

Rally Sunday/15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020 – 8:30 AM

Gathering

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN #696 “JESUS CALLS US; O’ER THE TUMULT”**

***GREETING** P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Time of silence for reflection

P: Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what 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.

P: 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.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & CLASSROOM HELPERS,
CONFIRMATION & IMPACT LEADERS INSTALLATION**

Word

READING – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NIV)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.” ¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

SERMON BY PASTOR MIKE “Parable of the Sower”

*APOSTLES CREED

A: “Let us celebrate our common faith, using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.”

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the

forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Our Lord Jesus is the host of this communion meal. We welcome all baptized Christians to join us.

COMMUNION BLESSING

Sending

BENEDICTION

***HYMN #693** "COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME"

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music

Offerings can be placed in the basket in the narthex on your way out.

You can also Give Online, see our website at www.shepherd-hills.com/give

Our Mission:

"We are called to build a community that lives by and for the Gospel of Christ."

**Our Lutheran Teaching Emphasis:
Grace Alone, Faith Alone, God's Word Alone**

Grace: We teach that "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Faith: We teach that "you are saved by grace, through faith, apart from doing good works." Eph. 2:8-10

Word: We teach that God's Word is the only norm and authority in our church. 2 Timothy 3:16-17