

August 23, 2020

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Joint Worship to be the church together.

Voices from all congregations – Hope, Augustana, First Lutheran
Worship broadcast via radio and YouTube. YouTube links found on:

www.hopeff.org www.augustanalutheran.org

www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

RINGING OF THE BELL

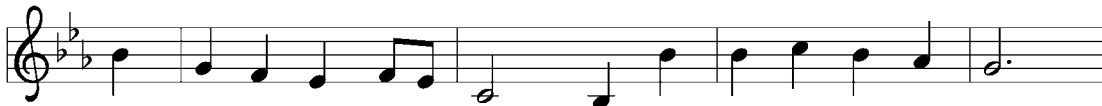
PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

We All Are One in Mission

HYMN # 576, v.1,3



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **✝** one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **✝** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

KRISTY WICKLUND

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And 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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"Who Is Jesus?"

PASTOR GRETCHEN ENOCH



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

HYMN #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

COMMUNION

This is the Lord's Table, all are welcome here. In your home is an ordinary table now set apart and holy, Christ is present there. All are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper, wherever you may be.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, throughout the generations you have come to be present with us at our tables, turning ordinary meals into holy moments for us to experience your grace in tangible ways. In an upper room of a guest house 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.

The body of Christ given for you. *(all share in eating the bread)*

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.

The blood of Christ shed for you. *(all sharing in drinking of the cup)*

Together as the body of Christ, trusting that the distance that separates us is bridged by the Holy Spirit who makes us one, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together

HYMN #471, V.1

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees. When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN*Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good***HYMN #871, V.1,4**

1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, the au - thor of cre -
 2 What your al - might - y pow'r has made, in mer - cy you are
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
 4 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, give God the praise and



a - tion! O God of love, you un - der - stood our need for
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade, your eye is
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with
 glo - ry! Let all God's sav - ing pow'r pro - claim; give God the



your sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our souls you fill;
 nev - er sleep - ing; in the do - min - ion of your might
 peace to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord,
 praise and glo - ry! Cast ev - 'ry i - dol from its throne;



all our la - ment with peace you still.
 all things are just and good and right. To God all praise and glo - ry!
 who is by one and all a - dored.
 God is the Lord, and God a - lone:

Text: Johann J. Schütz, 1640–1690; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, adapt.
 Music: LOBT GOTT DEN HERREN, IHR, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

DISMISSAL**Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

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FIRST LUTHERAN ANNOUNCEMENTS SUNDAY AUGUST 23, 2020

Church phone number 739-3348 and email office@flcff.org

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Darlene Berge in celebration of her August birthday.

The flowers on the altar are provided by Bob & Mary Gaabo in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary.

Today, Sunday, August 23 at 11:00 a.m. there will be an Outdoor Confirmation Service for 9th graders and their families. This service will be livestreamed to our website. In case of rain, the service will be postponed until August 30.

Please keep the family and friends of Lucille A. Anderson in prayer. Lucille passed away on August 17, 2020.

Outdoor Music today, Sunday August 23 at 6:00 p.m. at the Augustana Parking Lot, 308 East Douglas. Pastor David Strom's band *Motu!* will be performing. Social distancing and masks required – bring a lawn chair or listen from your vehicle. (FYI - no food or beverage allowed, and no restroom access) In case of inclement weather check Augustana's Facebook page.

Join us at First on Thursday, August 27th at 8:30 p.m. for a drive-in movie. Due to licensing, we cannot give out the title, but the movie is about a city full of different animals and the title starts with a 'Z'. So bring your popcorn, drinks, and movie candy and drive into the upper parking lot for a fun way to enjoy one of the last days of summer! Everyone welcome!

A congregational survey regarding return to in-person worship has been developed by the Discipleship Committee. The survey is posted in the Weekly Blast or can be found at: www.flcff.org/covid-survey. Copies have also been enclosed with the bulletin to those who receive their bulletin in the mail. If you would like to have a copy mailed to you, please call the office at 739-3348. We appreciate your input on this survey!

First Lutheran, Hope & Augustana will continue to provide worship opportunities with Holy Communion on Sunday mornings. All worship services are closed to the public, but will be live streamed on YouTube and on-air on KJK AM 1020 or Channel 977 FM97.7 at 9:30 am. Services are also being aired on PEG Access Channel 8, check the schedule for times.

We will continue to hold online worship. The Smart Team is working on a plan regarding return to worship and other church activities. We will provide updates as they are available. The church building is open from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and the office will be staffed during these times, as we are able. Church and public meetings can be held, with the following guidelines: groups of 10 or less, being aware of physical distancing, masks required, sanitization of the room after the meeting.

If you have a pastoral care emergency, you can contact Pastor Gretchen at 218-321-0995. Please continue to call (leave a message) and email with questions or concerns. Phone: 218-739-3348, Email: office@flcff.org, or check our website firstlutheranchurchff.org for updates.

A Women's Bible Study is being planned for this Fall! We are looking at a socially distanced meeting at the church on either Monday at 6:00 p.m. or Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. The study would be on a book from the New Testament, and led by Pastor Gretchen. If you are interested, please contact the office (739-3348 or office@flcff.org) and indicate your time preference. We will be in touch when plans are finalized.

Men's Bible Study - We are exploring interest in a Men's Bible Study this Fall. The study would be socially distanced, and on Tuesday or Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. Please contact Pastor Gretchen if you are interested: pastorg@flcff.org or call 218 321-0995.

A wheelchair has been donated to the church. If you need a wheelchair, please call the office at 739-3348 so we can arrange to get the wheelchair to you.

We appreciate your on-going support of the ministry of First Lutheran Church. Your gifts may be mailed to the church at 402 South Court Street, or you can visit the website firstlutheranchurchff.org and click donate on the upper right corner and set up your donation plan. Any questions, please call the office 739-3348.

Our NWMN Synodical Women's Organization continues their work for women's programs, conferences, LWR updates, etc. during this time of the Coronavirus. Because we are not meeting, our offerings are not collected. Please prayerfully consider making a financial donation to First Lutheran WELCA. Funds will be divided between our local WELCA, Conference 7 and the Synod. Your check should be made out to First Lutheran WELCA, and mailed to the church (402 South Court Street). Thanks!

Meals by Wheels will be delivered by First Lutheran the week of September 8-11 (no delivery on September 7). Sign-up by contacting Jennifer at (call or text) 701 238-0276 or email to 77jennifer@msn.com. This service in our community is needed now more than ever with many seniors and those with underlying health conditions taking extra precautions to avoid exposure. Thank you!!

Financial Update: As of August 17, 2020, year-to-date revenue: \$308,983, year-to-date budget \$335,450.