

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Prayer

Leader: The Apostle Paul declares that love does no wrong to a neighbor.

People: Jesus says that love is the fulfillment of God's law.

Leader: The Prophet Isaiah says to be strong and do not fear, for God is with us.

People: The Lord will come to save us.

Leader: The psalmist sings happy are those who delight in God's Word.

People: They are like trees planted by the water. Come! Let us gather in the presence of God and invoke his holy name by praying...

Pastor Jim: Direct and help us, O God, in all our deeds, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glory your holy name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life. 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: Whenever we pass through the deep and troubled waters of life, or endure times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. Confident in God's grace, let us fully and truthfully confess our sin and the sin of the world and find pardon.

People: Gracious One, our sins are too heavy to carry. They are too real to hide. They are too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name. Pardon what our hearts can no longer bear. Quench what has become for us a consuming fire of guilt and shame. Set us free from a past that we cannot change. Open to us a future in which we can be changed. Grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image. We ask through Jesus Christ our Savior, the light of the world. Amen!

Pardon of Sin

Pastor Jim: Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit give to us in baptism. Believe this good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Jesus taught that if we forgive other people whenever they harm us, our heavenly Father will forgive us. Having pardoned all others, we are now pardoned ourselves. 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 drawn 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)*

Leviticus 19:18 (NIV)

Romans 13:8-14 (NIV)

Matthew 19:16-21 (NIV)

Reflection

“Love Your Neighbor”

Pastor Jim

Summary of God's Law

Pastor Jim: In response to this Word from God, let us join together in summary of God's law. Our Lord Jesus said:

People: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

Pastor Jim: This is the first and greatest commandment, and another is like it:

People: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets. Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving
Breaking of the Bread
Prayer After Communion

Prayer of Intercession

Loving God, remember, we pray, the whole human family, especially those who hunger for food or justice, those who lack homes or human dignity; so many are unknown to us, yet each know to you and each a child of your love.

Remember, we pray, your people in every part of the world, redeemed by Christ, dedicated to service, called to love.

Remember, we pray, your Church set in this place, set in this community to light the way to your grace and truth.

Remember, we pray, those who are ill or sorrowing, those who are concerned for loved ones, those who have difficult choices to make, especially those made known to us just now. We commend them all to your tender care. May they know that nothing is able to separate them from your love in Jesus Christ.

By your mercy, bring us at the last, with all your faithful people, to the peace and joy of your nearer presence.

