

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2023

Thank you to Karen Dean, Lisa Taylor, and Sharon Woodworth for leading the service this morning while Pastor Adam is away on vacation

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Martha Krohe & Jean Welch, flute/piano duet

“Let All Things Now Living,” arr. Parks

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

P: Blessed be God, who loves, forgives, and restores what is broken.

C: Amen.

P: What does it mean to live a good life? It may be easier to describe the opposite. A good life is absent when our relationships are broken – relationships with others, relationship with creation, and relationship with God. Through our sin, we have broken these relationships, and we take time to reflect and confess.

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: God’s gift of grace is at work in you, restoring what is broken. Your sin has been forgiven and no longer stands between you and God. May God’s grace be at work in all of our relationships, removing our pride, ending conflicts, and opening ears and hearts to embrace one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

C: Amen.

P: We recognize this grace at work among us as we share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Song – “All My Days”

(piano)

**1 All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
For in my helplessness You heard my cry,
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.**

**2 I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer, I will sing of the blood that never fails;
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed, of death defeated and life without end.**

*Refrain: Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor, clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life, Star of the Morning, glorious holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion, and You reign, You reign over all!*

**2 I long to be where the praise is never ending,
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
Where countless worshippers will share one song,
And cries of ‘worthy’ will honor the Lamb! Refrain**

Children's Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “God of Grace and God of Glory” ELW 705

(organ)

- 1. God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
Crown your ancient Church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**
- 2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days**
- 3. Cure your children's waring madness; bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

4. **Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

WORD

Reading: Proverbs 8:1-11, 32-36

Reader: Karen Dean

- ¹Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise her voice?
²On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
³beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
⁴‘To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all that live.
⁵O simple ones, learn prudence;
acquire intelligence, you who lack it.
⁶Hear, for I will speak noble things,
and from my lips will come what is right;
⁷for my mouth will utter truth;
wickedness is an abomination to my lips.
⁸All the words of my mouth are righteous;
there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.
⁹They are all straight to one who understands
and right to those who find knowledge.
¹⁰Take my instruction instead of silver,
and knowledge rather than choice gold;
¹¹for wisdom is better than jewels,
and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.
³²‘And now, my children, listen to me:
happy are those who keep my ways.
³³Hear instruction and be wise,
and do not neglect it.

³⁴Happy is the one who listens to me,
watching daily at my gates,
waiting beside my doors.
³⁵For whoever finds me finds life
and obtains favour from the LORD;
³⁶but those who miss me injure themselves;
all who hate me love death.’

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

Second Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

Reader: Angela Spray

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

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

Song of the Day – “Thy Word Is a Lamp”

(piano)

Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (twice)

**When I feel afraid, I think I’ve lost my way, still you’re there right beside me,
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near, please be near me to the end. Refrain**

**I will not forget your love for me and yet, I’ll forever be wand’ring.
Jesus, be my guide, ... hold me to your side; I will love you to the end. Refrain**

Reflection: "Make Me a Vessel" Karen Dean

**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

“Be Thou My Vision,” arr. Line
Jean Welch, pianist

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

**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.

**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.

- 1 **God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight: hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.**
- 2 **Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight; health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind; oh, now to humankind
let there be light.**
- 3 **Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight; move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.**
- 4 **Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might: boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride, through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Greeters: Gayla Smith & Debbie Stevens
Readers: Karen Dean & Angela Spray
Usher: Liddy Stark
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Pianist: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Ken Devlin & Mike Oldenettel
Coffee Host: Kay Schnitker



Singers:

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|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 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
the Roth family in celebration of Sam's birthday on August 3

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, July 30, 9:30am: Worship
Wednesday, August 2, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
Thursday, August 3, 5:30pm: Steering Team
Saturday, August 5, 8am: Cooking for
9am: Men's Breakfast
Sunday, August 6, 9:30am: Outdoor Worship + Picnic
Wednesday, August 9, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
5:15pm: Parish Worship Committee

News Updates

Friends From Faith

This summer, 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.

Outdoor Worship and Picnic

A summer staple for our Faith Family has been our outdoor worship service. The fresh air, breeze blowing through the trees, and barking dogs provide a beautiful sanctuary. Last year we experimented with outdoor worship once each month with a picnic and games... it was a hit! Join us again this summer **August 6 and September 3**. To assure all can participate, there will be seating and communion stations on the grass, on the parking lot, and indoors (with worship visible through windows), as well as being live streamed. Following the service, we are having a cookout picnic and time for games and activities for all. **If you can provide something for the meal**, see the sign-up sheets on the counter by the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet. Our hope is that this will not only be a time of vibrant worship and blessing to our Faith Family, but also to others, so please invite a friend and join us for these wonderful times together!

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 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 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 **August 6**, we could still use:

- Help with Set Up & Clean Up
- 1 more Seven-Layer Salad
- 2 people to bring fruit

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

Discipleship Group

Come prepared to share YOUR favorite Bible verse with the group. Why is it your favorite? What makes it special to you in your faith journey? Join us at **10am on Wednesday, August 16**, in the Faith Library to learn and share. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

The Women of Faith fellowship group will meet for dinner **on Wednesday, August 16th at 6:00pm** at Proud Richard's (600 E. State St.). We'd love for you to join us! Please RSVP to Monica at 217-737-0475 by Sunday, August 13th.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Join this exciting new ministry team! Sharon Zuiderveld and her sister, Mary Ellen, are looking for crocheters and knitters (or those who want to learn) to help make prayer shawls. Take a look at the pattern books by the coffee sales; if you would like to make a shawl, we can copy the pattern for you to take home (please leave the books on the counter). The shawls will then be given to friends as reminders that they are covered by our prayers and the love and grace of God.

Zuiderveld Memorial Concert

Celebrating the life and music of Rudy Zuiderveld

Friday, August 25, 7:30pm
First Presbyterian Church
321 S. 7th St.
Springfield, IL
Admission is free

Featuring Stephen Tharp, Nichol DelGiorno, Thomas Drury, Homer Ferguson, Sr. Lori Kirchman, and Timothy Spelbring with Garrett Allman, *pianist*; Devon Carpenter, *harpist*; and Diane Dietz, *soprano*.

Coming Up September 11-15: Doorbell Dinners

Help us deliver meals in the community. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair-Trade coffee sales.

Synod Newsletter

If you'd like to keep up with what's going on in our Central/Southern Illinois Synod, you can visit the Synod website (www.csis-elca.org), click on Synod Newsletter, and that will direct you to a subscriber form. Otherwise, we could forward the Newsletters to you from the church office – just let us know.

Soup Luncheon Carry-Out Style

We would like to have our annual Soup Luncheon like we did last year — carry-out meals of a soup and dessert on **Sunday, October 8** after church until 1:00pm. Please plan to purchase lunch to take home that day and consider offering to help with the preparation. This event will also be open to the public.

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.