

Pentecost Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

August 23, 2020

Worship Service

Print = Pastor or Worship Leader

Bold = Congregation

♪ = Sing



In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

GATHERING

LIGHT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

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.

A word spoken, a voice heard,

A dream revealed, a mission received.

God calls, again and again.

God beckons us to follow.

To love, to serve.

To give, again and again.

God invites us to embrace the lonely,

To feed the hungry, to tell the Good News of Jesus.

To love and serve, and to sing praise all our days.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray together,

God, our guide and our protector, as we gather today in this sacred space, open our minds and souls and hearts that we may be inclined to hear the gentle direction of your Spirit in our lives. Help us, we pray, to follow you as you lead us to the place you have created for us. Forgive us, where we have fallen short of your will for us and renew our troubled spirit with the assurance of your love and mercy.

As a little boy offered five loaves and two fish to feed a multitude, we gather in this time of worship to offer our gifts to our God and one another. With God's blessing, may our gifts be transformed as water and bread, justice and peace. Let us rejoice in the sacred love we share with humanity.

In the name of Jesus. Amen



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together the 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.

WORD

The First Lesson is from Isaiah in the 51st chapter.

Isaiah 51:1-6 OT Page #756

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.



1 Listen 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. 2 Look 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. 3 For 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. 4 Listen 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. 5 I 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. 6 Lift 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The psalm for today is **Psalm 138** will you please read it responsively with me.

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)

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

**I 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.**

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

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

They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty | from afar.**

Though 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.

**You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

The Second Lesson is from the 12th chapter of **Romans**

Romans 12:1-8 NT Page #168

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.

I 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 16:13-20 NT Page #18

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.

MESSAGE

OFFERING

We also encourage those who are able to continue to make their faithful, generous offerings to FAITH. We know that some will be unable to do this, especially if they lose their jobs or work hourly in an industry that has been hard-hit by this situation. If you are able those offerings can be mailed to the church.

PRAYER

Then enter into a time of prayer, sharing in prayer requests that you have received and praying for those specifically.

CLOSING

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

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.**

PEACE

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISH CANDLE

