

Season after Pentecost, 2020,
August 9 through October 18
Lectionary and Worship Notes

An Old Testament Family Vacation

Sunday, August 9, 2020 **10th Sunday after Pentecost**

Sometimes, we, the Family of God, don't always get along

Lessons

- Genesis 37:1-28 Joseph is sold into slavery
- Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
- Romans 10:5-15 "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
- Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus walks on water

Prayer of the Day: Heavenly Father, you call us to be family, a label we relish, but then our own jealousies and sibling rivalries tear us apart. Restore our family bonds in love; empower us to build each other up within your family that we may value each brother and sister as a reflection of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. In his holy name we pray, Amen

Living the Creed: Family Pictures – the Family of God, our Family
NON - Communion Sunday

Worship Assistant 1: Mark Shrader
Worship Assistant 2: Ellen Shrader
Usher 1
Usher 2
Acolyte
Musician: Janice Algren
Flowers: Carl Hamberg

Sunday, August 16, 2020 **11th Sunday after Pentecost**

When we, the family of God, reconcile, it is powerful

Lessons

- Genesis 45:1-15 Joseph is reunited with his brothers
- Psalm 133
- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 "For the gift and calling of God are irrevocable"
- Matthew 15:10-28 The Canaanite Woman's faith

Prayer of the Day God of reconciliation, in the midst of our broken ties, you call us to restore our relationships with one another. Help us to remove all the barriers that separate

your family, give us the joy of weeping together as we discover the newness of life that comes with unity. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Living the Creed: Family Genome Project; show images of Joseph’s family as a genome
Communion Sunday

Worship Assistant: Jim Johnson
Usher 1
Usher 2
Acolyte
Musician: Janice Algren
Flowers

Sunday, August 23, 2020 12th Sunday after Pentecost

When we, the family of God, resist the powers that be

Lessons

- Exodus 1:8-2:10 The oppression of the Israelites by Egypt, the birth of Moses
- Psalm 124
- Romans 12:1-8 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed
- Matthew 16:13-20 Peter’s declaration that Jesus is the Messiah

Prayer of the Day Lord of liberation, the bell of freedom echoes wherever one person is treated as property. The curse of slavery still persists, even if underground, across the globe today. Help us to continue to atone for the ways we have enabled the past sins of slavery; empower us to continue to fight against the hidden curse of slavery in our modern world today, until all your children are truly free. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Living the Creed Pick a historical US Figure who fought against slavery. Submit a picture, as a family, write up a one-page bio including things like: birth date, death date, where lived, important quotes, and important deeds; include where markers are located commemorating this person’s life.

Communion Sunday

Worship Assistant:
Usher 1
Usher 2
Acolyte
Musician: Jamie Reynolds
Flowers

Sunday, August 30, 2020

13th Sunday after Pentecost

When we, as the family of God, are hurting, God hears our cries

Lessons

- Exodus 3:1-15 Moses encounters God at Horeb
- Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
- Romans 12:9-21 Let love be genuine
- Matthew 16:21-28 Jesus foretells his death and resurrection

Prayer of the Day We cry out to you, the Great "I Am Who I Am", and lift the globe entrenched in a pandemic to your hands. Hear our cries. Send us a liberator; and then turn our attention to the cries of others in this world who suffer from the threat of oppression, that they too may know there is freedom within your family. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Living the Creed The Chin Church is comprised of refugees from Bangladesh – research why the church is oppressed there; who is one person from the Chin Church you have met and remember their name.

Worship Assistant:

Usher 1

Usher 2

Acolyte

Musician: Jamie Reynolds

Flowers

Sunday, September 6, 2020

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Labor Day Weekend

We, the family of God, are united when we are protected by God.

Lessons

- Exodus 12:1-14 God gives instructions ahead of the final plague, the Pass-Over
- Psalm 149
- Romans 13:8-14 Love is the fulfilling of the law
- Matthew 18:15-20 reproving another who sins

Prayer of the Day Our Father, you feed us our daily bread, and also so much more in the body and blood of Jesus. Nourish our minds, bodies and souls with these gifts that we may be emboldened to share the same gifts with the whole world, that all may receive your grace. In your holy name, we pray. Amen

Living the Creed: The institution of the Passover Festival is the root of our sacrament of communion. When was your first communion? What memories do you have of that day? Who was the pastor? How does bread and wine connect us to God?

