

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Faith Singers – "Let There Be Praise," by Dick & Melodie Tunney

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Each of us has foundational beliefs, deep held convictions that guide our lives. Perhaps we write them on post-it notes to ourselves or in letters to our loved ones. The author of 2 Peter has written a letter to the young, first-century churches, a letter for us as well. "Support your faith," he says, "with goodness, knowledge, self-control, endurance, godliness, mutual affection, and love" (2 Peter 1:5-7). "Beware of those who lead you astray and be attentive to the light of Christ" (2 Peter 2:1, 1:19). "Come to repentance... remember Christ's command to love... there is no day but today" (2 Peter 3:9, 2, 10). We begin our worship in these convictions. Let us find support for our faith in the grace of God. Let us tend to the light of Christ. Let us not miss the moment, but come to repentance, for there is no day but today.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess the ways that we have been led astray. We have lusted for things and have been slaves to many masters. 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 is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Your confession has been heard and you have been set free. Live in the new life and love of our Savior.

C: Amen.

P: Living in this new life and love, 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 – “Gather Us In” ELW 532

(organ)

- 1 **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.**
- 2 **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.**
- 3 **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.**
- 4 **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.**

Hymn of Praise – “This Little Light of Mine” ELW 677

(piano)

**1. This little light of mine, I'm goin' a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin' a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin' a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**2. Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin' a let it shine;
ev'ry where I go, I'm goin' a let it shine;
ev'ry where I go, I'm goin' a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**3. Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin' a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin' a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin' a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

WORD

Reading: 2 Peter 1:16–2:2, 15-19

Reader: Barb Davenport

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, ‘This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’

¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

²But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive opinions. They will even deny the Master who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. ²Even so, many will follow their licentious ways, and because of these teachers the way of truth will be maligned. ¹⁵They

have left the straight road and have gone astray, following the road of Balaam son of Bosor, who loved the wages of doing wrong, ¹⁶but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

¹⁷These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm; for them the deepest darkness has been reserved. ¹⁸For they speak bombastic nonsense, and with licentious desires of the flesh they entice people who have just escaped from those who live in error. ¹⁹They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption; for people are slaves to whatever masters them.

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

**Gospel Reading: Mark 13:5-7*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come.

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

Song: "You Alone"

(piano)

You alone are holy. You alone are mighty.

You alone are the reason we sing songs of love as our praise offering.

You alone are the holy one -- You alone!

You alone are holy. You alone are mighty.

All creation in heaven and earth sing the praise that the angels have heard.

You alone are the holy one! You alone are the mighty one!

You alone are the holy one -- You alone!

Sermon: "Treasure Hunting with 2 Peter – God's Word"

1. **Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

*Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

2. **Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow’r to save us. Make us your living voice. Refrain**
3. **Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. Refrain**
4. **Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. Refrain**
5. **Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. Refrain**

**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

*“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning,” African American Spiritual
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

“Loaves Were Broken” (ACS 966) (organ)

- 1 **Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.**

*Refrain: By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

- 2 **Loaves were broken, words were spoken in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.**

Refrain

- 3 **Loaves are broken, words are spoken, as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages: "I am with you; do not fear!"** *Refrain*

- 4 **By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger, words that tell your love and care.**

Refrain

"Mighty to Save" (piano)

**Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior. The Hope of nations.**

*Refrain: Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save.
He is mighty to save.*

*Forever, Author of Salvation. He rose and conquered the grave.
Jesus conquered the grave.*

**So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures. Fill my life again.
I give my life to follow, everything I believe in. Now I surrender.** *Refrain twice*

**Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing ...
for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus, shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing ...
for the glory of the risen King.**

Refrain twice

**Shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing ...
for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus, shine your light, and let the whole world see. We're singing ...
for the glory of the risen King.**

**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 – “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” ELW 836 (organ)*

- 1 **Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**
- 2 **All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.**
- 3 **Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Pam Devlin
Greeter: Barb Fishback
Reader: Barb Davenport
Usher: Pat Glyshaw
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Pianist: Jean Welch
Organist: Susan Roegge
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Patty Nelson & Kelly Hartz
Chancel Committee: Kris Roth
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 | | | |

Song Credits

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What’s Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, August 20, 9:30am: Worship

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Wednesday, August 23, 7-8am: Men’s Prayer Group

Friday, August 25, 7:30pm: Zuiderveld Memorial Concert at First Presbyterian
321 S. 7th St., Springfield, IL

Sunday, August 27, 9:30am: Worship

10:30am: 75th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee

Wednesday, August 30, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, September 2, 8am: Cooking for
9am: Men's Breakfast

News Updates

Coming Up September 11-15: Doorbell Dinners

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

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*.

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.

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!*

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 will be available soon!

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.

Outdoor Worship and Picnic

Join us **on September 3** for our final outdoor service of the season. 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 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:** Sunday, 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.

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.