

ILCW Year-C Lessons for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14 **NIV** "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice greatly with her, all you who mourn over her. 11 For you will nurse and be satisfied at her comforting breasts; you will drink deeply and delight in her overflowing abundance." 12 For this is what the LORD says: "I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. 13 As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." 14 When you see this, your heart will rejoice and you will flourish like grass; the hand of the LORD will be made known to his servants, but his fury will be shown to his foes.

Epistle

Galatians 6:1-...-16 Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, 5 for each one should carry his own load. 6 Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. 7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. ... 14 May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. 16 Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.

Gospel (Sermon Text)

Luke 10:1-...-20 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. 2 He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. 3 Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. 4 Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. 5 "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' 6 If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. 7 Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. 8 "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. 9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' 10 But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 11 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' 12 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. ... 16 "He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me." 17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." 18 He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. 20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL, USA
7th Sunday of Pentecost(C)  *Sending Out Disciples*
July 7th, 2013  9:30am



Woodcut illustration from a 1695 Bible – Luke 10 – Jesus sends out 72.

Jesus instructs the seventy-two before sending them out two by two. The background shows Satan falling from heaven and the names of the disciples being written in heaven by an angel. The disciples trample a snake with their bare feet.

Courtesy of the Digital Image Archive, Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University

<http://www.pitts.emory.edu/dia/detail.cfm?ID=926>

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM

Pastor Andrew Burmeister (863) 430-5859

Organist: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

July 7th, 2013 Pentecost-7(C) ✠ JESUS SENDS 72 ✠

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time, we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! Thank you.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the visitor, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you.

ORDER OF SERVICE *(See insert)*

PLEASE NOTE: The service folder insert has been written so that it may be used more than once. If you prefer to use the hymnal, see **page 15**. Feel free to leave the service folder insert with an usher after the service. Thank you. May the Lord bless your worship!

Service		
Opening Hymn	4 (3v)	God Himself Is Present
Hymn of Day	487 (6v)	How Beauteous Are the Feet
Sermon	Luke 10	“Jesus Sends Out 72”
Offering Hymn	577 (2v)	God Bless Our Native Land
Communion Hymn	309 (2v)	O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee
Closing Hymn	370 (4v)	My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

PROPERs for (TRINITY6=)SEVENTH SUNDAY of PENTECOST-C ✠ JULY 7

INTROIT: The Lord is the Strength of His people, He is the saving Strength of His anointed. Save Your people and bless Your inheritance, shepherd them also and bear them up forever. Unto You I will cry, O Lord, my Rock; do not be silent to me, Lest, if You are silent to me, I become like those who go down into the pit.

COLLECT: Lord of all power and might, Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of Your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Your great mercy keep us in Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. **C: ♪ Amen.**

GRADUAL: Relent, O Lord! How long will it be? Have compassion on Your servants. Lord, You have been our dwelling-place in all generations. Alleluia! Alleluia! I put my trust in You, O Lord; let me never be ashamed; deliver me in Your righteousness! Bow down Your ear to me, deliver me quickly. Alleluia! ...from Psalm 90

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: *(printed on the outside back page of the bulletin)*

Isaiah 66:10-14 Picture the Christian Church as one of Peace & Joy.
Galatians 6:1-...-16 Believers' devotion shows in doing 'good to all people.'
Luke 10:1-12,16-20 72 Sent to preach the message "God's Kingdom is Near."

SERMON Text: (Gospel) **Luke 10:1-20** **THEME:** "JESUS SENDS OUT 72"

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Madeline Beck	Patty & Buster Brewbaker
Richard Birkenmeier	Delores (Dee) Kurczewski
Jonathan Jumper (Elaine's grandson)	(Happy Birthday!->) Jeanette Kubly
Tyler Kirby (nephew of Andrea Sawyer)	Mariah Sawyer
George Wendt (brother of Steve Wendt)	Ann Wentz

Volunteers	This week	Next week
Greeter	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
Usher	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
Treats	Orpha Weber	(Volunteer)

COFFEE will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Everyone is invited to stay! We thank our volunteers for serving today. We are IN NEED OF SERVERS for future Sundays. If you can help, PLEASE SIGN UP. Thanks!

Statistics	Last week	Year to date (average)
Sunday Worship	21	35
Communion Attendance	--	29
Sunday Bible Class	10	9
Thursday Bible Class	8	9
Sunday Offering	\$	(YTD total) \$

Calendar of Events		
Sunday, 7/7	8:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 ff...	Bible Study (Genesis 37) Divine Worship (w/ Holy Communion) Fellowship time: <i>Treats and Drinks</i>
Tuesday, 7/9	6:00 pm	Catechism Class with Prescott
Thursday, 7/11	6:30 pm	Bible Study at Madeline Beck's
Friday, 7/12	1:30 pm	Catechism Class with Sawyers
Saturday, 7/13	4:00 pm	Tampa Bay Rays Baseball Game
Sunday, 7/14	8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 ff...	Bible Study Divine Worship (no Communion) Fellowship time: <i>Treats and Drinks</i>

Congregational Notes

Please contact our Elders with any concerns about church matters: **Jim Vanesky 644-7807 & John Weber 853-5458 & Don Wienke 863-815-8892.**

Schedule Notes - Month of July

Next Sun.(7/14) Service of Word (no L.S.) p.5 Hymns: 375, 384, 439, 389

(TRI-6) Pent.7C Luke 10:1-20 "JESUS SENDS OUT THE -72- " 07.07.13 OS

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

***"The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me."* (Luke 10:16)**

INTRODUCTION To hear one whom Jesus sends is to hear Jesus Himself. To reject one whom Jesus sends is to reject Jesus. And to reject Jesus is to reject the Father who sent Him. Those are the words that engage us in this morning's Gospel. Good news (Gospel) to those who receive; bad news (Law) to those who reject.

