

# Messy Discipleship, 3:



## I Will Comfort You

Isaiah 66:10-14

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**THE ORDER OF THE DIVINE SERVICE**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**JULY 3, 2022 – 8:00 AM**

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today! We celebrate together God's work in our lives as we receive His Word and Sacraments to strengthen our relationship with Him and one another. By the blood of Christ, we are made the household of God. Here, God builds us up by grace, through faith, and for service!

**LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY**

As we worship this weekend, we recognize with thanksgiving the freedoms we know as citizens of the United States. The greatest freedoms, which we observe today with gratitude and renewed commitment, still come through faith in Jesus Christ. In Jesus Christ, and through faith in Him, all people - of every race, nation, and language - may approach God with freedom and confidence. We pray for peace for ourselves, our nation, and the world.

***Messy Discipleship***

Life is messy! Our calendars are full, our phones are buzzing, our families are loud, we have so much going on all the time it can easily feel like our messy lives are spiraling out of our control! We would love it if God waved His strong right hand over our mess and simply made it all disappear. But God does something even greater than that... He enters into our mess and makes us His disciples. By the presence of God the Holy Spirit, our God engages with us as His messy disciples and uses us for His work. In this summer sermon series, we will be taking a look at some Old Testament stories examining the way that God has used and continues to use messy disciples like us in His salvation story.

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

**PRELUDE**

*God of Our Fathers* – D. Scheck

**WELCOME**

## HYMN

*God of Our Fathers*

LW 501

1. God of our fathers, Whose Almighty Hand  
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:  
Our grateful songs before Your Throne arise.

2. Your Love divine has led us in the past;  
In this free land by You our lot is cast;  
Oh, be our Ruler, Guardian, Guide and Stay;  
Your Word our law, Your Paths our chosen way.

3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence  
Make Your Strong Arm our ever sure defense.  
Your True Religion in our hearts increase;  
Your Bounteous Goodness nourish us in peace.

4. Refresh Your people on their toilsome way;  
Lead us from night to never ending day;  
Fill all our lives with Heav'n-born love and grace  
Until at last we meet before Your Face.

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## INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the Name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C Amen.



## CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS

P Let us confess our sins to our Gracious God.  
C Holy and righteous God, we have sinned against You. We have done things  
You forbid, and neglected to do things You command. We have not sought  
the peace You offer for the Sake of Christ, nor have we sought peace with our

**brothers and sisters. We have taken our citizenship in Your Kingdom lightly. We have taken our citizenship in our country for granted. Renew our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may truly appreciate our blessings and live as Your sons and daughters.**

**P** Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners; and, by His Death and Resurrection, He has liberated us from the power of sin, death and hell. God assures all who truly repent of their sins and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, that they are freed from sins' oppression; and are free to serve God in His Kingdom. 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.**

❖ **KYRIE**

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the Peace of God, and for His Grace to flow among us, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For peace among the nations of the world, for an end to injustice and greed, and for the unhindered proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in every corner of the world, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our congregation, our staff, our leaders, and members; for all who gather for worship here and throughout the world, and for all who serve God in word and deed, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, Gracious Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## ❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone.

C **Continue to send Your messengers to preserve Your people in true peace that, by preaching Your Word, Your Church may be kept free from all harm and danger; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT

*Isaiah 66:10-14* [ESV]

*(God promises peace, comfort, and rejoicing for His people.)*

“Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her;  
rejoice with her in joy,  
all you who mourn over her;  
that you may nurse and be satisfied  
from her consoling breast;  
that you may drink deeply with delight  
from her glorious abundance.”

For thus says the LORD:

“Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream;  
and you shall nurse,

you shall be carried upon her hip,  
and bounced upon her knees.

As one whom his mother comforts,  
so I will comfort you;

you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;  
your bones shall flourish like the grass;  
and the Hand of the LORD shall be known  
to His servants,

and He shall show His Indignation  
against His enemies.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM HYMN

*Before You, Lord, We Bow*

Psalm 145

**LSB 966**

1. Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above  
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.  
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise,  
Our hearts we raise To You, our King!

2. The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,  
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.  
For this bright day, For this fair land—  
Gifts of Your hand—Our thanks we pay.

3. May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,  
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!  
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise  
And join to raise A grateful song.

4. Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;  
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.  
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore,  
And bow before The Crucified.

5. And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land  
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,  
A countless throng, With joy to sing  
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

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## EPISTLE

*Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18* [ESV]

*(Paul encourages us to do good to all people.)*

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the Law of Christ.

For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load. Let the one who is taught the Word share all good things with the one who teaches.

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap Eternal Life.

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

But far be it from me to boast except in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by

Which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.

And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the Marks of Jesus.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



### ALLELUIA VERSE

P Alleluia. Peace be to this house!

C **The Kingdom of God has come near to you. Alleluia.**



### HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 10:1-20 [ESV]*

*(Jesus sends out disciples to announce peace.)*

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

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

P After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of Him, two by two, into every town and place where He Himself was about to go. And He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.

