

# THE SEVENTH SUNDAY after the EPIPHANY      February 20, 2022

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**IN OUR PRAYERS** we remember: Marcia Neelly and Beverly Baker

**ORDER OF WORSHIP:** Order of Service    Hymns    790    570    917

### THIS WEEK AT PEACE AND ENGLISH:

Today 1:30 p.m. Council of Churches at Ransom Church

Today 7:00 p.m. Worship Night at First Reformed Church, Rock Rapids

Feb. 20 8:30 a.m. Worship at English

Feb. 20 10:15 a.m. Worship at Peace

Feb. 20 9:00 a.m. Sunday School classes

Feb. 22 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Feb. 22 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at English

Feb. 23 9:30 a.m. Quilting

Feb. 23 Noon Bible Study

Feb. 23 2:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

March 5 9:00 a.m. Women's Prayer Group

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Our hymn of the day is *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*. The theme of our Gospel reading today is mercy. Jesus instructs us to show mercy because we are children of the heavenly Father, and He is “kind to the ungrateful and the evil.” *Praise to the Lord* reminds us of God’s mercy. God is the one who gives us health (physical life) and salvation (spiritual life). God is the one who created us and cares for us. He is the one whose mercy daily attends us. He is the one who befriends us with his love. In a world full of anger, we only learn mercy, true mercy, as we learn it from the Lord.

**A WORD:** In our Gospel reading, Jesus says, “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.” Jesus instructs his disciples to respond to evil with the mercy of God, for He is “kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.” We see an example of this in the Old Testament reading. Joseph is talking with his brothers, the same ones who had sold him into slavery years earlier. But Joseph responds to evil with mercy, inviting them to bring their families to Egypt so that he might provide for them through the famine.

Paul continues to teach us about the resurrection in the epistle reading. He reminds us that without hope for eternal life, there is no hope at all. We might as well eat and drink for tomorrow we die. But there is hope. Christ has been raised from the dead, and he will raise us from the dead as well.

**BIBLE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Jeremiah 7:1-15    1Corinthians 15:42-58  
Luke 6:39-49

**ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER:** In a merciless world, compassion can be hard to come by among the children of men. However, as children of the Heavenly Father, we are called to a life that follows a different familial pattern. Though we did not deserve it, God has adopted us into His family. We have the Father in heaven because we have a Brother in Christ, the Son of God, who died in our place and washed us clean by Baptism so that we are now called the children of God.

**SOUND ROOM:** Pastor Alex will be organizing a training event for anyone willing to work with the sound system. Sign up in the fellowship hall if you are interested. A date has yet to be decided.

**WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP:** Why do we pray as Christians? Why should we pray for ourselves and for others? Beginning Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup>, all ladies are welcome to come to the fellowship hall at 9 a.m. for a study on prayer and to spend time in prayer for each other and for our church body. This will be led by Ashlie Slotter. There will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall so that we can have enough books for all who would like to join.

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN-ROCK RAPIDS** invites everyone to join them for a meal of liver and onions or pork loin or meatballs, potatoes, green beans or corn, dinner roll and dessert on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Please call 472-2245 by Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> if you wish to attend. See the Poster on the bulletin board by the office.

**DONATIONS:** If anyone needs a written receipt for the IRS for donations over \$250.00, call Doris Iwen at 712-348-0202 or email [iwen@premieronline.net](mailto:iwen@premieronline.net).

**TODAY- WORSHIP NIGHT:** God didn't stop working just because the bible was finished being written. He is still working in our lives today! Please join us for a night of worship and testimonies to hear how God is still at work today! Where: First Reformed Church. When: Sunday, February 20th at 7:00 pm.

**BLESSINGS JAR: TODAY,** February 20th and the Third Sunday of every month, the Blessings Jar will be on the table in the sanctuary. If you feel blessed by having another birthday, anniversary, child, grandchild, or anything you feel thankful and blessed for receiving, you can place a donation in the Blessings Jar. All proceeds will be used for missions.

**ALTAR COMMITTEES:** The Altar Committees for March will be Deanna Hrdlicka and Jan Vogel at Peace and Wanda Wulf at English.

**THIS MONTH** Daughters of Peace will collect sandwich “fixins” – peanut butter, jelly, honey, cheese whiz, spam, tuna, ham, etc. for Atlas. Thank you all for your support in our monthly projects.

**USHERING TODAY is Team 6:** Steve Janssen, Aaron Janssen, Jesse Janssen, Arnold Vogel, Robert McKenney, Gary Dieren, Adam Vogel **Next Sunday is Team 1:** Michael Huygens, Keith Berg, Keith Lambert, Bob Iwen, Lucas Larson, Devin Olson, Justin Olson

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

**PRELUDE: I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS**

*Children's Choir*

**HYMN 790: PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(Brief Silence for Inward Confession)*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the 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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 37:1–5; antiphon: vv. 7a, b*

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;  
**fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.**

Fret not yourself because of evildoers;

**be not envious of wrongdoers!**

For they will soon fade like the grass

**and wither like the green herb.**

Trust in the LORD, and do good;

**dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.**

Delight yourself in the LORD,

**and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Commit your way to the LORD;

**trust in him, and he will act.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;

**fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.**

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Genesis 45:3–15*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL**

*Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all nations!

**Extol him, all peoples!**

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

**and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

**bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

## EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## VERSE

Luke 6:36

Alleluia. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:27–38

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

*After the Reading*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C** 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 thence 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.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## HYMN 570: JUST AS I AM

## SERMON

## OFFERTORY

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**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## BENEDICTION

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**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

## HYMN 917: SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE RAISE

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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