

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 20, 2025, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Christian Magnell

WELCOME AND GREETING

HYMN

"I Love to Tell the Story"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Lord God, thank you for a new day

and the blessing of gathering together to worship!

We serve a God of grace, love, and mercy,

and we pray, Holy Spirit, that you would lead and guide us this morning.

"The fool says in his heart, 'there is no God,'"

And there are "none who do good."

Let's take a moment to consider that truth: that all of us have fallen short. *(time for reflection)*

Let's pray together:

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin!

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins!

Thanks be to God!

SHARING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN

"This is Amazing Grace"

READING: Psalm 53 *We lack understanding yet declare there is no God; we reject God and His ways and wonder why we don't feel better.*

¹The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good. ²God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. ³They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. ⁴Have those who work evil no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God? ⁵There they are, in great terror, where there is no terror! For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you; you put them to shame, for God has rejected them. ⁶Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

HYMN

"Trust in God"

SERMON – Summer in the Psalms – Psalm 53

PRAYER FOR RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION / THE LORD’S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC “*Thank You Jesus for the Blood*”

PRAYER AND BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

And now may the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace!

Amen!

CLOSING SONG “*All the People Said Amen*”

DISMISSAL

Let's go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

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Psalm 53 – Devotional Thought:

Earlier this month the man with the world’s highest recorded IQ – 276! - Dr. YoungHoon Kim, a South Korean scientist, declared on social media “As the world’s highest IQ record holder, I believe that Jesus Christ is God, the way and the truth and the life.” I read the article and his social media post. Not knowing anything about him, I can’t verify the claim and certainly not what’s in his heart, but it’s interesting.

However, as we will speak about today, accepting Christ or even acknowledging the existence of God is not a matter of intelligence but a matter of wisdom. It doesn’t matter how intelligent you are, to reject the existence of God is not a matter of education or intelligence. It is a matter of wisdom versus foolishness.

We are called to pursue wisdom. The book of Proverbs is a great example of this, but it applies to all of Scripture. The Spirit will teach you, guide you, and demonstrate wisdom. The question: are we willing to learn?

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