

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for Aug 9, 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

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Psalm 85:8-13

8I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

9Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.

10Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

13Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Psalm song: Heaven and Earth by Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan

Chorus: Heaven and earth will meet and marry

Heaven and earth together

- 1. Pure justice kissing peace, oh, finally harmony
Sky reaches, touching ground, oh, all things in unity**

Chorus

- 2. Pure goodness pours like rain, oh, faithfulness sprouts and thrives
Revive your peoples' joy, oh, healing for every tribe**

Chorus

- 3. All things in harmony, oh, sky reaches touching ground
Wherever there are two, oh, may only love be done**

Chorus

Children's Sermon

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

22[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Sermon

Hymn: Eternal Father, Strong to Save

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

- 2 O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

- 3 O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

- 4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
all trav'lers guard in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and sea.**

Service of Healing

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign that the kingdom of God has come near. He then sent the disciples to continue this work of healing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing. I invite you to call to mind someone you know of who is in need of healing-- whether it's a family member or friend, a group of people, or yourself.

At this time, I invite you to draw a cross on your forehead as a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God. As you draw the cross, hold in your mind the person who needs healing, as we pray:

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, send your Holy Spirit upon your servants who are in need of healing; drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken; deliver them from the power of evil; and preserve them in true faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve you with all the saints now and evermore.

Amen.

Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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.

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Guide the work of scientists, researchers, and medical professionals as they seek treatments, cures, and vaccines for COVID-19. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness meet, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. Guide policy makers at every level to make wise decisions that help all people, and especially those that are most vulnerable during this time of pandemic. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will be saved. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who

are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. We pray for those suffering this day, especially those suffering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For our congregation, which is gathered virtually during this strange time. Sustain us with health and endurance as we await the end of this pandemic. We pray for those who are new to this community, for students and teachers preparing for a new school year, and for those struggling with unexpected hardship and stressful decisions. Supply us generously with your grace, that we may support all who are in need. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. Comfort all who mourn, and sustain us with the hope of everlasting life with you. 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: I Have Love to Share

I have love to share with the whole wide world
And I start with loving myself
When I take good care of my heart and soul
I have love for everyone else

I love me so I can love you
God loves me so I can love you

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!**

Liturgy is from sundaysandseasons.com.
Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
License for streaming through OneLicense.net.

Scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Heaven and Earth (Psalm 85) Copyright 2020 by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, psalmimmersion.com.

I Have Love to Share by Amanda Meisenheimer, Copyright 2020 by Illustrated Ministry.

BY THE NUMBERS

Check Register Balance 7/17/2020: \$16,162.79

Operating Bank Loan: \$6,065.00

PPP Loan Balance: \$16,984

Current: \$2,441

Benevolence: \$212

Improvement: \$85

Debt Reduction: \$100

School Kits: \$25

Parsonage Internet: \$60

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.