



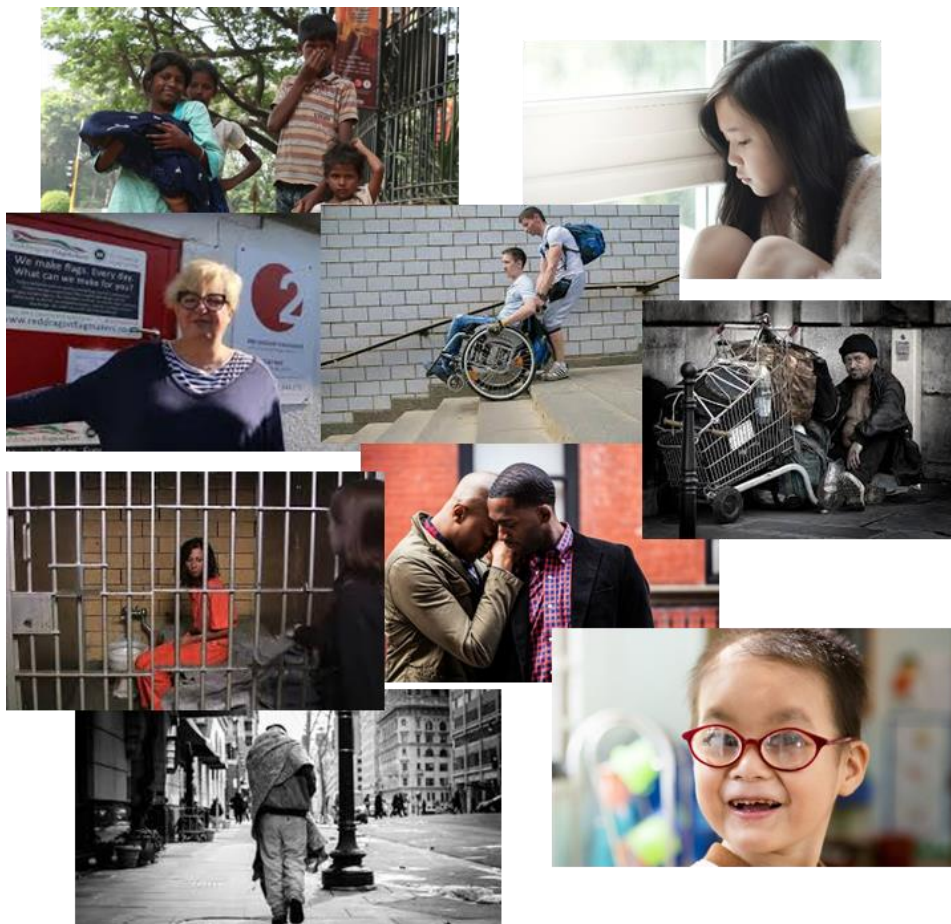
A Congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a *Reconciling in Christ*
congregation, affirming the
diversity of God's children



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Eighth Sunday after PENTECOST



July 26, 2020

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome

Healer of Our Every Ill, arr. Mark Hayes



Hymn

Canticle of the Turning

1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .

God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the

won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.

You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to

weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.

Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

First Reading

Romans 8:26-39 (The Message, alt.)

A reading from St. Paul's letter to the early church at Rome

The moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. God's Spirit does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. The Spirit knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God. That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

God was clear from the very beginning, deciding from the outset to shape the lives of those who love God along the same lines as the life of the Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what God's children should be like, God followed it up by calling people by name. God called them by name, and set and solid relationship between them. And then, after getting them established, God stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what had been begun.

So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and facing the worst by sending God's own Son, is there anything else God wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture:

They kill us in cold blood because they hate you.

