who are involved in education, especially students, teachers, staff, and families. Give us compassion, patience, wisdom, and courage to support each other in the many needs and decisions of this time. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship - Pentecost 15A

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Lessons and Prayers

Prayer of the Day

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.

Exodus 13.17-22; 40.36-38 (NRSV)

¹⁷When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer; for God thought, “If the people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt.” ¹⁸So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for battle. ¹⁹And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph who had required a solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, “God will surely take notice of you, and then you must carry my bones with you from here.” ²⁰They set out from Succoth, and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. ²¹The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. ²²Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

³⁶Whenever the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, the Israelites would set out on each stage of their journey; ³⁷but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day that it was taken up. ³⁸For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, before the eyes of all the house of Israel at each stage of their journey.

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 (ELW)

[^{103:1}Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.
²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—**
³who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
⁴**who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy; R**
⁵who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
⁶**O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**
⁷You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.]
⁸**LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love; R**
⁹you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**
¹¹For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
¹²**As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**
¹³As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD. **R**

Luke 24:13-27 (NRSV)

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But

we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

Prayers of Intercession

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

(A brief silence.)

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger,