

SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 7, 2022 – Pentecost 9
St. John's Lutheran Church
Helena, Montana



*(Please respond with the words in **bold print** and stand, as you are able, at the places marked with an *)*

Prelude.....The South Hills Brass Quintet
“Valiance” by G.P. Telemann, arr. Charlie Peterson

***Confession and Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

***Greeting**

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.

SING OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS

Ernest Sands

Verses



1. Sing of the Lord's good-ness, Fa - ther of all wis - dom,
2. Pow - er he has wield - ed, hon - or is his gar - ment,
3. Cour-age in our dark-ness, com - fort in our sor - row,
4. Praise him with your sing - ing, praise him with the trum - pet,



1. come to him and bless his name. Mer - cy he has shown us,
2. ris - en from the snares of death. His word he has spo - ken,
3. Spir - it of our God most high; so - lace for the wear - y,
4. praise God with the lute and harp; praise him with the cym - bals,



1. his love is for - ev - er, faith - ful to the end of days.
2. one bread he has bro - ken, new life he now gives to all.
3. par - don for the sin - ner, splen - dor of the liv - ing God.
4. praise him with your danc - ing, praise God till the end of days.

Refrain



Come, then, all you na - tions, sing of your Lord's good-ness, mel - o - dies



of praise and thanks to God. Ring out the Lord's glo - ry, praise him with



your mu - sic, wor - ship him and bless his name.

*Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.

¹⁵**God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

¹⁷**The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.

²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our ¹ hope in you.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. ⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old – and Sarah herself was barren – because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” ¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

***Gospel Reading: Luke 12:32-40**

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³²"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ³⁹"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Response after the reading: The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Time

Hymn of the Day "Be Thou My Vision" ELW #793 verses 1-2 before sermon, verses 3-4 after



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

SermonPr. Kendra Wilde

***Apostles Creed**

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**

Rejoicing with all the faithful, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

***Prayer Response**

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

***Sharing of the Peace**

(...Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” (John 20:19))

As Christ welcomed everyone,
let us open our hearts and lives
and be like Christ to everyone we meet.
The peace of the Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Offertory Music.....The South Hills Brass Quintet

“Ave Verum” by W.A. Mozart, arr. Fen Watkin

***Offering Prayer**

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest.
As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

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.

*Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n 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.

*Words of Institution

*Lords 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

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

We celebrate open communion and all who are baptized are welcome to receive the forgiving and gracious presence of Christ in communion. Those who prefer not to commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.)

Lamb of God

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with

The first system of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The treble staff contains the vocal melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics for this system are: 'This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with'.

mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,
with mer - cy and love.

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the vocal melody with lyrics: 'mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics for this system are: 'mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y, with mer - cy and love.'

bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

The third and final system of musical notation. The treble staff concludes the vocal melody with lyrics: 'bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.' The bass staff concludes the accompaniment. The lyrics for this system are: 'bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.'

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960
Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ
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Special Music.....The South Hills Brass Quintet
"Be Still, My Soul" (Finlandia) by Jean Sibelius, arr. Zack Smith

Prayer After Communion

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

Sending of Communion

Announcements

Blessing

The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life
this day and always.

Amen.

*Sending Hymn“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW #254



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude.....The South Hills Brass Quintet
"Save a Chair for Me in Heaven" by Zack Smith

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kendra Wilde, Preaching & Presiding
Angela Conley, Technology and Sound

Rebekah French, Lector
Rebekah French
The Mundinger-Adsay Family
Communion Servers
Mait Board and Laura Nachtsheim
August Altar Guild

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In our prayers: for the community and ministry at St. John's as we begin the process to call our next pastor, for communities experiencing weather related disasters including flooding, fires, and heat, for the communities experiencing violence, for peace in war zones including Ukraine, for the safety of missionaries at home and abroad, for the staff and guests at Christikon, Karen Nave, Ron Bohleen, Mary Crosby, Julie Johnson, Karen Doig, Adeline Rasmussen, Marge Jacobson, Meg Biggs and family, Pepper Peterson, Karl Kallin, Scott Muir, Susan DeBree, Karrie Dolezol, Tom Morrow, Karen Sturm, Erma Polich, Robert Brinton, Bill Mattfeldt, Payan Teeters, Dale Twingley, Cathy Christopherson, Richard Bomar, Brooklyn Skinner, Bruce Gottwig, Mary Lou Hadley, Rueben, Vickie Alpiner, Emma Rose Plute, Jeff Shirley, Jeremy Stockstad, Rosita Moe, Tatiana Ceaicovschi, Chris Gibbs, Randy Holmes, Lester Anderson, the children at Intermountain, for those who are alone, for those who suffer from depression, for the homeless in our community, and for all who seek health and wholeness