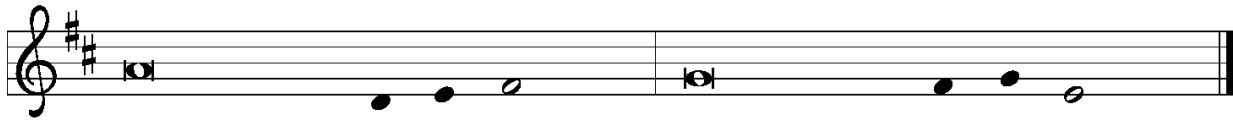
We're sitting ducks; they pick us off one by one.

None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:129-136



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.
When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.
I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.
Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,
as you always do to those who | love your name.
Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.
Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.
My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching.



Gospel Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (Contemporary English Version, alt.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus told the crowd a story:

The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a farmer plants a mustard seed in a field. Although it is the smallest of all seeds, it grows larger than any garden plant and becomes a tree. Birds even come and nest on its branches.

Jesus also said:

The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a woman mixes a little yeast into three big batches of flour. Finally, all the dough rises.”

To his disciples, Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when someone finds a treasure hidden in a field and buries it again. A person like that is happy and goes and sells everything in order to buy that field.

The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a shop owner is looking for fine pearls. After finding a very valuable one, the owner goes and sells everything in order to buy that pearl.

The kingdom of heaven is like what happens when a net is thrown into a lake and catches all kinds of fish. When the net is full, it is dragged to the shore, and the fishermen sit down to separate the fish. They keep the good ones, but throw the bad ones away. That’s how it will be at the end of time. Angels will come and separate the evil people from the ones who have done right. Then those evil people will be thrown into a flaming furnace, where they will cry and grit their teeth in pain.

Jesus asked his disciples if they understood all these things. They said, “Yes, we do.”

So he told them, “Every student of the Scriptures who becomes a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like someone who brings out new and old treasures from the storeroom.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.



OUR DEEPEST FEAR

By Marianne Williamson, A Return to Love, © 1991, Reed Business Information

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness
That most frightens us.

We ask ourselves
Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?
Actually, who are you not to be?
You are a child of God.

Your playing small
Does not serve the world.
There's nothing enlightened about shrinking
So that other people won't feel insecure around you.

We are all meant to shine,
As children do.
We were born to make manifest
The glory of God that is within us.

It's not just in some of us;
It's in everyone.

And as we let our own light shine,
We unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.
As we're liberated from our own fear,
Our presence automatically liberates others.

Ministry of Music

Come Follow Me

Sally Albrecht/Jay Althouse
Senior Choir

The kingdom of heaven is near.
As you have received, so, then must you give.
Be not afraid with the Lord at your side,
For Jesus died, so we may live.

He said, "Come follow me, come follow me.
Come by yourselves to a quiet place.
Come follow me, come follow me."
That someday we may see His face.

Those who are weary, take rest.
Look to Him for comfort, and He will soothe your soul.
For He is gentle and humble in heart,
And Jesus died to make us whole.

He said, "Come follow me, come follow me.
Come by yourselves to a quiet place.
Come follow me, come follow me."
That someday we may see His face.

Apostles Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Lea Spang, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Cora Marquez, Mary Kennedy, Kelly Scott, Diane Louangrath, Sue Baker, Julie Denniss' uncle Ed Stewart, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Amy DeLorenzo, Linda and Don Williams, Pamela Andrews, Val Farnham, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's mother Maryland Belhorn and friend MaryAnn, Laura Warren's brother Walter Hudson and his wife Jan, Bill Boys, Doretha Holland, Dolores Brannigan's husband Dave, Shirley and Jack Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Marshall Edgington and family, family of Bernice Stewart and cousins Bobby Isbell and Deborah Merrill Skiver, family of Betty Shull, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Elyce Herring and family on the death of her grand-niece Denver.

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

Children's Time

Wendy Stoica



WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.
We lift them to the Lord.**

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the beginning, the Spirit brooded time into being, so that God could give form to the world. At the Incarnation, the Spirit breathed God's time into being, so that the world could receive the Word. Through Pentecost, the Spirit brought transformed time into being, so that the Word could meet us everywhere.

