

SUNDAY WORSHIP

July 31, 2022

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.....Favorite Hymn Sing

***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

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 49:1-12

¹Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell ¹ in the world,

²**you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on ¹ understanding.

⁴**I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶**the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another’s life;

⁸**for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.

¹²**Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

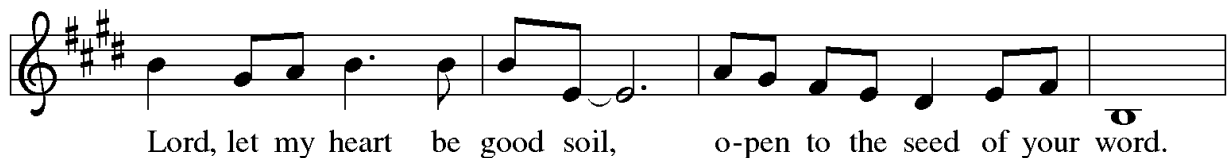
Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. ⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



***Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21**

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

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

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

Children's Time

Hymn of the Day... "For the Fruit of All Creation" ELW #679 verses 1-2 before sermon, verse 3 after



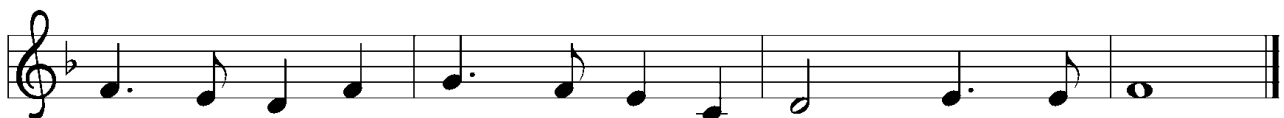
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

SermonWillie & Anne Langdji

***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.....Allison Tetrault

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

17th century melody, arr. Akiko & Forrest Kennedy, text Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

***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 consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics: "This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with". The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment with block chords and moving bass lines.

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

The second system of musical notation continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y, with mer - cy and love." The piano accompaniment features a prominent bass line with a slur over the first two measures.

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

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one." The piano accompaniment ends with a final chord and a double bar line.

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960
Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ
Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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Special Music

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“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises” ELW #535

Refrain— sung twice each time



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

*Dismissal

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

Postlude

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Lorrie Vennes and Pr. Neal Ruedisili, Presiding
Willie and Anne Langdji, Preaching
Angela Conley, Technology and Sound

Barb Muir, Lector
Pr. Neal & Mary Ruedisili
Lee & Tami Rhodes
Communion Servers
Barb Muir and Susan Frey
July Altar Guild

Lorrie Vennes, a Lay Pastoral Associate, has been authorized by the Bishop of the Montana Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation this Sunday.

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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 the communities experiencing gun violence, for peace in war zones including Ukraine, for the safety of missionaries at home and abroad, Ron Bohleen, Ruth Ann Massey, Mary Crosby, Julie Johnson, Karen Doig, Adeline Rasmussen, Marge Jacobson, Meg Biggs and family, Pepper Peterson, Karl Kallin, Scott Muir, Harvey Welnel, Susan DeBree, Karrie Dolezol, Tom Morrow, Karen Sturm, Erma Polich, Robert Brinton, Tyler Vennes, 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

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, Mary Gardinier

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Pastor Kendra Wilde is on all August 1st-August 7th and will preach on Sunday, August 7th

Tuesday, August 2nd: 4:00 pm 4H Counselor Meeting in Fellowship Hall

5:15 pm-Evangelism Meeting in Fair Chapel

6:00 pm-4H Club Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Friday, August 5th: Gretchen Away

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

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

bingcroz@yahoo.com

Mary Crosby, LPA

406-439-8160

bingcroz@yahoo.com

Pr. Patricia Harant

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John Munding, LPA

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Lorrie Vennes, LPA

406-431-6113

lorriev77@gmail.com

Pr. Kendra Wilde

406-465-8590

1corinthians1.4@gmail.com

Gretchen Munding (office and youth ministry)

917-439-0093

Munding.Gretchen@gmail.com

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.

THANK YOU ST. JOHN'S

Thank you to our friends at St. John's for your visits, flowers, cards, prayers, and care for Betty these past few months and especially during her final days. Your thoughtfulness and support is much appreciated. —Thurston & Mark Dotson

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Our sale raised \$824 for Good Samaritan Ministries! A very special thank you to The Mattfeldt family who generously donated Jeanette's collection for the sale. Thank you to those who helped load and unload the items (Christina, Paul, Vern, Mark, Cliff, Linda, Jens, Marv, and John), those who helped set up and work the sale (Alta, Mildred, Judy, Barb, Linda, Christina, Gretchen, Jessica, Ian, and Ayla), and lastly those who purchased items to support our social ministry cause of the month and who will continue Jeannette's legacy of her love of Christmas.

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.

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.

SOCIAL MINISTRY OFFERING FOR JULY-GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES

Good Samaritan Ministries, motivated by Catholic social teaching, works in our community to advance family life, human dignity and the common good. We provide services to meet the physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs of individuals and families of all faiths, especially those most in need.

Good Samaritan Ministries provides stability to Helena area community members by creating a network of care and connecting individuals and families to resources to help create stability in their lives. Our partnerships with other area nonprofits, the homeless shelters, and the Helena Police Department help us meet the day-to-day needs of individuals in our community. Often confused, the Good Samaritan Ministries Thrift Store and the Assistance Ministry are separate programs with separate revenue streams. The thrift store is responsible for the following: the mortgage, insurances, taxes, salaries of 41 full and part-time employees-to include full benefits, all upkeep, and maintenance of the building. A percentage of the thrift store's net income is tithed quarterly to the Assistance Ministry. When possible, the remainder of the Assistance Ministry is funded through private donations and grants. This month all of our Christmas in July sale money and our Social Ministry offerings will go towards Good Samaritan Ministries. Support our efforts by shopping our sale on Saturday, July 9th, by mailing in your donations, or by placing your offering in the pew envelopes and checking the Social Ministry box.