

**Children’s Sermon:** *Pastor Eric Hanson*

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**Hymn of the Day:** *“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” #597*

**Vs 1:** My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;  
no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

**Refrain:** On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

**Vs 2:** When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in ev’ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

**Vs 3:** His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;  
when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

**Vs 4:** When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,  
clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne! [Refrain]

**Offertory Response:** *“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.

Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

**Offering Prayer:**

P: Let us pray.

**C:** Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Apostles’ Creed:** *(please stand as you are able)*

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven & 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 into hell. 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)*

Trusting in the transformative power of God’s loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.* Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering especially for Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Shawn Frederixon, Garrett Rehder, Neil Stehr, Ella Hadler and the families of Sharon Buck and Kevin Dankers. Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**Sharing the Peace:**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you.

**The Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

**The 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; 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.

**The Meal & Hymns:** *(you may be seated)*

*All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.*

*Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.*

*“There Is A Longing In Our Hearts O God”*

**Refrain:** There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.  
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

**Vs 1:** For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.

**In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]**

**Vs 2:** For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.

**In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]**

**Vs 3:** For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.

**In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]**

**Vs 4:** Lord, save us, take pity, light in our deepest night.

**We call you; we wait: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]**

*“Rock Of Ages”*

**Vs 1:** Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

**Vs 2:** Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law’s demands; could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

**Vs 3:** Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling. Naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

**Vs 4:** While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

*"We Eat The Bread Of Teaching" #518*

**Refrain:** We eat the bread of teaching, drink wine of Jesus, are given here a taste of the kingdom.  
Together joined, the greatest and the least, we are all one at Jesus's holy feast.

**Vs. 1:** Jesus calls throughout the city, knows our hunger,  
and in pity gives his loving invitation to the banquet of salvation. [refrain]

**Vs. 2:** Simple ones whose hearts are yearning, come and gain from Jesus's learning;  
bread and wine he is preparing, know his loving in the sharing. [refrain]

**Vs. 3:** Enter with delight and singing, for his richness now is bringing us this joyous celebration;  
eat and drink in jubilation. [refrain]

**Communion Prayer:** *(stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray.

**C:** O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise & serve your earth & its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Blessing:** P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:** *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #733*

**Vs 1:** Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.

**Refrain:** Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

**Vs 2:** Summer and winter, springtime and harvest; Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above;  
Join with all nature in manifold witness; To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [refrain]

**Vs 3:** Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth; Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today & bright hope for tomorrow; Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside. [refrain]

**Dismissal:** P: Go in peace, share your gifts!

**C:** Thanks be to God!

**Postlude**

**St. Luke Lutheran Church · 308 First Ave. PO Box 276 Goodhue, MN 55027**

**Sunday Worship: 9:30AM · Thursday Zion Worship 7:00PM**

**Pastor Eric Hanson · Cell: 612-834-2149 · E: anspachh2002@gmail.com**

**www.stlukegoodhue.org · P: 651-923-4695 · E: office@stlukegoodhue.org · FB: @stlukegoodhue**

**Organist: Debbi St. John · Administrative Assistant: Tara Marklevits · Treasurer: Sara Nolte**

**Sunday School Coordinator: Nicole Wananda · Youth Ministries Facilitator: OPEN POSITION**

## Stewardship as a Spiritual Practice

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson  
9:30AM • October 22, 2023

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Temple Talk:** *"How have my giving practices shaped me?" by Sue Majerus*

**Greeting:** *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **C: Come Holy Spirit, Come!**

**Confession and Forgiveness:**

P: We confess our sins together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: God of all Mercy, come to our aid. When we hide brokenness and only show you wholeness, forgive us. When we cover shame and guilt with pride and pretense, forgive us. When we point out the speck in our neighbor's eye but ignore the log in our own eye, forgive us. When we choose old, harmful ways of living over new, life-giving ways, forgive us. Transform us by the power of your Spirit, Lord God, and make us New.**

P: Children of God, God loved us even when we were dead in sin, & makes us new through Jesus Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live as people set free. **C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** *"Gather Us In" #532*

**Vs 1:** Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

**Vs 2:** We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

**Vs 3:** Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters; call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

**Vs 4:** Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away--  
here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**Prayer of the Day:** *(you may be seated)*

P: Let us pray.

**C:** God of abundance, you call us to steward our gifts for the sake of your world. Help us to view our time, talents, and treasures as gifts held in trust by us for the sake of others. Give us generous hearts to provide for the needs of our church, community, and world as we seek to fulfill our own needs. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**The Reading:** 1 John 4:7-12

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**