



# *Summer Worship*

*Sept. 3, 2023*

*Full Service Bulletin*

**Welcome to Faith and thank you for worshipping with us!**

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## **GATHERING**

### **Prelude**

### **Call to Worship**

### **Gathering Hymn**

“Gather Us In”

ELW #532 vs 1-3

- 1 Here in this place the 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.
  
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,  
we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,  
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.

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.

## Greeting

A: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you!**

A: You are the treasured people of the LORD,

**C: a people holy to the LORD our God.**

A: Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

**C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

## Prayer Requests

A: Any prayer requests?

## The Hymn of Praise “Let the Whole Creation Cry” ELW #876

1 Let the whole creation cry,  
"Glory to the Lord on high!"  
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing,  
"Praise to our almighty king!"  
Praise God, angel hosts above,  
ever bright and fair in love;  
sun and moon, lift up your voice;  
night and stars, in God rejoice.

2 Servants striving for the Lord,  
prophets burning with the word,  
those to whom the arts belong  
add their voices to the song.

Pow'rs of knowledge and of law,  
to the glorious circle draw;  
all who work and all who wait,  
sing, "The Lord is good and  
great!"

3 Men and women, young and old,  
raise the anthem loud and bold,  
and let children's happy hearts  
in this worship take their parts;  
from the north to southern pole  
let the mighty chorus roll:  
"Holy, Holy, Holy One;  
glory be to God alone!"

## Prayer of the Day

A: The Lord be with you.      C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray.

**C: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

## WORD

### First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

*Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."*

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;  
know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy  
and the delight of my heart;  
for I am called by your name,  
O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing,  
my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:  
If you turn back, I will take you back,

and you shall stand before me.  
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.  
It is they who will turn to you,  
not you who will turn to them.  
<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.  
<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

## Psalm

Psalm 26:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.  
<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O LORD, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.**  
<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.  
<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**  
<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.  
<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**  
<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.  
<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

## Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21

*Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While*

*Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: Holy wisdom, holy word.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Kids’ Time**

**Gospel Acclamation** “Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”

WOV #783 vs 1&2

**1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and its righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia.**

**2 Ask and it shall be given unto you;  
seek and you shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluiah!**

## **Gospel**

Matthew 16:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”*

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## Sermon

### Sermon Song

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

ELW #623

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,<br>let me hide myself in thee;<br>let the water and the blood,<br>from thy riven side which flowed,<br>be of sin the double cure;<br>cleans me from its guilt and pow'r. | 3 Nothing in my hand I bring;<br>simply to thy cross I cling.<br>Naked, come to thee for dress;<br>helpless, look to thee for grace;<br>foul, I to the fountain fly;<br>wash me, Savior, or I die.            |
| 2 Not the labors of my hands<br>can fulfill thy law's demands;<br>could my zeal no respite know,<br>could my tears forever flow,<br>all for sin could not atone;<br>thou must save, and thou alone.    | 4 While I draw this fleeting breath,<br>when mine eyelids close in death,<br>when I soar to worlds unknown,<br>see thee on thy judgment throne,<br>Rock of Ages, cleft for me,<br>let me hide myself in thee. |

## Response to the Word (*Creed*)

WOV p.49

A: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

A: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by The power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

### *Confession & Forgiveness*

P: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith; *Jude 20*

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.**

P: Keep yourselves in the love of God; *Jude 21*

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: *2 Cor. 5:17*

**C: Everything old has passed away; behold everything has become new!**

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

### *Silence for reflection and self examination.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: The almighty and merciful God grants you pardon, forgiveness, and release from all your sins.

**C: Amen**

## **The Prayers of the Church (A.M.)**

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict (*especially*). Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor (*especially*). Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

## **Passing of the Peace**

**P:** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.      **C: And also with you.**

## **The Offering**

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

ELW #689

**1 Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer  
for all things living, you have made good:  
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**



**2 God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,  
that with our neighbor we may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,  
harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**3 Father, providing food for your children,  
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share  
one with another, so that, rejoicing  
with us, all others may know your care.**

**4 Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,  
freely confessing your gracious hand.  
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;  
your love sustaining showers the land.**

### **Offering Prayer**

**A:** Let us pray. Merciful God,

**C:** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our  
selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.  
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen

## **MEAL**

### **Words of Institution**

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed, ...

... almighty Father, now and forever.

**C:** Amen

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4

**P:** Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C:** 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

- 1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,  
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.  
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me  
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.  
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,  
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;  
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,  
where at last I'll find eternal rest.
  
- 2 Day by day, I know you will provide me  
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;  
I will seek your loving will to guide me  
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.  
I will fear no evil of the morrow,  
I will trust in your enduring grace.  
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow  
till in glory I behold your face.
  
- 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me  
when my burdens grow too great to bear;  
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me  
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.  
Day by day, no matter what betide me,  
you will hold me ever in your hand.  
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,  
I will reach at last the promised land.

**“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”****ELW #656**

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above.
  
- 2 Before our Father's throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are  
one,  
our comforts and our cares.

3 We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.

4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship  
reign  
through all eternity.

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## SENDING

### Post-Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ nourish your soul and fill you with his grace now and forever!

C: Amen

### Post-Communion Canticle (*sung*)

WOV p.40

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.  
Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.**

### Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen**

## **Benediction**

P: Go from this meal knowing that God blesses you and keeps you.  
That God's face shines on you and is gracious to you.  
That God looks on you with great favor and gives you peace.

**C: Amen**

## **Announcements**

### **Sending Song**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

ELW #879

1 For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

#### *Refrain*

Christ, our God, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,  
sun and moon and stars of light: *Refrain*

3 For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight: *Refrain*

4 For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above;  
for all gentle thoughts and mild: *Refrain*

5 For each perfect gift of thine,  
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;  
for thyself, best gift divine,  
to our world so freely giv'n: *Refrain*

## **Dismissal**

A: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

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