

Twenty Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



Signs

Signs are all around us. They tell us how to get someplace. They show us that there is upcoming danger. They tell us that we should change directions. They tell us there is something up ahead that we

should be aware of. And as pictured, sometimes they tell us we should stop!

In this morning's Gospel text, Jesus shares with those around Him that things may not necessarily go the way that they expect. When this happens, Jesus suggests, we should see it as a "sign" that the end is coming, if not already upon us, and it is a time not to lose faith.

Jesus by His life and example lived so that the Kingdom of God could be manifested in His very presence. To put that in another way, Jesus comes to make God's intentions absolutely transparent. We all should be able to see what God is about doing, and what His intention for us truly is.

Yet there will be things in the present physical world that will suggest the spiritual world is unraveling. Jesus says not to worry. Expect it. It is a sign! We should know that when things are at their worst, Jesus is at His best. There is nothing we need to be afraid of, with Jesus by our side.

Fear will sneak up on us and scare us to death. We will not be able to deal with all of the troubles and anxiety that will happen when fear takes over. We will indeed be trembling before we know it. The words of our text this morning should be a reminder that the promise of our Lord Jesus then, to those who could listen to Him, is our promise as well. We have little to nothing to worry about, even if the world seems to be headed to complete and total destruction. It is, but we need not worry!

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Welcome Books, Prayer Requests, Praise Reports and Announcements

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, we come before your presence this day mindful of our promises to be your people and the many times we have fallen short. We really mean to follow but are so easily distracted by just about anything. The end result of that is the fact we don't do the things we have promised we would do, and we don't even think of the things we should be doing. It is as if our feet are stuck in the mud and we simply can never get a way clear to get out of the mess we are in. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our Lord hears our prayers this day, and has offered to give us the grace of forgiveness. As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray and celebrate this morning in His Holy Name, **Amen.**

HYMN 294 I Lay my Sins on Jesus 1+3

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Alleluia. They are before the throne of God, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. Alleluia.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 65:17-25

New Living Translation (NLT)

"Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and no one will even think about the old ones anymore. Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation! And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness. Her people will be a source of joy. I will rejoice over Jerusalem and delight in my people. And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard in it no more.

"No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only the cursed will die that young! In those days people will live in the houses they built and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. Unlike the past, invaders will not take their houses and confiscate their vineyards.

For my people will live as long as trees, and my chosen ones will have time to enjoy their hard-won gains. They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are people blessed by the Lord, and their children, too, will be blessed. I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking about their needs,

I will go ahead and answer their prayers! The wolf and the lamb will feed together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. But the snakes will eat dust. In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the Lord, have spoken!"

THE SECOND LESSON: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 **New Living Translation (NLT)**

And now, dear brothers and sisters, we give you this command in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Stay away from all believers who live idle lives and don't follow the tradition they received from us. For you know that you ought to imitate us. We were not idle when we were with you. We never accepted food from anyone without paying for it. We worked hard day and night so we would not be a burden to any of you. We certainly had the right to ask you to feed us, but we wanted to give you an example to follow. Even while we were with you, we gave you this command: "Those unwilling to work will not get to eat."

Yet we hear that some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work and meddling in other people's business. We command such people and urge them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and work to earn their own living. As for the rest of you, dear brothers and sisters, never get tired of doing good.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

New Living Translation (NLT)

Some of his disciples began talking about the majestic stonework of the Temple and the memorial decorations on the walls. But Jesus said, "The time is coming when all these things will be completely demolished. Not one stone will be left on top of another!"

“Teacher,” they asked, “when will all this happen? What sign will show us that these things are about to take place?”

He replied, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, for many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and saying, ‘The time has come!’ But don’t believe them. And when you hear of wars and insurrections, don’t panic. Yes, these things must take place first, but the end won’t follow immediately.” Then he added, “Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and there will be famines and plagues in many lands, and there will be terrifying things and great miraculous signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, there will be a time of great persecution. You will be dragged into synagogues and prisons, and you will stand trial before kings and governors because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell them about me. So don’t worry in advance about how to answer the charges against you, for I will give you the right words and such wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to reply or refute you! Even those closest to you—your parents, brothers, relatives, and friends—will betray you. They will even kill some of you. And everyone will hate you because you are my followers. But not a hair of your head will perish! By standing firm, you will win your souls.

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON

Pastor Tony Alonzo

SERMON HYMN: 293 Just As I Am 1,2,3,4

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 into hell. 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 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.

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION

All are invited to come together around this table as those who belong to the household of Christ, brothers and sisters who in our baptized lives live out the death and resurrection of Jesus. The family of the reborn and the reconciled, who inhabit a universe of grace, are invited to share. It is our Lord's Table, you are welcomed here! Gluten free wafers are available, and non-alcoholic white grape juice is served on the inner rings of the communion tray.

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 392 How Firm a Foundation 1.3.5

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on muted*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise Pastor will specifically ask for the requests, as well as any updates on prior prayer requests.

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME Pastor Tony Alonzo who will bring the message to us and lead our worship. Pastor Jon is in the Dominican Republic on a mission trip and returns next Sunday for worship. Thank you Tony!

OFFICIAL NOTICE: MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION: The first meeting will be held immediately following worship for the purpose of nominating people to serve on the Church Council. Nominations will be accepted for the following Council positions; Vice-President, Outreach/Evangelism and Member-at-Large. The length of each term is three years.

A second meeting will be held on next Sunday, November 20, 2016 for the sole purpose of elections. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held after worship on Sunday, January 22, 2017.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC

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Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

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