

THE 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

St. John American Lutheran Church + ELCA + Sioux Falls, SD + 09-12/13-2020

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST!

Jesus does not call us for the smug complacency of the elect, the saved, and the fulfilled but rather for the struggle and adventure of the transformed, the challenged, and the called. To be called of Christ means to be challenged by him, to venture forth into lives that we would not have had had Jesus had not summoned us. To follow Jesus into the world will not necessarily be a stroll through the park. It may very well stretch you in ways you could never imagine.

GATHERING MUSIC Jacob Huber, Jane Kurth, Brenda Olson

INVOCATION

L In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

A silence is kept.

L Merciful God:

C **We come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

L The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to you, + "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

C **Amen.**

HYMN

No. 720 (Red Hymnal)

"We Are Called"

1.

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God. (Refrain)

Refrain

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

2.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and blindness will be no more. (Refrain)

3.

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love. (Refrain)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C **Gracious God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

Pastor Paul

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYER CONCERNS

- **Thanks to Rebel's Internship Committee:**
Tondi Sorenson, Daniel Hooks, Darin Palmer, Rachel Spier, JoAnn Wagner, Lance Jeschke, Theresa Schwarzhoff, Ryan McCormick
- **Sending Liturgy for Intern Pastor Rebel Hurd**

SCRIPTURE READING & SERMON

Intern Pastor Rebel Hurd

John 14.1-14

HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 536 (Red Hymnal)

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

1.

God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherds care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again. (Refrain)

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

2.

**God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely
hide you, daily manna still provide you; God be with
you till we meet again. (Refrain)**

3.

**God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils
thick confound you, put unfailing arms around you;
God be with till we meet again. (Refrain)**

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**C We believe in God, our Creator – who works in the hidden
stillness of every dawn; who beckons us to visit the tomb
of our fears so we might discover the birth of hope; who
sends reoccurring dreams, fragrant flowers, good friends
and shining angels with messages of joy and possibility.**

**We believe in Jesus, our Savior – who meets us on every
path; who greets us with respect, names and calms our
fears, and bids us walk and talk as children of the Light;
who is always going before us as we walk through this
world.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit – who gathers us into a
kindred community; who works through the lame and the
late, the wrinkled and the newborn, the hurting and the
hopeful; who nudges our prayers, kindles our longings
and prompts our praise.**

**We believe we are called to be Easter people –
challenging despair with a burning hope, acting
peacefully in the midst of painful good Fridays, and living
joyfully even in the midst of harsh realities.**

**We believe in the church – the handholding, hearty
singing, passionately caring fellowship of seekers and
finders.**

This we believe.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition the Leader will say, "Lord, in your mercy." The
congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."*

ANOTHER FORM OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C Eternal God: Earth-Maker, Pain-Bearer, Life-Giver, Source
of all this is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us**

**all. Loving God, star of heaven, the hallowing of your
name echoes through the universe. The way of your
justice be followed by all the peoples of the earth. Your
heavenly will be done by all created beings. Your
commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope,
and break forth on earth. With the bread we need today,
feed us. In the hurts we give to one another, forgive us. In
times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all
that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power
that is love now and forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

**L The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face
to shine upon you, the Lord look upon you with favor and
give you peace.**

**C In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy
Spirit. Amen.**

L Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

No. 546 (Red Hymnal)

"To Be Your Presence"

1.

**To be your presence is our mission here, to show
compassions face and listening ear, to be your heart of
mercy ever near. Alleluia!**

2.

**To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the
poor and shelter homeless cold, to be your hands of
justice, right uphold. Alleluia!**

3.

**To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all
the broken and oppressed, to be your voice of hope,
your love expressed. Alleluia!**

4.

**We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to
serve your people is our call and choice, and in this
mission we, the church, rejoice. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Jacob Huber, Jane Kurth, Brenda Olson