



Sunday Worship  
Together on-line as a community of Christ  
Big Spring United Lutheran Church with  
Zion Lutheran Church, Newville  
**July 26, 2020**  
**SEASON OF PENTECOST LITURGY SUMMER 2020**

**TUNE YOUR RADIO TO 87.9**

**THE REV. MOLLY HAGGERTY**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

The *congregation*, or participants, *respond* with the lines in *bold type*.

## **PRELUDE**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Larry Shackley

## **WELCOME**

I want to take a moment and welcome you here today. No matter where you are on your faith or life journey, you are welcome here. If you are young or old, or young at heart, or feeling old, you are welcome. If you are married or single or divorced, you are welcome. If you are happy or sad or anxious, you are welcome. If you struggle with your identity or are confident in your identity, you are welcome. If you are rich or poor, sick or well, you are welcome. You are welcome no matter what color your skin is. If you believe in God all of the time, some of the time or not at all, you are welcome. Come with your pains and sorrows. Come with your fear and brokenness. Come with a mind that is open and a heart that is ready to give and receive love and compassion. You are welcome in this community.

## **GREETING**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

*(2 Corinthians 13:13)*

## **PRAYER OF APOLOGY:**

And now as in the tradition of our community, before we move toward recognition of our own faults, I want to offer an apology on behalf of the church. For the ways the church may have ignored you, judged you, and rejected you; for any pain, hurt, division, or betrayal the church may have caused. I am sorry. Nothing can undo the wrong you have endured; and I hope for you deep inner healing and peace.

## **BRIEF CONFESSION**

*We will hold a brief silence to confess our sins to God.*

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved . . . I pray, that according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. (*Ephesians 2:4-5; 3:16-17*)

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN (WOV 771)

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

### *Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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## WORD

### **FIRST READING: ROMANS 8:26-39**

<sup>26</sup>The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.   **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: PSALM 119:12-129-136 (Read Responsively)**

<sup>129</sup>Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

<sup>130</sup>**When your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

<sup>131</sup>I open my mouth and pant; I long for your commandments.

<sup>132</sup>**Turn to me in mercy, as you always do to those who love your name.**

<sup>133</sup>Steady my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

<sup>134</sup>**Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.**

<sup>135</sup>Let your countenance shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

<sup>136</sup>**My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.**

**MUSIC OFFERING**

*How Great Thou Art*

Stuart K. Hine

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52**

The Gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;<sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.”  
<sup>52</sup>And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON: BROKEN AND BLESSED**

*(Silence for a time of reflection)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW 603)

### God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the  
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our  
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we  
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful  
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,  
world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing  
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;  
in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:  
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.  
all the fail - ures we con - fess.  
set us free and grant us peace.  
make us stron - ger, give us faith.  
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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## **PRAYERS**

### **Come, O Holy Spirit by Henri Nouwen**

*Come, O Holy Spirit.*

*Come as Holy Fire and burn in us,  
come as Holy Wind and cleanse us within,  
come as Holy Light and lead us in the darkness,  
come as Holy Truth and dispel our ignorance,  
come as Holy Power and enable our weakness,  
come as Holy Life and dwell in us.*

*Convict us, convert us, consecrate us,  
until we are set free from the service of ourselves,  
to be your servants to the world. Amen.*

*We ask for your healing for those who are struggling with  
spiritual and physical health.*

*We ask for guidance in our business of work, family and  
government.*

*We ask for love and strength for those who suffer loss of  
others, jobs, friendships and connections*

*Hear what is on our hearts (brief silence). Take this from  
us so that we may find Christ's peace.*

*We thank you for your love, forgiveness and grace and for  
being all things for all people.*

**Amen.**

# THE LITURGY OF THE COMMUNION MEAL

## THE OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN



☩ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

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.

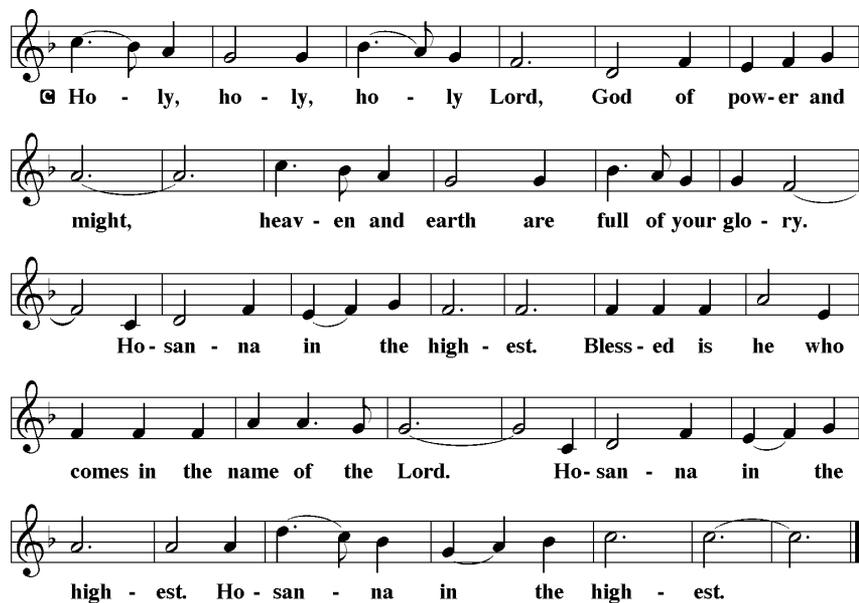
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **THE PROPER PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of  
everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and as-  
cension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

*Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:*

### **THE 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.**

# INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## LAMB OF GOD

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The elements were given as you entered.

Please peel the top film and take your bread.  
The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

Open your cup by peeling back the foil.  
The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen**

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

## THE LITURGY OF SENDING FOR SERVICE

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus . . . May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing. (*Romans 15:5, 13*) in the name of Creator, Redeemer and Advocate.

**Amen**

### **BLESSING**

Go into the world in peace

Have courage

Hold on to what is good

Return no one evil for evil

Strengthen the faint hearted

Support the weak

Help the suffering

Honor all people

Love and serve the Lord

Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit

May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Bless you now and forever

**Amen.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*      Malcolm Archer

If you have any prayer needs, please reach out to us on our Facebook page or websites.

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