



St. Luke Lutheran Church

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost • July 26, 2020

Prelude: *"Our God is an Awesome God"* 3X

**Our God is an awesome God. He reigns from heaven above.
With wisdom, power, and love. Our God is an awesome God**

Confession and Forgiveness *(please stand as you are able)*

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

L: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: *(you may be seated)* #781 *"Children Of the Heavenly Father"*

**Verse 1: Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such refuge e'er was given.**

**Verse 2: God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**Verse 3: Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**Verse 4: Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.**

Greeting: L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Kyrie L: Kyrie eleison **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Christe eleison **C: Christ, have mercy.**

L: Kyrie eleison **C: Lord, have mercy.**

Glory to God **Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.**

Prayer of the Day: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Psalm 119:129-136 (Call and response)

C: ¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

L: ¹³⁰When your word is opened it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

C: ¹³¹I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

L: ¹³²Turn to me and be gracious to me, as you always do to those who love your name.

C: ¹³³Order my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

L: ¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.

C: ¹³⁵Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

L: ¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your teaching.

Romans 8:26-39 ²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation *Celtic Alleluia* (Please stand as you are able)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. 2X

L: The holy gospel according to.... **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (Please stand as you are able) ³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." ⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

L: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message: (you may be seated)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: #483 "Here Is Bread"

Verse 1: Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, He is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

Refrain: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

Verse 2: Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here. [Refrain]

Verse 3: Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified. [Refrain]

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: (call and response)

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.* Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for the saints according to your will. Help us when we do not know how to pray. Give comfort to the dying, refuge to the weary, justice to those who are oppressed, and healing to the sick, especially: the Family of Alex Dicke on the loss of his grandpa, Brad Roschen, Zach Gravemann, Jim Howard, Nathlye Benrud, Kyle Poncelet, Nancy Nord, George Campbell, Kelly Rehder, Tom Diercks, Dean Kirkland, Marlene Roschen, Lloyd Roschen, Robert Reese, Karl Thomforde and Finley Budensiek. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**


You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and time. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you our lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places. Embolden our witness now and one day gather us with all your saints in light. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: L: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

Offering & Doxology

 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offertory Prayer: God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**
L: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Salutation

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power & might, heav'n & earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

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; & forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; & lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, & the power, and the glory, forever & ever. Amen.

Lamb of God,

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Blessing and Communion Prayer: God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

Blessing *(please stand as you are able)*

L: May the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn: #547 "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

**Verse 1: Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**Verse 2: With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

Dismissal L: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.
 C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

"Go In Peace" 3X written by Debbi St. John

**Go In Peace And serve the Lord your God. Sow the seeds about the man of love.
Go into the world and tell them One by one. Go tell them what Jesus has done**

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**Please join us today at Zion church for the 10:30AM Congregational meeting!
We will be hearing more about and voting on a pastoral candidate.
We need 60 voting members present.**