

Mercy

TRUCKEE LUTHERAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Seventh Sunday of Easter – May 12, 2024

We invite you to participate in worship, reading the parts in bold print. ♪ means All Sing!

** We invite you to stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk.*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

Pastor Joanie Tankersley

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

* OPENING PRAYER

* ♪ GATHERING SONG – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Congregation

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Time for silence and reflection

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. O Lord, do not withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen. (Verses are from the Psalms)

* SHARING OF THE LORD’S PEACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ in a way that you feel most comfortable, saying “The peace of Christ be with you.”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, you are always speaking to me. I pray your Word will find a home in my heart so I may become more like Jesus even today. Amen.

FIRST READING**Genesis 43:1-15**

Now the famine was severe in the land. And when they had eaten the grain they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, ‘Go again, buy us a little more food.’ But Judah said to him, ‘The man solemnly warned us, saying, ‘You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.’ If you send our brother with us, we will go down and buy food; but if you do not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, ‘You shall not see my face, unless your brother is with you.’” Israel said, ‘Why did you treat me so badly as to tell the man that you had another brother?’ They replied, ‘The man questioned us carefully about ourselves and our kindred, saying, ‘Is your father still alive? Have you another brother?’” What we told him was in answer to these questions. Could we in any way know that he would say, ‘Bring your brother down?’” Then Judah said to his father Israel, ‘Send the boy with me, and let us be on our way, so that we may live and not die—you and we and also our little ones. I myself will be surety for him; you can hold me accountable for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever. If we had not delayed, we would now have returned twice.’ Then their father Israel said to them, ‘If it must be so, then do this: take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags and carry them down as a present to the man. Take double the money with you. Carry back with you the money that was returned in the top of your sacks; perhaps it was an oversight. Take your brother also and be on your way again to the man; and may God Almighty grant you mercy before the man, so that he may send back your other brother and Benjamin. As for me, if I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.’ So the men took the present, and they took double the money with them, as well as Benjamin. Then they went on their way down to Egypt and stood before Joseph.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

*** GOSPEL READING****Matthew 18:21-35**

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven! "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold-- along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned-- to pay the debt. "But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt. "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment. His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it,' he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel, the Good News of God.

Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION – “Mercy’s Healing Power”

Pastor Joanie Tankersley

♪ SONG IN RESPONSE – “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Congregation

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Gracious God, you have blessed us with life and resources beyond what we deserve. We offer ourselves and our gifts back in gratitude asking that they lift up the ministry of Jesus through our church. Amen.

*** ♪ SONG OF THANKS – “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

Congregation

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Pastor Joanie Tankersley

Please conclude your prayer with “Lord, in your mercy,” and all will respond, “Hear our prayer.”

*** LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*** THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*** INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

♪ COMMUNION SONG – “Come to the Table (of Mercy)”

Congregation

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord, I have taken this bread and cup as a testament of your relentless mercy to save me from myself.

Help me practice that same mercy toward others so I might honor you with my life. Amen.

*** ♪ SENDING SONG – “You Are Mine”**

Congregation

PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD – ANNOUNCEMENTS *Birthdays/Anniversaries*

We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church, in our local community, and throughout the world.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** SENDING**

Go and live with a merciful heart to be like Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

*** POSTLUDE**

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We thank Pastor Joanie Tankersley for leading our worship service this morning!

We invite all to join us by giving to the ministry of TLPC. **We thank everyone who generously supports this ministry.** Gifts may be made online through our website at TLPC.org or mailed to: **Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church, PO Box 10620, Truckee, CA 96162**

Our congregation has a heart for missions: locally, nationally, and in God's world. With your support we give to Sierra Community House (Hunger Relief, Crisis Intervention & Prevention, Family Support & Community Engagement, Mediation & Legal Assistance); North Tahoe–Truckee Homeless Services; Healthy Babies; International Health Partners Tanzania; Hands of Hope Zimbabwe; youth service trips to Nicaragua and Alaska; adult disaster trips locally and around the world; and the responsible, vigorous mission work of the Presbyterian Church USA and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in our nation and world. Additionally, during the pandemic, our congregation has supported local essential workers.

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Washoe people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this country their home.

