

Order of Worship for August 22nd, 2021

Season of Pentecost

Prelude by Shirley Bergman

Welcome

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand if you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.**

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, ☩ the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN: ELW 758 You Are the Way

GREETING

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

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

A reading from Joshua

1Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. 2aAnd Joshua said to all the people, 14"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

16Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; 17for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; 18and the Lord drove

out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 34:15-22

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous. (Ps. 34:15)

15The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,
and God's ears are open to their cry.

**16The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

17The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.

**18The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves those whose spirits are crushed. R**

19Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from every one.

**20God will keep safe all their bones;
not one of them shall be broken.**

21Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**22O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

10Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. 11Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. 15As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. 16With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

18Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. 19Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, 20for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Gospel Acclamation from ELW Setting 3 (Alleluia)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 6:56-69

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows

something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

The holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] 56"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." 59He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

60When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" 61But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? 62Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. 64But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. 65And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

66Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. 67So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" 68Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

The Assembly is seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: HOD 810 O Jesus I have Promised

Apostles' Creed

Please stand if you are able

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. We pray especially for the people of Haiti as they deal with the aftermath of a devastating hurricane.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. We pray especially for the people of Afghanistan as they face the Taliban takeover of their government. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. Grant comfort to all who mourn, and healing to all who are in any kind of need, especially Stephanie Winklepleck, Dennis Bushkofsky, and all who we name in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of healing, as the pandemic worsens, we pray for patience and endurance. We are tired of Covid precautions, but we pray that you inspire us to care for our neighbors through our behavior. As hospitals across the USA once again fill up, we pray for all health care workers, especially those who feel overwhelmed. We pray for all who are sick, that you would grant them healing. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. We pray for all students and all school staff members as they begin their school year during this stressful time. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us, especially those we honored at our memorial service yesterday-- Ron Bushkofsky, Wilbur (Bud) Marsh, Mary Jo Sullivan, Marilyn Schulz, Mike Peters, Lavon Lux, Mary Ann Shatzer Staples, Darlene Bronner, Julie Truog, and Doris LeBahn. Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY from ELW Setting 3

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

Friends of Jesus, receive nourishment for your journey. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The assembly is seated. All are invited to come forward and receive the bread and wine. Individual packages are also available. If you do not feel comfortable coming forward to receive communion, Pastor will bring it to your seat.

Please stand if you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. **Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.**

Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 620 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds vs.1-3

The assembly is seated.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

And have fun doing it.

We will! Amen!

Postlude by Shirley Bergman

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Attendance 8/15/21:20
8/8/21
Current: \$7,596.03
Bank Loan: \$0.00 Balance :)

Offering:8/15/21
Current: \$1,385
Benevolence: \$187
Improvement: \$85

Military members: Jordan Leach is home from Sheppard AFB TX. Both he and Justin are at the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City, IA. If you know of anyone else serving in the armed forces, please contact the church office (secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org) or (827-6626). We'd like to remember them in our prayers.

Service Time Change: Starting September 5th, Worship Service Times will move to 10am.

Ushers Needed: We are looking for individuals and families to add to our usher pool. You will be trained or paired with a mentor. If it happens that you cannot usher for the date you signed, please contact a substitute or Wayne Schneider, head usher 2waynester@gmail.com.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits: For many years, American Lutheran has prepared backpack school kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief which we would like to continue again this year. Beginning in September, Intergenerational Sunday School will begin with the Sunday School children interacting with the older adults of the congregation. One of the first projects will be making the backpacks for the School Kits. A Thrivent Action Team grant has been received to purchase the fabric for the backpacks. Sunday, September 19th will begin the construction phase of the backpacks. Please see the bulletin and Lamp for more information regarding this new concept.

Supplies are needed to fill the backpacks. Back to School sales have begun with parents beginning to shop for the supplies needed for their children. We are requesting that, as you shop, you also include purchasing some of the supplies needed to fill our backpacks. Our goal is to make and fill 30 backpacks. Please see the bulletin board in the Upper Narthex to take a colored slip of paper or two of items that are needed to place in the backpacks. A table will be set up in the Upper Narthex to place your donations. Or you may leave them at the home of Shirley Bergman at 1115 6th Street. We are asking that supplies be brought by

Sunday, September 26th. Thank you for your continued support of this mission support program.

- 70 sheet 8x10 ½ notebooks, wide or college rule
- black or blue ballpoint pens – no gel ink
- 30 cm ruler, or ruler with cm and inches
- unsharpened #2 pencils with eraser
- box of 16 or 24 crayons
- blunt scissors
- pencil sharpeners
- erasers 2 ½"

Treasurer Position: We are still looking for a council treasurer as well. We have had contact with the synod to help alleviate some of the responsibilities. If anyone is interested in the position please let us know. Thank you, Church Council.

Council Minutes: Council minutes are included in the Lamps that are published at the end of each month. They are also posted to the ALC website upon approval at council meetings, the 2nd Monday of each month.

Prayer Shawl: extending an invitation for anyone who would like to join the Prayer Shawl ministry that meets on Tuesdays, 10-12 PM at American Lutheran Church. New members who enjoy fellowship while knitting and crocheting are welcome. The shawls and blankets will be shared with those who are ill, grieving, and in need of comfort.

Youth Group: All youth ages 5th grade through senior in high school are invited to join ALC's Youth Group. This year's theme is "Glow: Let your Light Shine" and we'll be planning monthly fun events to build community within the youth at ALC. Contact Sara Borland (319-230-8223) or Beth Stanek (319-427-4453) if you'd like to get involved. Adult members are also welcome to participate and plan events. We love all ideas and participation!

Youth Group: Our next youth group event will be Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 6 pm in the fellowship hall at ALC. We'll be having a "unique" supper, minute-to-win-it games, and hear about the National Youth Gathering from the Hoey family. This youth event will take the

place of regular Confirmation class that evening. Please let Sara or Beth know if you're planning to attend so we know how much food to plan.