It's all in the sending. The Father sends Jesus; He doesn't go on His own initiative. And Jesus, in turn, sends others. His sending of the 72 with His authority and mandate is one of the foundation stones of the Office of the Holy Ministry. You heard a bit of that in the beginning of the service. "As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins." He who hears you, hears Me. You have Jesus' word on it.

The seventy-two were sent into Judea, ahead of Jesus. He was already on His way to Jerusalem to die for the sin of the world. <-we heard that last week = JimV> (But,) **Why seventy-two?** Why not **eighty?** Or a **hundred?** For that matter, why **twelve** apostles? The numbers have significance beyond their number. Twelve is an Israel. Twelve apostles are Jesus' Israel. They represent His Church in all its fullness. But what about seventy-two? Seventy-two is the number of the nations given in Genesis after the Flood. Perhaps this is what Jesus has in mind, and what Luke is trying to tell us. **Jesus comes for ALL the nations**, as in *"Make disciples of all the nations."* Symbolically seventy-two, sent out in pairs to cover the territory before Jesus arrives. It's a snapshot of the **mission of the church**, sent out into all the world to preach repentance for forgiveness and life in Jesus until He comes, that is, appears in **glory on the Last Day**.

AND... there is **urgency** in Jesus' sending. **The harvest field is ripe.** No time to waste. He sends these seventy-two as laborers into the harvest field to grab what is ripe for the picking. AND, there is danger. They will be as lambs among the wolves, and we all know what happens to lambs among the wolves. Jesus is the Lamb who goes to His sacrificial death. - He sends them out as lambs. Empty, dependent, nothing to offer the world. No purse, no backpack, not even **an extra pair of sandals**. This is no vacation trip with the family. Not even a polite greeting on the road. (& Why?) Because the **urgency** is too great. **The Kingdom of God has come.**

Would you want to go under those terms? A little disturbing to think about, isn't it? What if you were one of the seventy-two? (Last week we heard about excuses – buying cows, marrying...) The honest answer is likely, **"No, pick someone else for the job."** And then rejoice and be exceedingly glad that Jesus is not speaking **to you** but to the **seventy two**.

Jesus doesn't usually call us to leave house and home, to travel without a wallet or an extra pair of shoes, or to live off the hospitality of others. You have your own calling, your vocation as **father, mother, son, daughter, citizen, member of parish, neighbor, worker, and friend**. And these too can entail risks and dangers, and sometimes you don't want to be there either. Like the prophet Jonah, who thought going West (Spain) might be nicer than Nineveh. Where Jesus sends you, there **He also blesses you**.

The seventy-two are sent to proclaim peace from the **Prince of Peace**. *"Peace be to this house,"* they are to say before entering. More than a happy little greeting like "Good morning, how are you?" A blessing, giving what the words say - peace. *Shalom*. Everything in order and in harmony. Peace that surpasses our understanding. Peace that the world cannot give. Peace that comes from the cross-inflicted wounds of Jesus. That peace is what they are sent to deliver.

With (this "Shalom" =) **Peace** comes healing, peace to the body. "Heal the sick," Jesus says. He gives them the same authority over sickness **that He has**. He came to bear our sicknesses and all that **sin has done to destroy** the "peace of this world" right down to the cells of our bodies. Healing is for them a sign of the Kingdom of God having come near. We have the even greater sign - Jesus own Body and Blood, which strengthens and preserves us in body and soul to life everlasting. This is the real "Medicine of Immortality" and **true Peace**.

To receive any two of **these seventy-two** into your home is to receive the **Peace and health of Jesus**. The Kingdom of God has come near. Imagine a knock on your door, and a man, who identifies himself as an agent of the **IRS** tells you that he has some good news for you. Your taxes **have been paid in full for life!** Or imagine someone driving up in one of those vans you see on TV, and a(n Ed Mc)man comes to your door with a bunch of roses and balloons and video crew and announces that you have just won **700 million dollars** in the Lottery (like the Zephyrhills woman). If you are convinced that these men have the authority to speak those words, you would take them at their word and rejoice in your good fortune, I would think.

