

# **Worship in the time of COVID-19**

## **An order of worship for June 28, 2020**

### **The Season After Pentecost**

**Welcome by Pastor Kristen**

**Call to Worship: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18**

1Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

2**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

3“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

4**‘I will establish your line forever,  
and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”**

15Happy are the people who know the festal shout!

They walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

16**They rejoice daily in your name;  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

17For you are the glory of their strength,  
and by your favor our might is exalted.

18**Truly, our shield belongs to the Lord;  
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

**Psalm Song: We Will Sing, by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan**

**Chorus: We will sing forever of your covenant love,  
we will sing for always of your faithfulness**

- 1. Your love will stand strong like the sky stands strong  
We will sing again and again  
Your promise grows deep like a seed grows deep  
Deep enough to hold our children**
- 2. Your people sing strong like a horn blows strong  
Living in the light of your way**

**Our struggle goes on, all of life goes on  
As you claim us, day after day**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

### **Children's Sermon**

#### **Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] 40“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. 41Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; 42and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

### **Sermon**

#### **Song: Sanctuary**

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you

### **Offering Reflection**

During this time of pandemic and social distancing, when it feels like everything has changed, we give thanks for God’s unchanging love for us. God continues to be generous with God’s love, care, and comfort. And we continue to respond out of thankfulness, with generosity of our own.

During these summer months, our congregation is participating in two important ministries with the Jesup Ministerial Association. We have our Summer Food Program, which, every other week, provides large boxes of food for families in our community. We also have our Jesup Community-Wide Vacation Bible School, which will look different this year than in years past. We will have an online program, with supplies and video-led activities provided for all participating families. If you would like to donate to either of these ministries, you may give through the church, marking “Summer Food Program” or “VBS” on your donation.

Offering may be given through the church website, [americanlutheranjesup.org](http://americanlutheranjesup.org), under the “support ALC” tab, or mailed to the church at PO box 286, Jesup, IA 50648.

We know that this pandemic has been hard on a lot of us financially, so if you need help, I encourage you to reach out. And if you are able to continue in or even grow your giving during this time, thank you for your generosity.

And so, as we reflect on all the ways that we give to God what God has first given us, we pray:

### **Offering Prayer**

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Nourish us with signs of your abundant grace, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

God of companionship, encourage our relationships with our siblings in Christ. Bless our conversations. Shape our shared future and give us hearts eager to join in shouts of praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of abundance, you make your creation thrive and grow to provide all that we need. Inspire us to care for our environment and be attuned to where the earth is crying out. Guide the work of scientists and researchers, especially those who are seeking treatments, cures, and vaccines for Covid-19. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, your grace is poured out for all. Inspire authorities, judges, and politicians to act with compassion. Teach us to overcome fear with hope, meet hate with love, and welcome one another as we would welcome you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of care, accompany all who are in deepest need. Comfort those who are sick, lonely, or abandoned, especially those who are suffering from the coronavirus. Strengthen those who are in prison or awaiting trial. Provide support for those who have lost jobs. Renew the spirits of all who call upon you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of community, we give thanks for this congregation. Give us passion to embrace your mission and the vision to recognize where you are leading us. Teach us how to live more faithfully. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you gather in your embrace all who have died. Comfort all who mourn, especially Tom and Kaye Jones and their family as they mourn the death of Tom's mother. Keep us all steadfast in our faith and renew our trust in your promise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; 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.**

### **Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story**

1 I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story,  
because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else would do.

#### *Refrain*

I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story:  
how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story  
that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

## **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. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Check Register Balance 6/26/2020: \$15,867.83**

**Operating Bank Loan: \$8,865**

**PPP Loan Balance: \$16,984**

**Current Fund: \$1,570**

**Benevolence: \$32**

**Improvement: \$85**

**Summer Food Program: \$50**

**Debt reduction: \$100**