

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for Aug 2, 2020

The Season After Pentecost

Prelude by Shirley Bergman

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

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

8The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

9Lord, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.

14The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

15The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.

16You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

17You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.

18You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

19You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;

you hear their cry and save them.
20You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.
21My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

13Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. 14When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. 15When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." 16Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." 17They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." 18And he said, "Bring them here to me." 19Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. 20And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. 21And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Children's Sermon/Sermon

Instrumental Music by Shirley Bergman

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, using waves or peace signs.

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.

You take resources that appear to be meager, bless them, and there is enough. May your church trust that what you bless and ask us to share with the world is abundantly sufficient. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all. Reverse the damage we have caused your creation. Replenish ground water supplies, provide needed rains in places of drought, and protect forests from wildfires. Guide scientists, researchers, and all medical professionals who are seeking treatments, cures, and vaccines for Covid-19. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You offer yourself to all the nations and peoples of the earth, inviting everyone to abundant life. Bring the prophetic vision to fullness, that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find their joy in you. Guide all government leaders to make wise decisions to care for all, especially those who are vulnerable during this time of pandemic. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Hear the anguish of tender hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest needs. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind, especially all those affected by Covid-19. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You offer freely the fullness of salvation. Give our congregation a welcoming heart, that our words and actions may show compassion and care for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You gather your saints as one, united in the body of Jesus. Bring us with all your saints to the heavenly banquet. We remember with love and thanksgiving the saints we have known. 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.

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Receive the body of Christ, given for you.

Receive the blood of Christ, shed for you.

All are invited to eat and drink the communion elements they brought with them. If desired, individuals from the same household may serve each other.

Prayer after Communion

God of the welcome table,

in this meal we have feasted on your goodness

and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

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. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

And have fun doing it.

We will! Amen!

Postlude by Shirley Bergman

BY THE NUMBERS

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

Operating Bank Loan: \$6,065.00

PPP Loan Balance: \$16,984

Current Fund: \$1,455

Benevolence: \$32

Improvement: \$85

Usher: Mike Waring

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.