With Thanksgiving: For the healthy and safe arrival of Aliza Kay Gutierrez on August 3rd
(parents Ian and Jessica Gutierrez)

For those who have died and now rest in God's merciful care:

Nancy Kraft, Marian Larson, Betty Dotson, Bob Wirth, Addy Selvig, Georgine Larsen, Karen Kallin, and all the Saints in heaven

For those in residential living centers, extended care or homebound:

Mike Kieckbusch, Hazel Aasved, Esther Fuehrer, Marge Mihelish, Julie Wolff, Adeline Rasmussen, Susan DeBree, Bill Mattfeldt, Carl Mattfeldt, Marge Jacobson, Troy & Jimmie McGee, Karen Nave, Mary Gardinier

Missionaries: Willie, Anne, and Micah Langdji in Cameroon
Missionaries around the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

John Mundinger, LPA is on call August 8th-August 14th and will preach on August 14th

Family Promise Week August 7-14

Wednesday, August 10th: 11:00 am Memorial Service for Karen Kallin with reception to follow

Thursday, August 11th: 2:00 pm service at Touchmark

Sunday, August 14th: Brunch on the Lawn

**Tuesday, August 16th: 7:00 pm meet and greet with Call Committee Candidate in
Fellowship Hall**

August 15-17, 19 Gretchen Away

***The Deadline for the weekly bulletin is Wednesday at noon. The deadline for the September Herald is Wednesday, August 24th.*

MEET YOUR TRANSITION MINISTRY TEAM

We are very fortunate to have a wonderful ministry team who will help lead us during our time of transition until we install our new pastor. Each week a different Lay Pastoral Associate (LPA) or minister will provide pastoral services for the week and preach and lead worship. Whoever is scheduled to preach that week (please check your Herald calendar) will be on call the Monday through Sunday they are scheduled to preach. Numbers and emails are listed below for our team.

Bing Crosby, LPA

714-883-0601

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Mary Crosby, LPA

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Pr. Patricia Harant

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John Mundinger, LPA

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Lorrie Vennes, LPA

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Pr. Kendra Wilde

406-465-8590

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Gretchen Mundinger (office and youth ministry)

917-439-0093

Mundinger.Gretchen@gmail.com

THANK YOU SOUTH HILLS BRASS QUINTET

Thank you to the South Hills Brass Quintet for providing our special music today.

Trumpets-Shaun Deola & Fred Collins, Horn-Laura McDonald, Trombone-Joe Michaletz, and Tuba-Tom Mazanec.

MEET AND GREET ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 7 PM, FELLOWSHIP HALL.

Come and meet the Call Committee Candidate, Keith Weatherford. He has recently been the Vicar at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Shepherd, MT. Keith is looking forward to visiting St. John's and touring Helena. Come and enjoy some fellowship time with him. Refreshments will be served.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 11, we are going to host outdoor worship at 9:30, a community potluck at 11:00, and a school supply drive for Lutheran World Relief. Look for details in the Herald.

SOCIAL MINISTRY OFFERING FOR AUGUST-BOB'S PANTRY

The Social Ministry cause for the month of August is Bob's Pantry! **You are invited to our annual "Brunch on the Lawn" Sunday, August 14th following our worship service.** Bob's Pantry supports students at HMS who need an extra boost whether it be a nutritious snack, toiletries, or other personal items. Thank you for continuing to help families in our local community by placing your offering in the pew offering envelope, sending in your donation to the office, or by attending our brunch on the 14th and bringing a dish to share and your offering.

SCHOOL BAGS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Items we still need for one/each school bag:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks
- One box of 24 crayons
- One pencil sharpener
- One ruler with centimeters and inches
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens
- One 2 1/2" eraser

Please collect your supplies and drop them off at church or bring them to our Outdoor Worship and Community Potluck on Sunday, September 11th.

FUN ORGAN FACTS

Our organ has two manual keyboards and a pedal board. The pipes that are visible from the sanctuary are for the Great manual or lower keyboard. The swell pipes for the upper manual are found behind the screen on the left side of the great pipes. The volume of these pipes can be controlled by a pedal on the console. Louvers in the swell chamber open and close to control the volume. Swell pipes can be coupled to the great keyboard so they all can play at once giving more options for volume and tone color. Likewise, swell and great pipes can be coupled to the pedals.

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Even though we do not currently have a called pastor, our ministry team continues to utilize the pastor's discretionary fund to assist those who are in need in the congregation and to support the ministry of the Good Samaritan. The Good Samaritan is a vital ministry partner for us as we refer people who have immediate needs to them. Thank you to all who give to this special fund.