

“David and Mephibosheth - Grace”

September 13, 2020

As We Gather

Mephibosheth is one of the few remaining descendants from the lineage of Saul and Jonathan. Dropped as a young child, Mephibosheth is crippled in both his feet, and is, in his own words, "a dead dog." But David honors a past covenant that he made with the house of Saul, and Mephibosheth is adopted into a new royal family. In this story of King David's grace and generosity toward Mephibosheth we see a picture of the grace and generosity of King Jesus toward us.

Welcome

“By Grace I’m Saved” (LSB 566)

Invocation

Baptism of Timothy James Wall

“The Goodness of God”

Readings

First Reading: 2 Samuel 9:1-13

David asked, “Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

² Now there was a servant of Saul’s household named Ziba. They summoned him to appear before David, and the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?”

“At your service,” he replied.

³ The king asked, “Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God’s kindness?”

Ziba answered the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet.”

⁴ “Where is he?” the king asked.

Ziba answered, “He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar.”

⁵ So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

⁶ When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor.

David said, “Mephibosheth!”

“At your service,” he replied.

⁷ “Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.”

⁸ Mephibosheth bowed down and said, “What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?”

⁹ Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul’s steward, and said to him, “I have given your master’s grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. ¹⁰ You and your sons and your servants are to farm the land for him and bring in the crops, so that your master’s grandson may be provided for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of your master, will always eat at my table.” (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.)

¹¹ Then Ziba said to the king, “Your servant will do whatever my lord the king commands his servant to do.” So Mephibosheth ate at David’s^(a) table like one of the king’s sons.

¹² Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba’s household were servants of Mephibosheth. ¹³ And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king’s table; he was lame in both feet.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: 2 Peter 2:3-11

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.

¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in His love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from My Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in My name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You O Christ

Apostles’ Creed

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.

Children’s Message**Sermon**

“Jesus Thy Blood and Righteousness” (LSB 563)

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the live chat

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

"Revelation Song"

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

This Week's Memory Verse

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.

2 Peter 1:3

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Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. David remembers the promise he made to Jonathan and fulfills it in his providing for Mephibosheth. How well do you keep your promises? Are there any promises that you need to remember to fulfill?
2. David was very gracious in his care for Mephibosheth. Think of someone in your life who has been very gracious to you. Thank God for that person. Who is God calling you to serve with graciousness?
3. God never forgets a promise and keeps them all. How have you experienced God’s promises in your life?
4. The word grace means undeserved love. We deserve nothing from God because of our sin. He gives us everything (2 Peter 1:3) because of His love for us in Jesus Christ. Ponder that. Pray in thanksgiving about that.
5. In John 15:15 Jesus tells His disciples that He no longer calls them “slaves”, but friends. What does it mean to you that you are a friend of Jesus?

Families to Pray for This Week

Paul & Vicky Bartelt
Penni, Haley, & Jacob Cremen
Wendy, Abriana, Cailyn, & Noah Helfrich
Mark, Yvette, Melissa, & Tyler Morgenlaender
Scott, Autumn, & Abigail Zimmerman
Giancarlo, Karyn, Gaetano, Gianluca, & Matteo Bettinelli
Kevin Donohoe, Tanya Mahaphon, & Kepler Donohoe
Chris, Kelsey, & Brooke Hunsaker
Fabrice, Paula, & Marco Moschetti
Jae, Amber, & Emma Steward