

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for Sept 20, 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

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 145:1-8

1I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

**2Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

3Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

**4One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

5I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

**6They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

7They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;

they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

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

Bless Your Unspeakable Name (Psalm 145) by Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan

Verse 1:

You, you overflow with tenderness

Wash the world so clean that all is drenched in grateful song

You, you overflow with tenderness

Let everything and everyone, everywhere and always

Refrain:

Bless your unspeakable name forever and ever

Bless your unspeakable name forever and ever

Verse 2:

You, your pattern stretches everywhere,

weaves through everything. Together nothing is alone.

You, your pattern stretches everywhere

Let everything and everyone, everywhere and always ***Refrain***

Verse 3:

We belong to you together one

so we have no peace until our hearts find rest in you

We belong to you together one

Let everything and everyone, everywhere and always ***Refrain***

Children's Sermon

Psalm Reflections by Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan

Hymn ELW 886, O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and
King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2 My gracious Master and my
God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth
abroad
the honors of your name.

3 The name of Jesus charms our
fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's
ears,
brings life and health and
peace.

4 He speaks, and list'ning to his
voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts
rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

5 Look unto him, your Savior
own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith
alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and
love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints
above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Offering Reflection from Pr. Mark Anderson, Assistant to the Bishop of the NE IA Synod

Prayers of Intercession

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Generous God, you make the last first, and the first last. Where this gospel challenges the church, equip it for its works of service. Strengthen those who

suffer for Christ. Empower all churches to do your work, even in this time of pandemic when churches face uncertainty. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sun and wind, bushes and worms, cattle and great cities—nothing in creation is outside your concern, mighty God. In your mercy, tend to it all. Give us a spirit of generosity toward all you have made. Bring healing to the parts of your earth that suffer from natural disasters, especially windstorms, drought, wildfires, and hurricanes. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Where we find envy and create enemies, you provide enough for all. Bring peace to places of conflict and violence. Inspire leaders with creativity and wisdom. Bless the work of negotiators, peacekeepers, development workers, and all who cry out for justice. Grant wisdom and compassion to leaders at every level of government, so that they make wise decisions that work for the good of all people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Reveal yourself to all in need as you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, ready to relent from punishing. Accompany judges and lawyers, victims of crime and those serving sentences. Give fruitful labor and a livelihood to those seeking work. Protect educators, medical workers, and all essential workers during this time of pandemic. Guide the work of researchers who are seeking treatments and vaccines for Covid-19. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Even beyond our expectations, you choose to give generously. Grant life, health, and courage to all who are in need. We pray especially for all who are suffering from Covid-19, and for all who are mourning those who have died from Covid-19. Bring healing to the sick and comfort to the grieving. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We praise you for the generations that have declared your power to us. Give us faithfulness to follow them, living for Christ, until you call us to join them in the joyful song around his throne. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through 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 ELW 629, Abide With Me

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.

The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,

help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

3 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me!

5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes,
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heav'n's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

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 9/18/2020
\$10,763.89
Operating Bank Loan: \$5,662.27
PPP Loan Balance: \$16,984

Offering: 9/13/2020
Current: \$3,060
Benevolence: \$453
Improvement: \$85
Lutheran Disaster Relief: \$300
Lutheran World Relief: \$9
Debt Reduction: \$100
Memorial: \$177

EWALU Fall Work Days Sept. 26 and Oct. 24

Volunteers are invited to Camp EWALU to help with a variety of outdoor service projects. Days start at 9:00 a.m. Sack lunch provided. Please RSVP to camp@ewalu.org or call 563-933-4700.

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.