



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2020

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*Gathering Song
*Greeting
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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God...to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name ...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

God, who is rich in mercy...loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit...that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Lifesong (binder #137)

GREETING (ELW p. 184)

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 (ELW p. 184)

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Cornersone (binder #158)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Word

READING: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

A reading from Romans.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise. ²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me. ⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord. ⁶**The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me. ⁸**You will make good your purpose for me; O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY

Jesus Messiah (binder #89)

APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 189)

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 INTERCESSION

Meal

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (ELW p. 190)

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 (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **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

Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

COMMUNION SONG

(Lamb of God, ELW p. 191)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution Hymn

All Who Are Thirsty (binder #85)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in your faith, and give you peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

You are the body of Christ. May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy. May you have the eyes of Christ to see a world in need. May you have the feet of Christ to bring good news.

SENDING SONG

Mourning into Dancing (binder #105)

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 192)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Ministry & Mission Information

Large Print Bulletins

If you struggle reading this, the words on the screen, your pew hymnal or pew Bible, we have large print bulletins available which include the full service order of today's worship.

Hearing assistance in-ear speakers are available from our ushers.

Synod Assembly

Thank you to Lisa Schuler and Linda Timian for serving as our congregational lay reps for Synod Assembly last weekend. We have elected a new presiding bishop for our synod, Rev. Tessa Moon-Leiseth.

Bishop-Elect Moon-Leiseth graduated from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, and received a M. Div from Luther Seminary, St Paul, MN, and was ordained on June 21, 1998. She is currently serving as Interim Senior Pastor at Horace Lutheran Church.

Online Worship Needs

We're excited to share **we will be purchasing digital equipment and a camera** to improve access and quality for those worshiping from home. Initial funding will come from the church's dedicated music fund; two additional gifts have already been given toward this project, **more gifts are welcome** (please write "camera fund" in the memo).

In-Person Worship & Covid-19

We thank Mike and Connie for continuing and increasing cleaning and sanitation at the church. For the time being:

- pews are taped off for social distancing;
- we will refrain from handshakes and passing offering plates;
- we will not have congregational singing (**except when worshipping outdoors**), food or beverage at church;
- worship attendees will be encouraged but not required to wear face masks;
- additional precautions are being taken when distributing Holy Communion;
- the congregation will be ushered out following worship services;
- we will continue offering online worship opportunities on Facebook & YouTube.

(Some of this is more for indoor services!)

Lost Items

Miscellaneous items can be found on the lost & found shelf in the narthex. Also unclaimed coats on the coat rack.

Sunday, August 9

Not including those who tuned in online, 33 disciples were sent out from our in-person worship in God's name to make a difference and \$5,210 was given to support our ministry. Gifts given online through tithe.ly are included in the last Sunday of the month total.

(With Pastor Karl involved with Synod Assembly last Sunday, there was no in-person worship at ULC. Offering reflects two weeks of contributions.)

School Supplies

Deborah Circle is collecting school supplies and anyone can contribute. Items can be placed in the orange basket in the narthex. These supplies will be donated to the local schools.

Confirmation

Confirmation for the school year begins Wednesday, September 9, with information meetings at church for students and parent(s)/guardian(s) at 6pm (7-8 grade) and 7pm (9th grade). We are hoping to meet in-person every week, but will shift to Zoom if necessary.

Visitation

Last winter United Lutheran formed a loosely-organized visitation group. The purpose was to remember shut-ins with visits, phone calls or notes. Thank you for continuing this important ministry!

Sunday School

We are making adjustments to our programming for Sunday school this school year and anticipate resuming LATER this year than normal, on the first weekend in October (10/04). We are still in need of teachers; please contact Carla Gemmill if interested. Stay tuned for more info!

"God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday

After morning worship, Sunday, September 13. We will be making cards for care center residents and cleaning Wheatland residents' windows.

Journey Through the Bible

Our Sunday services lessons will take us on a journey through familiar and unfamiliar stories in the Bible this school year, each with a clear theme, starting in Genesis on Sept.13. Sunday school will follow the same stories.

Prayer Concerns

Kerlange Aristide in Haiti, her husband Armstrong and baby Zeke, & Lois Jones (Val Olson's sister, cancer).

Today's Faith and Care Leaders

Reader: Monica Porterfield
Usher: Sue Anderson
Communion Asst: John Johnson
Projectionist: Brenna Schuler
Music provided by the ULC Praise Band

Next Sunday's Leaders

Reader: Rachelle Romfo
Ushers: Troy & Rachelle Romfo family
Projectionist: Xavier Breddin
Organists: Kathie Johnson & Lisa Schuler

The Week Ahead at ULC

10AM Worship



Welcome to United! We are glad you're here and we pray today's worship would be a blessing to you. Children are welcome here; we have a "quiet space" just in our fellowship area just out our sanctuary's south doors and a nursery with a speaker available to listen to the worship service. If you are looking for a church home or would like more information, please let Pastor Karl know.

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

Name(s)		
Email	Phone	
Address		
City	State	Zip

- I/we received communion today (please indicate at least annually)
- I contributed my offering with Bill Pay through my bank
- Prayers requested/answered:
- I would like a Pastor to call regarding:

Today, I am a

- Member
- First Time Visitor
- Second Time Visitor
- Regular Visitor

Please send me information about membership in United Lutheran Church

I am a member of another church. Where?

What brought you to United today?