"You sins are forgiven." ... *"This is my Body given for you. This is my Blood shed for you."* **Words from Jesus to you** through His minister, Our pastor, one whom He has sent so that you might hear and believe it. Our **Lutheran Confessions** quote this verse often to the effect that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us according to His mandate and institution, those words are as valid and certain, in heaven also, as though Christ Himself were dealing with us. The **Confessions** call the voice of **Forgiveness** (or **Absolution**) "a living voice of the Gospel" and "a voice coming down from heaven." Even when the owner of the voice is less than honorable (remember, Judas also was sent by Jesus), **still** the words are Jesus' words, the peace is Jesus' peace. *"He who hears you, hears Me."*

It only goes wrong in **rejection**. To those who would reject the seventy-two, even the dust clinging to the bottom of their feet testifies against them. The only way out is to refuse to be in. Jesus underscores this with His "Woes." (vv.13... Woe to Chorazin and Bethsaida and Capernaum! Israelite cities. Cities that had lots of Jesus. Tyre, Sidon, and) Even **Sodom** compares favorably. Even that wicked city of Sodom that was consumed by fire and brimstone fares better than an insider city, an Israelite city that refuses the Savior. The only way out is to refuse to be in; to refuse to *believe*.

What is unforgiveable about the "Unforgiveable Sin" is NOT how bad it is, or how *destructive* or *great*, but that it **refuses** forgiveness. That forgiveness **is there all along for everyone**. As near as the **Word** preached, as near as the **water** of Baptism, as near as the **bread** and **wine** on the altar. This is how the Kingdom of God is revealed to you. But **refuse** these gifts, **reject** what Jesus has died to win for you, **reject** those whom He sends to you, ...and you incur the judgment of God's wrath. "*You shall be brought down to Hades.*" And it is entirely **unnecessary** and entirely **one's own** fault.

The seventy-two returned **brimming with joy**. ☺ "*Even the demons submitted to us in your name!*" Great fun it was casting out demons, healing the sick, preaching the kingdom. Such great fun it is stomping on snakes and scorpions, recognizing that though devils all the world should fill, they can harm us none. It's **powerful** stuff, it's "**heady**" stuff, and sadly, so often authority goes **to one's head**.

We see it when people who have little authority in life are given a bit of authority, and how easily they lord it over others. It happens in the workplace, and in the church too. But the nature of authority does not permit the one who holds it to boast. Real authority does **not** reside in the person who has it, but the one who **gave it**. Authority is permission to act, given by one to another. It is always **given**. Even Jesus, who has "all authority in heaven and on earth" has it not on His own terms, but as given to Him by the Father.

The big thing, what is cause for rejoicing is that your names are written in heaven, written in the **Book of Life of the Lamb** Who was slain from the foundations of the world, written in His blood shed for you and for your sins. That's cause for your rejoicing. Your names are written in heaven, as surely as baptismal water poured over you, as surely as Jesus' absolving words spoken into your ears, as surely as the Bread that is His Body and the Wine that is His Blood goes into your mouths, so surely are your names written in heaven. This is why the Father sent His Son into the world; this is why the Son sends His ministers, His agents, to tell with all certainty that the kingdom of God has come near to you, that Jesus has come near to you, that His peace and life are yours, and that your names are written in heaven.

CONCLUSION Hold on to those words. Trust those words. Cling to them today and every day until the last day. They are as certain and sure as the One who promises, "*He who hears you, hears me.*" **In Jesus' Name Amen.**

Now, the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. Amen. SDG



Prayer of the Church 7th Sunday of Pentecost (Proper 9C) 7 July 2013

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Jesus Christ, and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious Father, as Your Son sent the seventy-two to preach peace and proclaim the nearness of the Kingdom, continue to send faithful preachers into our midst who will call us to repentance and proclaim Your gift of forgiveness of sins. *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, You gather Your Church around the gifts of Word and Sacrament. Enable us by these gifts to live in fervent love toward one another, following St. Paul's exhortation to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. Make Your Church a place where all are welcomed with whatever burdens they bear. *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, out of Your desire to bestow Your gifts upon Your people, You call pastors and other church workers to service. Open our hands that we might share all good things with our pastors and all whom You send to serve among us. Open our lips to defend their reputations, remember them constantly in our prayers and seek to be a blessing to them as they have been a blessing to us. *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, You have given us spiritual freedom in Christ to serve our neighbors in our various callings. Bless our nation as we celebrate Your gift of civil freedom. Grant that we might use our freedoms for the good of others. Give us the daily bread of good government, that as we submit to our civil authorities, we might do Your will. Send Your holy angels to watch over all who travel this weekend, that their journeys may be safe and their homecomings joyful. *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, through the prophet Isaiah, You summoned your people to be nourished and comforted in Jerusalem's embrace. In like manner, gather Your children around the Altar of our Mother, the Jerusalem above, the Church, that we might receive the life-giving gifts of our Savior's body and blood and be nourished in the certain hope of eternal life. *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, as the seventy-two were sent to preach and to heal, send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to abide with the afflicted, the sick or injured, those facing surgery or recovering from procedures, the depressed and all who struggle with mental illness, those grieving and those facing death. [*Remember especially _____.*]

Grant that they might have confidence in the full restoration of health that will come in the resurrection of the dead, and so entrust their burdens to You in hope of that Day. *P: Lord, in Your mercy,* **C: hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**