Holy God, your Christ sends the Spirit to be a companion to all who follow your Way. As inheritors of both the challenge and the comfort of your Way, we join with all who have made this journey in other places and at other times, raising our voices in this timeless song of praise:

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Entering these gifts of bread and wine, the Spirit blesses this time, and makes Christ alive in this meal to comfort, challenge and transform us. God has prepared a room for us: fire to warm our hearts, water to wash our weary feet, the table set and waiting. And now, from beyond time, the breath of the Spirit comes whispering through the fabric of time to call us in. So come ... whether your time is just beginning or many years in the marking; whether your hours are filled and fruitful or wanting and withered; whether you have invested wisely or buried your coins in the ground; for here at this table, through the power of the Spirit, God's time and our time come together in bread and wine – a place of timeless and timely grace.

We recall how Jesus, drawing near to the end of his time on earth, ate a last meal with his friends. We remember how his words and actions disturbed and dismayed them; but also how he offered them comfort and encouragement for the time to come. We remember that he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this to remember me" And after supper he took a cup, and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

Hear us now as, at this time, we commit ourselves to your Way, and pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

As we share these gifts of grace, may the Holy Spirit take and transform them that we may know both their comfort and their challenge, and so transform ourselves and our time. Here is bread and wine – touched and transformed by the Spirit. Come, eat and drink, and be healed and strengthened for this time and for time to come.

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Spirit, You who mothered creation and enabled Incarnation, continue to form and nurture us as we stumble towards maturity. Spirit, You who led Jesus into the wilderness, stir us out of ease and safety as we follow the way of Christ. Spirit, You who transformed the disciples, grace and gift us for the task of building the beloved community Christ lived, died, and rose for. Spirit, You whom Jesus sends as Friend, continue to comfort and discomfort us until justice prevails, peace reigns and love directs all.

Amen.



WE ARE SENT

Hymn

I Will Change Your Name

G C Dsus4 D

I will change your name,
I will change your name,

G C Dsus D

you shall no long - er be called
your new name shall be

G C D Bm7

wound - ed, out - cast,
con - fi - dence, joy - ful - ness,

C G Dsus D

lone - ly or a - fraid.
o - ver - com - ing one,



Words and Music DJ Butler, © 1987 Mercy Publishing

Blessing

Amen.

Postlude

Ain-a That Good News! arr. John Carter

Our first act of love is to greet those standing near us and around us.

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Adult Sunday School
 10 am Sundays
 Via ZOOM



**THE APOSTLES' CREED
 FOR TODAY**



Birthdays this week:

27 - Tom Mimlitch
 29 - Kathy Mimlitch
 29 - Becky Trover
 31 - Marilyn Roberts



RLC 3D
Gatherings on the Lawn
 Sunday, August 2

Lunch, noon

Wednesday August 5

Coffee, 10:30 am

Phone church office for reservation

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Michelle Clemence
ASL Interpreter	Tori Reed
Reader	Chad Eberle
Children's Time	Wendy Stoica
Cantor	Julie Larson
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent
Producer	Michele Disbro

*Flowers are dedicated by **Julianne Johnson and Sara Auman**
in honor of **Julie's Mom Dody**.*

Noisy Offering will go to Kaleidoscope Youth Center.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER JULY 26 – AUGUST 2

Today	YouTube 10:00 am 4:00 pm	Worship with Holy Communion ZOOM Adult Education Confirmation Class at Pastor Dave's
Tuesday	1:00 pm 7:00 pm 3:00 pm	ZOOM Bible Study ZOOM Journaling Workshop ZOOM Member Care
Saturday	9:00 am 10:00 am	Pick Garden Garden Giveaway
Next Sunday	YouTube 10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion ZOOM Adult Education



Tuesdays 1- 2:30 pm
The Letter of James
We'd love to have you
join us via ZOOM!



Journaling
Workshop
7-8:30 pm
4th Tuesdays
Via ZOOM



RLC Garden Giveaway
Produce from our own garden
and donations from friends and neighbors
Saturday mornings
10 am until gone