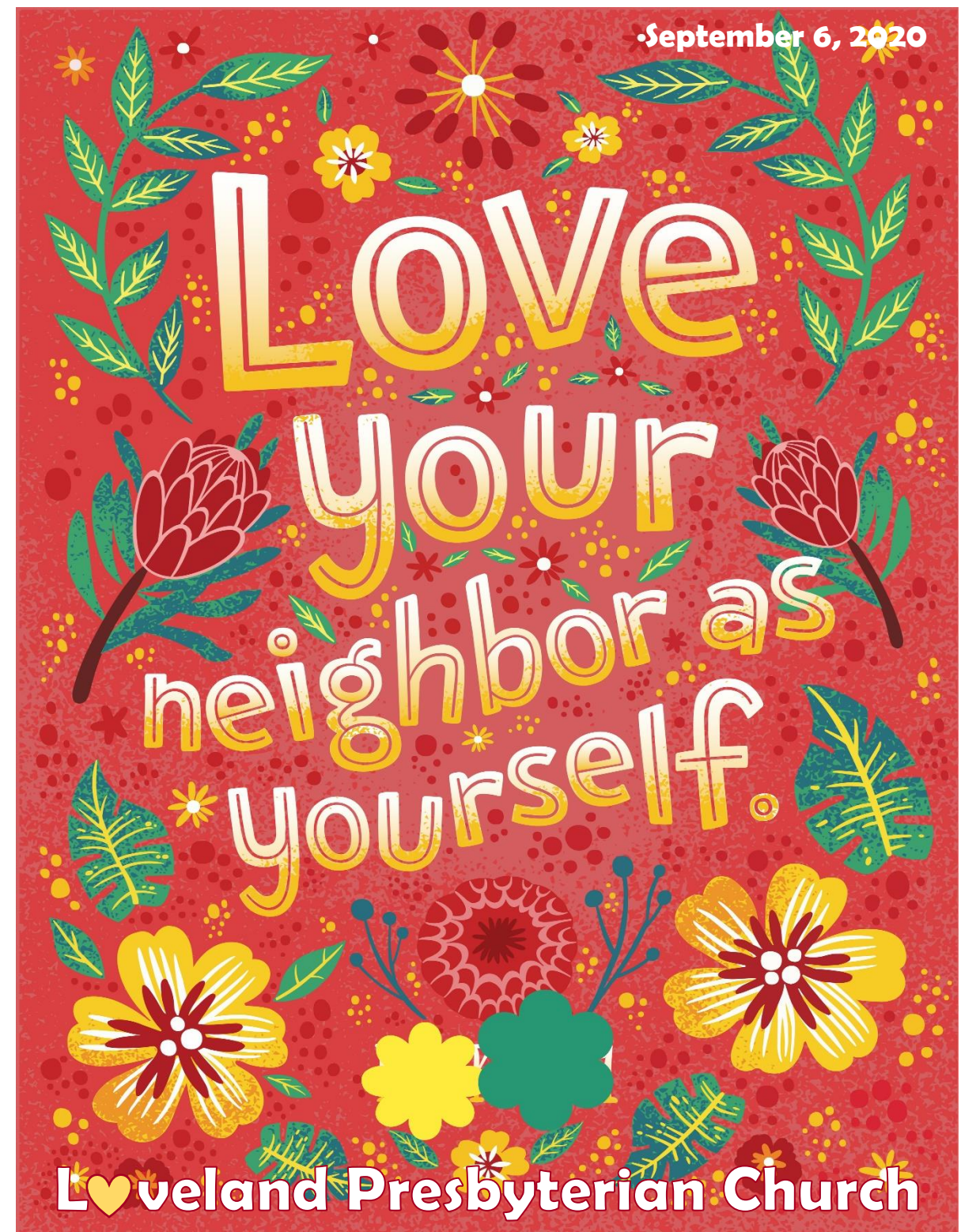
We ask for all of this through Jesus Christ, who intercedes for us, and who taught us to pray, saying, "Our Father..."

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.



JOYS & CONCERNS

Joy for...

Becky Hartle found a new job!

Pray for...

Sara Branch, Head Start teacher, recovering from back surgery.

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 from surgery.

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

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

The safety of all teachers, staff, and students.

Safety for our first responders and healthcare workers.

All who are lonely and separated from family and friends.

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

September 10th ~ Samantha Sears

September 12th ~ Riley Kasolunes

September 13th ~ Brenda Kopittke

ANNIVERSARIES

September 9th ~ Rae & Charles Bauer

LPC NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We give thanks to the following for their Gifts & Memorials to LPC during the month of August:

Don Books ~ Endowment Fund

Jo Funke ~ Cash for Change/Loan Fund

Betty Hays ~ Mission Fund

Mollie & Dean Holliday ~ Music Fund

Roger Hoyer ~ Endowment Fund

Nancy & Bill Miller ~ Loan Fund

Niki & Terry Price ~ Loan Fund

Join us this month in supporting the PC(USA)'s Special Offering – Peace and Reconciliation. Their work of peace and reconciliation is supported by gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. These gifts also unite them with Presbyterian peacemakers across the country and the world who are active, not passive; who are doing, not waiting.

- 25% of this Offering stays with individual congregations to support local peacemaking and reconciliation efforts and ministries.
- 25% of this Offering will go to mid councils to join congregations in support of peacemaking throughout presbyteries and synods.
- 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

We are the peacemakers. We are the Church, Together.

When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. You can find collection envelopes on the table in the Narthex. Envelopes will be taken up on Oct. 4th – World Communion Sunday. You may also go to their website to donate: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness/>

Leviticus 19:18 (NIV)

¹⁸ “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

Romans 13:8-14 (NIV)

⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Matthew 19:16-21 (NIV)

¹⁶ Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?”

¹⁷ “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments.”

¹⁸ “Which ones?” he inquired.

Jesus replied, “‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, ¹⁹ honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’”

²⁰ “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?”

²¹ Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”