

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by the Faith Singers – “How Great Is Our God,” by Tomlin, Reeves, & Cash

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered to worship our Triune God, we make confession. We begin by confessing our sin, trusting in God’s forgiveness and the power of God’s Holy Spirit to help us grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Living in God’s forgiveness and fullness of life, we also confess our faith. This confession is not an accounting of sin, but a profession of faith in the one who sets us

free. This week, we confess our faith in the first person of the Trinity, God the Father, and recite Luther's explanation to the first article of the Apostles' Creed from the Small Catechism.

Together, we confess:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: What does this mean?

C: I believe that God has created me together with all that exists. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul: eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties. In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property; along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life. God protects me against all danger and shields and preserves me from all evil. And all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all! For all of this I owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.

Gathering Song – “This Is My Father’s World” ELW 824

(organ)

- 1 **This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.**
- 2 **This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'rywhere.**
- 3 **This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!**

Children's Sermon

WORD

Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 6-7, 9, 11, 14-15, 20-21, 24, 26-27, 31a Reader: Adam Krohe

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, ‘Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.’ ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.

⁹And God said, ‘Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. ¹¹Then God said, ‘Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.’ And it was so.

¹⁴And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so.

²⁰And God said, ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.’ ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁴And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.’ And it was so.

²⁶Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

P: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 6:26-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

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

Song – “All Things Bright and Beautiful” (WOV 767) (piano)

*Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.*

**Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. Refrain**

**The purple-headed mountains, The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning, That brightens up the sky. Refrain**

**God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well. Refrain**

Sermon: "What do I believe about God the Father?"

Song of the Day – “Father, I Adore You” (piano)

**Father, I adore you. Lay my life before you. How I love you.
Jesus, I adore you. Lay my life before you. How I love you.
Spirit, I adore you. Lay my life before you. How I love you.**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

"We Believe," by Travis Ryan, Matthew Hooper, & Richie Fike
Faith Singers

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

C: We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: 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.

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.

**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.

Communion Songs

"Comfort, Comfort All My People " *(piano)*

Refrain: Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my Word.

Speak it tender to my people: All your sins are taken away.

1. **Though your tears be rivers running; though your tears be an ocean full;
though you cry with the hurt of living: comfort, comfort.**

**Ev'ry valley shall be lifted, ev'ry mountain shall be low,
ev'ry rough place will be smoother, comfort, comfort! Refrain**

2. **Though your eyes see only darkness, though your eyes can see no light,
Though your eyes see pain and sorrow: comfort, comfort.**

**Ev'ry night will have its morning, ev'ry pain will have an end,
Ev'ry burden will be lightened: comfort, comfort. Refrain**

3. **Though we build strong walls for prisons, though we feast while others starve,
Though we fill this world with weapons: comfort, comfort.**

**Ev'ry pris'ner will be rescued, ev'ry hungry mouth be filled,
Ev'ry gun will rust, forgotten: comfort, comfort. Refrain**

4. **Though we fracture God's creation, though we stand so far apart,
Though we fail to love each other: comfort, comfort.
Ev'ry wall will crack and crumble, ev'ry stranger will be friend,
Ev'ry one embrace another: comfort, comfort. Refrain**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW 807 (*organ*)

- 1 **Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**
- 2 **Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**
- 3 **Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

*Sending Song – “Your Grace Is Enough”

(piano)

1. **Great is your faithfulness, O God of Jacob;
you wrestle with the sinner’s restless heart.**

You lead me by still waters into mercy where nothing can keep us apart.

*Refrain: So remember your people, remember your children,
remember your promise, O God.*

*For your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough,
your grace is enough for me.*

2. **Great is your love and justice, God of Jacob; you use the weak to lead the strong.**

**You lead us in the song of heaven’s vict’ry, and all your people sing along. *Refrain
twice***

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker

Greeter: Lillian Korous

Reader: Adam Krohe

Usher: Larry Kuster

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Pianist: Jean Welch

Organist: Susan Roegge

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Patty Nelson

Chancel Committee: Martha Krohe

Coffee Host: Kay Schnitker



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

The plants at the altar today are donated by
Pat Glyshaw in celebration of Brian's birthday on June 30

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, June 25, 9:30am: Worship

5:30pm: Informational Meeting, ELCA National Youth Gathering

Wednesday, June 28, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, July 1, 8:00am: Cooking for

9:00am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, July 2, 9:30am: Worship Outdoors & Picnic

Wednesday, July 5, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Thursday, July 6, 5:15pm: Parish Worship Committee

6:00pm: Steering Committee

News Updates

We Celebrate Our Graduates!

Did you have a family member who graduated this year? We want to congratulate them and celebrate their accomplishment! Please tell us their name, the grade level they achieved, and their plans for the future **by today**. Whether one is moving on from preschool or a PhD, we give thanks to God!

Friends From Faith

Last month, we debuted a new ministry team led by Naomi Hahn called “Friends from Faith.” On the last Sunday of each month, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. Visit the tall counter where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Picnic Ministry – Sign Up to help with Outdoor Picnics

Our Picnic Ministry Team is looking for some volunteers to help with preparing for the 1st Sunday of the month outdoor picnics this summer. **You can help by signing up on the sheets** by the Coffee Sales next to the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet:

- **Dates:** Sundays July 2, August 6, and September 3
- **Setup** (6 volunteers each Sunday for tables and chairs at 8:30 am)
- **Side Dishes** (8 volunteers each Sunday – see the sign-up sheet for specifics)
- **Desserts** (3 volunteers each Sunday)
- **Clean Up** (6 volunteers each Sunday to put away tables and chairs and clean in the kitchen)

For more information, talk with Kevin and Martha Krohe on our Picnic Ministry Team.

Bishop John’s Retirement Dinner

As you may know, Bishop John Roth will be retiring at the close of his term as bishop on August 31, 2023. You are invited to a Retirement Dinner in his honor on Saturday, July 15, 5:00-7:30pm at Erin’s Pavilion, Southwind Park, in Springfield. Tickets are \$30 each, and reservations can be made at csis-elca.org/retirement **BY JULY 1**. Additional donations toward the cost of the dinner are being accepted and can be included when you make your reservation. Any donations beyond the expenses of the dinner will support our companion synods in the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar.

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Music Update

I wish everyone a safe and fun summer, and we will meet again in the fall. If anyone is interested in doing something musical during the summer, please contact me.

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

Contribution Envelopes for 2023

are available in the office. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.