

Peace Lutheran Church

Contemporary Service
17th Sunday of Pentecost
October 5th, 2025

Morning Meditation

Today we get to hear from a man who's sometimes overlooked in the Biblical narrative. In fact, this is the only time in the three-year Sunday reading lectionary that his book is included. The Old Testament reading is from the book of Habakkuk, a prophet who spoke to the southern kingdom of Judah just before the Babylonian exile. The book is only three chapters long, and it's written in the form of a conversation between the prophet and God. Our reading for today only includes part of the conversation, but it gives us a good summary of what the back and forth is all about. Habakkuk is angry over the sinfulness of his people that has moved them further and further from God's truth and he's confused at God's response to it, which is to send Judah into exile in Babylon. His theological knowledge of God isn't matching up with his experience of God, and so he brings his complaint to the Lord. In the words written down for us, we meet a prophet who's wondering why God isn't acting and waiting for His promises to be fulfilled. Often times we think of prophets as men of great resolve who receive a word from God and proclaim it unapologetically. Habakkuk is a little different. He's a prophet who wrestles with the beautiful burden he's been given. He knows what God is capable of doing, he knows that God loves his people, and yet he has to tell others to wait for His timing. If you've ever found yourself waiting on God for healing, for an answered prayer, for a new job opportunity, for a restored relationship, Habakkuk is a prophet who gives voice to what you're feeling. And he's the prophet who shows us the path in the midst of waiting—"but the righteous shall live by his faith" (Habakkuk 2:4). Even though Habakkuk doesn't get to see everything that God is doing, he knows that God still promises his gifts of healing and salvation for his people, and He will be faithful. Waiting on God can be difficult, and Habakkuk gives us license to struggle and even question in the midst of it. But as we wait and even struggle with our faith, we know that the word of God is always true, and nothing, not even sin and death, can undo the salvation He has accomplished through His Son Jesus Christ. He is the Righteous One who is always faithful to what he promises.

*****Today we celebrate Holy Communion. A statement about our communion practices can be found at the end of this bulletin.*****

Welcome

Invocation

P In the name of the Father, and of † the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Psalm *Psalms 107*

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

C for His steadfast love endures forever!

P Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

C whom He has redeemed from trouble

P and gathered in from the lands,

C from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

P For He satisfies the longing soul,

C and the hungry soul He fills with good things.

Opening Songs

"Holy Is the Lord"
"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Old Testament

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

- ² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?
- ³ Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
- ⁴ So the law is paralyzed,
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
so justice goes forth perverted.

*I will take my stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the tower,
and look out to see what he will say to me,
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.*

² And the LORD answered me:

- "Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so he may run who reads it.*
- ³ *For still the vision awaits its appointed time;
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.
If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.*
- ⁴ *"Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.*

Gospel

Luke 17:1-10

And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come!" ² It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴ and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

⁵ *The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.*

⁷ *"Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'?" ⁸ Will he not rather say to him,*

‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? ⁹ Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’ ”

Confession of Faith

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.

Song of the Day “Living Hope”

Offering

An offering basket is available at the entrance

Our tithes and offerings are brought forward and placed on the altar.
For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You. - 1 Chronicles 29:14

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Dueker

Prayers of the Church

Preparation for Holy Communion

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for personal reflection)

P As we have confessed in our hearts, we now confess with our mouths:

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Holy Communion

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Communion Song "Hymn of Heaven"

Communicants are invited to come forward by sections. Grape juice is available in the center of the communion trays from those distributing. The cups can be placed in the baskets on either side of the sanctuary.

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

**C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Song "We Believe"

† Go in peace and serve the Lord. †

Peace Lutheran Church - Rogers City, MI

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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Our mission as a caring family is to reach out to all, share Christ's love, and teach God's Word.

Regarding Holy Communion:

The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, is celebrated here at Peace in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another.

Our congregation believes that participating in the Lord's Supper acts as a statement that those communing agree with what we believe about this Sacrament.. *See 1 Corinthians 11:26.* Out of loving care and concern, therefore, we want to do all that we can to make sure that those who participate in our Communion celebration don't violate their own conscience or a public confession of faith made through another church body by making that joint statement of faith with us. In addition, because the New Testament teaches that those who eat and drink of the Lord's Supper unworthily or without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment upon themselves, we want to protect those of a different public confession from potentially suffering spiritual harm. (See 1 Corinthians 11:27-30.)

For these reasons, we ask those who don't know or agree with the teachings of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to consider refraining from communing until a more thorough conversation is possible. In so doing, please understand that we are in no way judging your personal faith. On the contrary, we want to invite you into a deeper fellowship with us that begins with further consideration of what we believe, teach, and confess here at Peace. In the meantime, please sing, pray, and worship with us, and, if you'd like more information about Lutheran teachings or Communion practices, contact the church office at (989) 734-7621 or via email at office@peacelcms.org. If you'd like to come forward during Communion to receive a blessing from Pastor, you are more than welcome. You may indicate the desire to participate in this manner by simply folding your hands across your chest when you come forward. If you simply wish to remain in your seat during Communion, that's okay, too. You won't be alone. Anyone desiring to have Communion brought to them at their seat, perhaps because of a physical or other challenge, please speak to Pastor or the Elder on duty prior to the service.