

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for Aug 23, 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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 138

**1I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.**

**2I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of
your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

**3When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.**

**4All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

**5They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.**

**6The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

**7Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand
shall save me.**

8You will make good your purpose for me;

O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Psalm song: Walking Through Trouble (Psalm 138) by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

**I'm walking through trouble
You're holding on
I'm walking through trouble
You're holding on Keep holding on**

Verse 1:

With all my heart I bow and give you thanks
Thanks for the outrageous love we're in
The day I called your word surpassed your fame
Thanks for the outrageous love we're in

Verse 2:

With all your heart you bow and come in close
Loving all who're poor and needing help
The day I called I felt my courage grow
Loving all who're poor and needing help

Verse 3:

We're in it deep; you've got us in your hands
shaping us in your forever love
Please don't let go; keep working through your plans
shaping us in your forever love

Children's Sermon

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

13Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" **14**And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the

prophets.” 15He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” 17And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. 18And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” 20Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Sermon

Hymn: God of Grace and God of Glory

**God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days,**

**3 Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

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.

Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We thank you for your constant presence with us during this time of pandemic, when so many things are in upheaval. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and health care workers who are seeking cures, treatments, and vaccines for COVID-19.

Encourage educators and students, as they begin a school year that looks different in many ways. Bless congregations who are worshiping you in new ways. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have been affected by the derecho storm. We pray for comfort and peace as they continue to clean up after the devastation. Guide them as they figure out how to move on. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. 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: Light the Fire

- 1. I stand to praise you but I fall on my knees
My spirit is willing but my flesh is so weak**

**Chorus: So light the fire (light the fire) in my soul (in my weary soul)
Fan the flames (fan the flames) make me whole (make my spirit whole)
Lord, you know (Lord, you know) where I've been (where I've been)
So light the fire in my heart again**

- 2. I feel your arms around me as the power of your healing begins
Your spirit moves through me like a mighty rushing wind**

Chorus

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 8/21/2020: 15,497.87

Operating Bank Loan: \$5,662.27

PPP Loan Balance: No charge

Offering: 8/9/2020

Current: \$1,170

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.