Worship Assistant: Doug Cruce
Usher 1 David Sandstrom
Usher 2
Acolyte
Musician: Janice Algren
Flowers:

Sunday, September 13, 2020 15th Sunday after Pentecost

When we, the Family of God, journey together, God travels with us

Lessons

- Exodus 14:19-31 The Israelites safely cross the Red Sea
- Psalm 15:1b-11, 20-21
- Romans 14:1-12 If we live, we live to the Lord, if we die, we die to the Lord
- Matthew 18:21-35 Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

Prayer of the Day Heavenly Father, you are the guide leading along the winding path that is life. We thank you for the oasis of respite, we praise you for carrying us safely through peril. Strengthen us for the journey that is ahead and teach us to lead others to your safety. In your holy name we pray. Amen

Living the Creed: Take the family for a hike. Choose a local state park or hiking trail. At the beginning of the hike, lift a prayer asking God's blessing on the hike. Imagine the Israelites leaving everything they knew behind, and now faced with an impossible task of walking across where water once was, and now is gone. Along the hike identify some plants and animals you encounter along the way. After the hike, lift a prayer giving thanks to God for your safe journey.

Worship Assistant: Pam Van Kirk
Usher: Jim Johnson
Acolyte
Musician: Janice Algren
Flowers:

Sunday, September 20, 2020 16th Sunday after Pentecost

When we, the family of God, pray "give us our daily bread", God feeds us.

Lessons

- Exodus 16:2-15 In the wilderness, God provides quail and manna
- Psalm 105:1-6, 27-45
- Philippians 1:21-30 Living is Christ and dying is gain
- Matthew 20:1-16 Laborers in the vineyard

Prayer of the Day Lord, you hear the hunger pangs in the bellies of the millions who do not know where their next meal comes from; and you send your disciples to bring the food that satisfies. Help us to achieve policies to end the world hunger crisis; strengthen us as advocates for the hungry that none may go without. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Living the Creed: The Northern Illinois Synod Cycle the Synod event raises awareness of the ELCA World Hunger Appeal; and fundraises as well. Go to ELCA World Hunger website (insert site here), and click the donate button to help bring food to needy people around the world.

Worship Assistant: Judy Sanberg
Usher: Steve Erlandson
Acolyte
Musician: Jamie Reynolds
Flowers: Diane Carlson

Sunday, September 27, 2020 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Sometimes, we, the Family of God, are really this whinny, and still God persists in providing

Lessons

- Exodus 17:1-7 God provides water in response to the Israelites complaints
- Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
- Philippians 2:1-13 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus
- Matthew 21:23-32 the authority of Jesus is questioned

Prayer of the Day Fountain of the River of Life, you gush forth the still waters that we rest beside, you spring up the wells that quench the deepest thirsts. Even as we continuously complain about how unfair life is, the waters you provide never dry up. Show us the way to trust these waters, that our tears may be wiped dry as we renew ourselves in your baptismal love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen

Living the Creed: Go to waterproject.org to support fresh water initiatives around the world. Pick one project to read about as a family. Click the “donate” button to help provide clean water.

Worship Assistant: Pam Best
Usher: Linda McGuire
Acolyte
Musician: Jamie Reynolds
Flowers:

follow. How do we learn the difference between following a false deity, and the true one God?

Worship Assistant: Chip Algren
Usher: Doug Cruce
Acolyte
Musician:
Flowers: Linda McGuire

Sunday, October 18, 2020 20th Sunday after Pentecost

When we, the family of God, need an intercessor, God listens and forgives

Lessons

- Exodus 33:12-23 Moses intercedes for Israel and sees God's backside
- Psalm 99
- 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 We always give thanks for all of you and mention you in our prayers
- Matthew 22:15-22 Jesus is questioned about taxes

Prayer of the Day Heavenly God, the fullness of your glory is hidden from our senses, yet we receive glimpses of you passing by us every day in the form of butterflies, passing clouds, glorious starry night, and so many other examples we cannot name them all. Help us times of distress, when you are most hidden, for our eyes to be opened to your presence, that we trust you are with us always. In your holy name we pray. Amen

Living the Creed: Moses is given a chance to see a portion of God's glory, God's backside, as God passes by. Take a picture that, for you, is a reflection of God's glory. Share that picture in our Living the Creed slide show.

Worship Assistant: Jim Johnson
Usher: Rose Sandstrom
Acolyte
Musician:
Flowers