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**Leading our community into a deep connection in Christ**

**Worship Service for September 26, 2021 at 11 AM**

**Welcome**

**Invocation**

**Song: The Steadfast Love**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases

His mercies never come to an end

They are new every morning, New every morning

Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord. Great is Thy faithfulness

(repeat)

**Confession and Forgiveness:**

**P:** When God created mankind, He said mankind was very good. Then man rebelled against God and sin entered the world. Immediately after, God promised a savior to save His rebellious creation.

**C:** Praise be to God whose mercies are new every day.

**P:** In the fullness of time, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law.

**C:** Praise be to God whose mercies are new every day.

**P:** At His baptism, Jesus was numbered among us sinners that He might offer Himself as a sacrifice upon the cross for sinners.

**C:** Praise be to God whose mercies are new every day.

**P:** Through Jesus Christ, God bids us come to Him and confess our sins, promising to forgive our sins and purify us.

**C:** Praise be to God whose mercies are new every day. Let us confess our sins and seek God's mercy.

(a time of silence to reflect and personally confess our sins)

**C:** Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart and have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ and His suffering and death on the cross, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen

**P:** The Lord our God is merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin. Therefore, I announce unto you the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. In His 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.

**C:** Amen.
**C:** Praise be to God whose mercies are new every day.

**The Steadfast Love**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases

His mercies never come to an end

They are new every morning, New every morning

Great is Thy faithfulness, O Lord. Great is Thy faithfulness

**Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 40:28-31**

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
 the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
 his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
 and to him who has no might he increases strength.
Even youths shall faint and be weary,
 and young men shall fall exhausted;
but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

**Epistle Reading - James 5:1-11**

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

**Children's Message**

**Sermon Hymn - Take My Life and Let It Be**

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine, it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own, it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

**Sermon - A 1-Eyed, 1-armed, 1-Legged Man Crawled Into Heaven...**

**Sermon Text - Mark 9:38–50**

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise be to You, o Christ.

**Prayers:** *Text in prayer requests to (813) 602-1104‬*

**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 there 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 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

**Words of Institution**

**Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.
C: And also, with you.
P: We greet each other in the peace of Christ.

**Distribution**

**Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Closing Song - What Is the World to Me**

What is the world to me with all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, my soul's delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest, what is the world to me!

The world seeks to be praised and honored by the mighty,
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone, what is the world to me!

What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all, my bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare: What is the world to me!

**Offering**

**Sermon Notes:**

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**Upcoming Events**

**September 29, 7 PM Council Budget Meeting**Zoom

**October 3, Noon – Confirmation**
Song and Dance

**October 3, 4PM – New Members Class**Pastor Kurt’s house
Dinner after class

**July 9-13, 2022 – LCMS National Youth Gathering**Houston, TX
For High School Students

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