

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
Series: Out of the Depths
Week 1: Division
October 18, 2020 - Online Worship



Series Introduction:

*What has you feeling down? All the fighting in the world? Constant health or financial problems? A messy past? Regret, longing, or unfulfilled hopes? You are not alone. Many passages in Scripture speak to you in your depression. The Good News is that Jesus, in His grace, reaches down to rescue you and lift you up **out of the depths**.*

As We Gather Today:

*We were made to be one people. We were made for peace and unity. But sadly, everywhere we turn there is discord, disagreement, and **division**. The Good News is that Jesus not only prays that His people would be one, but unifies us by his Spirit in love and forgiveness.*

Opening Hymn

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

LSB 649

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father’s throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.
- 4 When here our pathways part,
We suffer bitter pain;

Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,
We hope to meet again.
5 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

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Invocation & Prayer from the Depths

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.

P Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!
O Lord, hear my voice!

C Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

Ps 130:1-2

P Save me, O God!
For the waters have come up to my neck.

C I have come into deep waters,
and the flood sweeps over me.

P I am weary with my crying out;
my throat is parched.

C My eyes grow dim
with waiting for my God.

Ps 69:1-3

P I called out to the Lord, out of my distress,
and he answered me;

C out of the belly of Sheol I cried,
and you heard my voice.

Jh 2:2

P And beginning to sink he cried out,
“Lord, save me.”

C Jesus immediately reached out his hand
and took hold of him

Mt 14:30-31

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *Psalm 51:1–3; 96:9–13; Isaiah 45:5, adapted*

P God calls on us to be blameless, to live in peace with one another, to not hold grudges or be angry with anyone. But we have failed to live as God has instructed. We have created division and discord. We have refused to be reconciled with others. We come before our heavenly Father to ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

P Heavenly Father,

C **we confess that we have not always walked in Your ways. We confess that we have ignored and avoided conflict rather than seek reconciliation. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive our sins. Bring Your reconciliation and peace that surpasses all understanding into our lives.**

P Even though we have held on to our anger and resentment of others, our heavenly Father sent Jesus to be our reconciliation and peace. By the blood of Jesus, we are reconciled to God and can approach Him in all confidence. By the blood of Jesus, we are reconciled with one another. 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. We are reconciled and at peace with God. We are forgiven in Christ.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, as we struggle here below with divisions among us, searching for peace among men, remind us daily of the peace of heaven purchased through the bloody death and triumphant resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit is one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him."
¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Colossians 3:12–17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 17:20–26

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

²⁰[Jesus said:] “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sermon Hymn “Where Charity and Love Prevail” LSB 845

- 1 Where charity and love prevail
 There God is ever found;
 Brought here together by Christ’s love
 By love are we thus bound.

- 2 With grateful joy and holy fear
 His charity we learn;
 Let us with heart and mind and soul
 Now love Him in return.

- 3 Forgive we now each other’s faults
 As we our faults confess,
 And let us love each other well
 In Christian holiness.

- 4 Let strife among us be unknown;
 Let all contention cease;
 Be God’s the glory that we seek;
 Be ours His holy peace.

- 5 Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.
- 6 For love excludes no race or clan
That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all
Whose Father is the same.

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Sermon

*Rev. Jon Gruen
"Division"*

Prayer of the Church

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.

(Holy Communion omitted from online Video)

Benediction

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.

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,
 In Him no south or north,
 But one great fellowship of love
 Throughout the whole wide earth.

- 2 With God there is no tribe or race;
 In Him we all are one.
 He loves us as His children through
 Our faith in His dear Son.

- 3 So, brothers, sisters, praise His name
 Who died to set us free
 From sin, division, hate, and shame,
 From spite and enmity!

- 4 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
 Whate'er your race may be;
 Who serves my Father as His child
 Is surely kin to me.

- 5 In Christ now meet both east and west;
 In Him meet south and north.
 All Christian souls are one in Him
 Throughout the whole wide earth.

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