

NEW BEGINNINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 18th, 2024 (11:11 am)

A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK!

Psalm 34:12-22
Proverbs 9:1-10
Ephesians 5:6-21
John 6:51-69

Jesus Is the Word and Wisdom of God, Who Gives You Life and Light in His Flesh

Jesus is the divine Word by whom all things were made, who has become flesh and dwells among us. He gives His flesh “for the life of the world,” not only as a sacrifice for sin but as “the living bread” from heaven (John 6:51). Eat His flesh and drink His blood (John 6:54-57), and no longer walk in the darkness of sin, but walk in His light. “Arise from the dead” and live in Him, because you are “light in the Lord” (Eph. 5:8, 14). Being filled with His Spirit, confess Him to “one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart” (Eph. 5:18-19). Fear, love and trust in Him, “and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness” (Josh. 24:14). For He has brought you “out of the house of slavery” by His cross and resurrection, and now He does “great signs” in your sight (Josh. 24:17). Indeed, He is the divine wisdom, who has built His house, prepared His feast and set His table; He bids you to recline and eat of His bread and drink of the wine He has mixed (Prov. 9:1-5).

WELCOME – (Ana)

GATHERING SONGS

COME, NOW IS A TIME TO WORSHIP

Come now is the time to worship

Come now is the time to give your heart

Come just as you are to worship

Come just as you are before your God

Come

One day every tongue

Will confess You are God

One day every knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains

For those who gladly choose You now

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives

Willingly our knees will bow

With all our heart soul mind and strength

We gladly choose You now

Come come just as you are come come

CCLI Song # 2430948

Brian Doerksen

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BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

Blessed be Your name

In the land that is plentiful

Where Your streams of abundance flow

Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name

When I'm found in the desert place

Though I walk through the wilderness

Blessed be Your name

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll

Turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in Lord

Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be Your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name

When the sun's shining down on me

When the world's all as it should be

Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name

On the road marked with suffering

Though there's pain in the offering

Blessed be Your name

You give and take away

You give and take away

My heart will choose to say

AS WE BEGIN and CALLING ON GOD'S NAME (Pastor)

P – In the name of the FATHER, the SON, and the HOLY SPIRIT. Amen.

PSALM 34:12-22

What man is there who desires life

and loves many days, that he may see good?

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil

and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ Turn away from evil and do good;

seek peace and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous

and his ears toward their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,

to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

¹⁷ When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears

and delivers them out of all their troubles.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted

and saves the crushed in spirit.

¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

²⁰ He keeps all his bones;

not one of them is broken.

²¹ Affliction will slay the wicked,

and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

²² The LORD redeems the life of his servants;

none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P – Our Lord says, Call upon Me in the day of trouble. (*Psalm 50:15*) Every day in the

life of a human being is a day of trouble. We are troubled by the peril of our own sin and in need of rescue.

C – If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:8)

P – Our Lord says, Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you. (*Psalm 50:15*)

C – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

(Silence is kept for reflection on our sin.)

P – Let us examine ourselves in the light of God's law and confess our sin, asking God for His kind forgiveness.

ALL – Almighty and merciful God, Your First Commandment tells us to keep You first in our lives and to trust in You for all good things. But instead, we have forgotten You, we have disobeyed You, and have shuddered in fear at the attacks of this world. Forgive us, Lord, for Jesus' sake and strengthen our faith so we may follow courageously wherever You lead.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Pastor)

P – Our Lord says, call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me. (*Psalm 50:15*) I assure you that God has heard your cry for rescue from your sins, and for the sake of the suffering and death of His Son, Jesus Christ, He forgives you all your sins. Therefore, as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in His peace and joy. Amen.

WORSHIP SONG – TRUE NORTH

Oh You are my true north

Oh You are my true north

I will not let the darkness steal

The joy within my soul

I will not let my circumstance become my compass no

I will not let the fears of life

And sorrows of this world

Dictate to me how I should feel
For You are my true north
I will not let my failures turn
Into the curse of shame
I will not walk beneath the clouds
That taunt me and condemn
For I will stand on solid ground
The shadow of Your love
Forgiven changed a heart renamed
For You are my true north

Oh You are my true north

Oh You are my true north

I will follow You into the dark dark dark
You are my true north
I will follow You with all my heart heart heart
You are my true north

CCLI Song # 7101178

Chris Llewellyn | Gareth Gilkeson

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BIBLE READINGS - (Deanna)

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Proverbs 9:1-10

The Way of Wisdom

Wisdom has built her house;

she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine;

she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her young women to call

from the highest places in the town,

⁴"Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!"

To him who lacks sense she says,

⁵"Come, eat of my bread

and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Leave your simple ways, and live,

and walk in the way of insight."

**⁷Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,
and he who reproveth a wicked man incurs injury.**

**⁸Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.**

**⁹Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.**

**¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.**

EPISTLE READING – EPHESIANS 5:6-21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not become partners with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says,

**“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”**

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

GOSPEL READING – JOHN 6:51-69

⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

The Words of Eternal Life

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

WORSHIP SONGS - MY LIGHTHOUSE

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea
 In the silence You won't let go
 In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh

You are the peace in my troubled sea

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse

Shining in the darkness

I will follow You oh

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse

I will trust the promise

You will carry me safe to shore

Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings

With each morning I'll rise and sing

My God's love will lead me through

You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh

You are the peace in my troubled sea

Fire before us

You're the brightest

You will lead us

Through the storms (hey)

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SERMON - A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK! (John 6:66-69)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the FATHER almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

**From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the HOLY SPIRIT
the holy Christian* Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

WORSHIP SONG – BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
O what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation purchase of God
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

***This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long***

Perfect submission perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy whispers of love
Perfect submission all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting looking above
Filled with His goodness lost in His love

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Fanny Jane Crosby | Phoebe Palmer Knapp

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (Prayer Cam)

LORD'S PRAYER (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.**

WORSHIP SONG (IN PREPARATION OF COMMUNION) – 10000 REASONS

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes
You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Worship Your holy name

Lord I'll worship Your holy name

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

Worship Your holy name

Worship Your holy name

CCLI Song # 6016351

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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'As a Lutheran Church, we believe that Jesus' body and blood are really and truly present

¹ "It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ for us Christians to eat and to drink."
(<https://catechism.cph.org/en/sacrament-of-the-altar.html>)

in the Lord's Supper. And we believe that Jesus is giving real and true spiritual gifts to us through this eating and drinking: forgiveness, life, and salvation. It is pure gospel for our comfort and spiritual strength.

COMMUNION PREPARATION

These are our statements about Holy Communion:

- **I know I am a sinner.**
- **I believe that Jesus is my personal Savior.**
- **I believe that Jesus is really present in the bread and wine.**
- **I intend, with God's help, to change my sinful life and live for him.**
- **I understand that when I come to this table, I publicly state that I believe these things.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (**Pastor**)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said: "**Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**" In the same way also, he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "**Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**"

DISTRIBUTION – SONGS: "COME THOU FOUND OF EVERY BLESSING" AND "BE THOU MY VISION"

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (**Pastor**)

BENEDICTION

The **Lord** bless you and keep you.

The **Lord** make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The **Lord** look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINAL SONG – THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings
 Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
 And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
 The King of Glory the King above all kings

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace

This is unfailing love

That You would take my place

That You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life

That I would be set free

Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

 Who brings our chaos back into order
 Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
 The King of Glory the King of Glory
Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings
 Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
 Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
 Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
 Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
 Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
 Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
 Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
 Worthy worthy worthy

CCLI Song # 6333821

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