C **'Peace be to this house.'**

P And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him.  
But if not, it will return to you.  
And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages.  
Do not go from house to house.  
Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you.  
Heal the sick in it and say to them,

**C 'The Kingdom of God has come near to you.'**

P But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you,  
go into its streets and say,

**C 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you.  
Nevertheless know this, that the Kingdom of God has come near.'**

P I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.  
"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!  
For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.  
But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you.  
And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to Heaven?  
You shall be brought down to Hades.  
"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."  
The seventy-two returned with joy, saying,

**C "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your Name!"**

P And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.  
Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all  
the power of the enemy,

P and nothing shall hurt you.  
Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you,  
but rejoice that your names are written in Heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Jonathan Blanke



## HYMN OF THE DAY

*By Grace I'm Saved*

LSB 566, vs.1-2, 4-6

1. By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
No! Then this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain.

2. By grace! None dare lay claim to merit Our works and conduct have no worth.  
God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;  
His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.

4. By grace! This ground of faith is certain; As long as God is true, it stands.  
What saints have penned by inspiration, What in His Word our God commands,  
Our faith in what our God has done Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

5. By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

6. By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

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## SERMON

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

I Will Comfort You

*Isaiah 66:10-14*

(Sermon Notes on Page 14)



## APOSTLES' CREED

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of Heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord,

**C** 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.

## ❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3*)  
 Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow) is welcome.

## OFFERING

(The offerings of God's people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail, and in baskets located in the Narthex.)

## OFFERING HYMN

*America the Beautiful*

**HWC 572**

**1. O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain;  
 For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!  
 America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
 And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

**2. O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
 Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!  
 America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
 Till all success be nobleness, And every gain divine.**

**3. O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years,  
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

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## ❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

P Lord God, as Your people here in these United States, we recall with gratitude the birth of our nation; and the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

**C We praise You, O God, that Your Spirit moved our ancestors to seek out this fair land; and through their dependence on You and personal sacrifice, they left us a great heritage as our possession today.**

P God of Mercy, as You reminded Your ancient people, Israel, that You gave them the abundant blessings of their land; and warned them to not forget that all blessings come from You;

**C we ask, Gracious Lord, that You also remind us - Your New Testament people. Reprove us when we forget, and empower us to experience the high standard of living for You, obeying You, and honoring You with grateful lives.**

P God of Wisdom, bless the leaders of our nation; and send down upon all who hold offices of public trust throughout our land, the Spirit of wisdom, charity and justice.

**C Help us to be loyal citizens of our country, and true followers of Jesus Christ. Hasten the day when all people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify Your Name.**

P God of Love, encourage health workers and firefighters, public servants and relief workers, professionals and volunteers; that they see Your Spirit at work through their efforts and give You thanks and praise for their ability to meet the needs of the people around them;

Lord in Your Mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

*After each portion of the prayers:*

P Lord, in Your Mercy,  
C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your Hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray,  
trusting in Your Mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
C **Amen.**

P Jesus remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

❖ **LORD'S PRAYER**

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**

P The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make His Face to shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*  
C **Amen.**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God!**

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**Acknowledgments**

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## Messy Discipleship, 3: “I Will Comfort You” (Isaiah 66:10-14) Proper 9, Series C

Discipleship looks “messy” considering the scared, sad, and confused people we often are. How are we to meaningfully engage the world when the losses of life get us down? The picture of God comforting God’s people like a woman nursing and playing with her infant child restructures our expectations for the future around a God who gives grace to the helpless. We the tiny, powerless children of God, follow!

1. We all have an idea of what comfort *should* look like. **True comfort is the \_\_\_\_\_ we yearn for when faced with \_\_\_\_\_ and the fear, grief, and confusion \_\_\_\_\_ can bring.** Messy disciples that we are, we are laid low by the unpredictable and unforeseen changes that life brings and that we find ourselves ill-equipped to manage alone.
2. God’s people returned to Jerusalem in 538 BCE to pick up the pieces of shattered lives. Their temple was in ruins and their city a shadow of its earlier glory. Here we get picture of *God’s* comfort. **True comfort is God’s gift of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_, depicted as a mother who nurses and plays with her baby!** The grace to see themselves as babies led Israel to see God as the parent who loved them and would give them all they truly needed.
3. **True comfort is God’s gift of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ loss, where Jesus weeps with the sorrowful yet calls the dead from the darkness of the tomb to life (John 11:35; 43)!** Through Jesus, God demonstrates that He cares, even—especially—for messy disciples in their time of loss. Through Jesus, God gives comfort to those who need it most.
4. **An old proverb says that shared sorrow is \_\_\_\_\_ the sorrow, and shared joy is \_\_\_\_\_ the joy.** What burdens is God’s comfort in Jesus calling you to let go of today? What joys can you, by the work of the Holy Spirit, share with others that will bring even greater joy to your community?