

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for Aug 16, 2020

The Season After Pentecost

Welcome by Pastor Kristen

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 67

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)

1May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.

2Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

3Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

4Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth. R

5Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

6The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.

7May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. R

Psalm song: The Earth has Yielded its Harvest (Psalm 67) by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

**The earth has yielded its harvest
Our covenant God has blessed us
And the whole earth, the whole earth is in awe
And the whole earth, the whole earth is in awe**

**You shine your face on creation
The grace of your way is in us
And all people, all people sing for joy
And all people, all people sing for joy**

**The earth has yielded its harvest
These lands sing a song of justice
May we live true and live truly in awe
May we live true and live truly in awe**

Children's Sermon

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

1 Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

6 And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

7 these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer

for all peoples.
8 Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Sermon

Hymn: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.

- 2 Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power
to our world to make it whole.

- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,

till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.

- 4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

Prayers of Intercession

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.

Lord, you call the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Lord, all of creation is in your care. We pray for all who were affected by the huge windstorm earlier this week, especially those whose homes, businesses, and livelihoods received extensive damage. Grant encouragement and endurance for all who are part of the storm clean-up efforts. Bring hope for the difficult days ahead. Bring healing to your earth. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Grant wisdom to all political leaders, that they might make decisions that work for the good of all people, especially those most affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Bless the work of researchers, scientists, and medical

personnel as they work to find treatments, cures, and vaccines for the coronavirus.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and towns. We pray for all immigrants, refugees, and exiles. We pray for those who need your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation grace to find our life refreshed in you. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name, whatever that might look like in this continued pandemic. Help us to feel your presence among us wherever we are. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. 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.

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.

Song: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Blessing

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ☩ Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**
And have fun doing it. **We will! Amen!**

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BY THE NUMBERS

Check Register Balance 7/17/2020: \$17,347.62

Operating Bank Loan: \$5,862.27

PPP Loan Balance: \$16,984

Offering: 8/9/2020

Current: \$2,475

Benevolence: \$32

Improvement: \$85

Debt Reduction: \$100

ANNOUNCEMENT

Lutheran World Relief School Kits: It is that time of year again when stores have an abundance of school supplies for the coming academic year and parents are busy shopping for these supplies. The Sunday newspapers have sale flyers with their Back to School specials. Although the coming school year may be a bit different from what we are accustomed to, the need for school supplies remains. The same is true for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. For many years, American Lutheran has prepared many backpack school kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief which we would like to continue again this year. Despite the coronavirus pandemic the need for these does not go away. Therefore, we are asking for donations of supplies to meet a goal of 25 backpacks. The requested items needed are:

- 70 sheet wide or college-ruled spiral bound notebooks (4 are needed per backpack)
- 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with cms on one side & inches on the other (1 per backpack)
- Small pencil sharpener (1 per backpack)
- Pair of blunt scissors (1 per backpack)
- Blue or black ballpoint pens (no gel ink) (5 needed per backpack)

- Box of 16 or 24 crayons (1 per backpack)
- 2 ½ inch pencil eraser (1 per backpack)

Heavy-duty cotton fabric is needed to make the backpacks. If you would like to donate money toward the purchase of this material, you may do so by placing funds in an envelope referencing the Lutheran World Relief School Kit project and given to Mike Waring, Financial Secretary. If more money is collected than needed for the school kits, it will be directed to purchase needed materials for the LWR quilts that are made each year. The Quilters of our congregation will be making the drawstring backpacks in which to place the school kits.

Since the church building is currently closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, supplies can be dropped off at the home of Mary Adams, 1215 Hawley Street, Jesup. A table will be set up in the garage just inside the walk-in door for drop off. She can be reached at 827-3365 or (319) 269-3478 if you need to call.

Items will be needed by October 15th and will be packed up and taken to the Fall In-Gathering scheduled for November 7th. Thank you for your continued support of this annual fall project.