

Sunday Bulletin | August 1, 2021

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song ELW #532

Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away --
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Confession and Forgiveness

When we confess, we acknowledge the ways we have been living apart from relationship with God and each other.

Moment of reflection and confession

Gracious God,

we confess our sin, our separation, and our suffering. Grant us mercy, undeserved and extravagant, so we are restored to dignity, belonging, and purpose that come from you.

We are loved by a God who keeps promises, whose grace is restless to find and free us, who calls us beloved from the first day until the last, always eager to welcome us home.

Friends in Christ, your sins are forgiven. May your liberation be a gift to the world still aching for freedom and may you be strengthened by the love of this community and the healing power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Kyrie

. . . let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise ELW #525

You are holy, you are whole.

You are always ever more

than we ever understand.

You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near.

Blessed are you coming here

to your church in wine and bread,

raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy, you are wholeness, you are present.

Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!

Sing hosanna in the highest! Sing hosanna!

Sing hosanna to our God!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of the harvest,

You sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into your field. Help your church throughout the world to be persistent yet patient, resolute yet gentle, that our witness may be faithful to your intentions. Amen.

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 139:1-14, 23-24

You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

**You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.**

**Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.**

You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

**If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

**If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

**Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.**

**See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting. (NIV)**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Lord and Savior:
open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing
for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen! (NRSV)

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon **Vicar Kristin Dybdal**

Hymn of the Day ELW #648

Solo verse:

*Beloved, God's chosen, put on as a garment
compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart.*

*Above all, before all, let love be your raiment
that binds into one ev'ry dissonant part.*

All:

Within, call forth Wisdom, to dwell in you richly;
let peace rule your hearts and that peace be of Christ.
And from the heart's chamber, beloved and holy,
let singing thanksgiving to God ever rise.

Beloved, God's chosen, put on as a garment
compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart.
Above all, before all, let love be your raiment
that binds into one ev'ry dissonant part.

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 the People

Prayer Refrain

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

. . . Come, Holy Spirit, **hear our prayer.**

Repeat Prayer Refrain

Offering

We worship God by supporting our church and the mission we share. Our mission of the month for August is NEAR Food Shelf, specifically for school supplies. NEAR Food Shelf is a cooperative effort of twelve area churches that provides food and other forms of relief to families in need in Crystal, New Hope, and Robbinsdale. This month, we are invited to provide school supplies or monetary donations for children in need as they head back to school.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Merciful God,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive these gifts. Make us a blessing in your world. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

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.

Sharing Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Sending Service for Vicar Kristin Dybdal

Sending Song ELW #665

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
of Jesus' glory.

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
God's new creation.

Blessing

In the leaving, in the letting go, let there be this to hold onto at the last. May you be blessed, dear congregation of Faith-Lilac Way, by...

the enduring of love,
the persisting of hope,
the remembering of joy,
the offering of gratitude,
the receiving of grace,
and the passing of peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, we pray.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in grace, grow in faith, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

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