

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Prayer

Leader: God said to Moses: I am who I am.

People: This is the name of the Lord, forever.

Leader: Every generous act is a gift from God.

People: God gives birth to us through the Word.

Leader: Do good and share what you have.

People: For such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Come! Let us gather in the presence of God. Let us pray...

Pastor Jim: O God, you are the author and giver of all good things. We ask that you plant in our hearts the love of your sacred name; increase in us the true religion espoused in your Word; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works, so that you might receive glory. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sin

Leader: Today we come before our divine parent not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin and find pardon for them.

People: You are most merciful, O God, and you pardon those who completely confess their faults, truly mourn them, fully resolve to make amends for them, and turn back to you and your ways. We humbly and contritely confess our sins, both private and corporate, and ask for your mercy. We have not loved you with pure hearts and clean minds, nor have we loved our neighbors, even our enemies, as ourselves. We have not loved kindness or gentleness, and we have abhorred self-control. Have mercy upon us, O God, in your loving-kindness and steadfast love. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sins. Never cast us away from your presence, nor take your Holy

Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen!

Pardon of Sin

Pastor Jim: Children of God, believe the good news: through our heartfelt and truthful confession, and by the wisdom and grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Pastor Jim: The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it. We have returned the first and best of what God has given us, so that his will may be done, and his kingdom draw nearer; therefore, let us pray, dedicating our gifts to these holy purposes.

Blessed are you, O God, for you are the maker and provider of all things. You have blessed us with many gifts, including all our possessions. Not one thing is ours to use as we see fit. All things are to be used to spread your Word and demonstrate our mercy to the world, so that the world may turn to you, and find its salvation. Use us and what we have gathered this morning to showing your love to the world. We ask this through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen!

Musical Prayer for Illumination

Scripture *(see below)*

Exodus 3:1-15 (NRSV)

Romans 12:9-21 (NRSV)

Matthew 16:21-28 (NRSV)

Reflection

“Take Up Your Cross”

Pastor Jim

Affirmation 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick

and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy, catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession

Holy and most benevolent One, who came as a humble child, we pray for your children everywhere. For those who are hungry, we pray for nourishment. For those who are fleeing terror and desperation, we pray for safety. For those who are ill, we pray for healing. For those who are grieving, we pray for peace. For those who are suffering, we pray for your presence.

Holy Three, who patterns true community, we pray for communities everywhere. For those who are divided, we pray for unity. For those who are isolated, we pray for connection. For those who are afraid, we pray for courage. For those who are frustrated, we pray for new hope.

We pray especially for those in our own community who suffer this day...

Holy Three-in-One and One-in-Three, bless us in the work of faith, that we might be truly faithful. Nourish us in the labor of love, that we might show your love. Keep our hope steadfast, that we might know your grace and your peace as we wait for your coming reign or righteousness and overwhelming love.

We ask for all of this through Jesus Christ, who intercedes for us, and who taught us to pray, saying, "Our Father..."

Music

Sending and Benediction

Leader: My friends, thanks for coming and worshipping with us today. Now go in peace and serve the Lord.

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



**Take up your cross
and follow me**

JOYS & CONCERNS

Joy for...

The exemplary service to LPC in recent months by Terry Price and Jeff Jamison. We are very grateful for your contributions to maintaining the building and grounds during these difficult times.

Katie Jamison and roommate her roommate Madison, who were exposed to COVID, and their test results came back negative.

Pray for...

The Skinners, recovering from coronavirus.

Tedi Blinkhorn's co-worker's mother, Carolyn, 81, hospitalized with stage four cancer.

Tedi Blinkhorn's co-worker, Anne, recovering after 10 hour surgery for cancer care.

Becky Hartle whose job was eliminated and is seeking new employment.

Joyce Thalheimer's niece, Diane Richie, recently diagnosed with breast cancer.

Mike Hartle's cousin, Chris, recovering from triple bypass surgery.

Niki Price's sister, Marta, being treated for stage 4 small cell lung cancer.

All who suffer due to racism, marginalization, and oppression.

Teachers, staff, and students starting a new school year.

Safety for our first responders and healthcare workers.

All who are in recovery from addiction.

Our home bound - Norma Koerkel, Gene Strand, Sunni & Karl Kadon

Please keep in your hearts and prayers all the sick and shut-ins of LPC.

Please notify the LPC office of the progress and recovery of the individuals and loved ones named above. Names will appear for 2 weeks unless the office is otherwise notified.

Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS

August 30th ~ Maggie Lutson and Don Books

September 1st ~ Judy Poe & John Skinner

September 5th ~ Roger Hoyer

ANNIVERSARIES

September 4th ~ Erin & Eric Dedden

LPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Jim's Virtual Bible Study of the Book of Proverbs will continue through September. See the Events page on our website to register. We welcome all newcomers!

Head Start Preschool resumes next week. If you have a reason to stop by the church during the day, please do not park in the circle drive so that the buses can pick up the children. Tender Years CP begins after Labor Day and they will use the circle drive for drop-off in the morning.

The church office will remain closed through September and all committee meetings should continue to be held remotely. Please contact Pastor Jim on his cell phone or via email. You can reach Jenni on her cell phone or by the church email. Voice mail at the church will be picked up twice a week.

Exodus 3:1-15 (NRSV)

³ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

¹³ But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

Romans 12:9-21 (NRSV)

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28 (NRSV)

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."