



# Sunday, August 16, 2020

## 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### **Introduction**

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

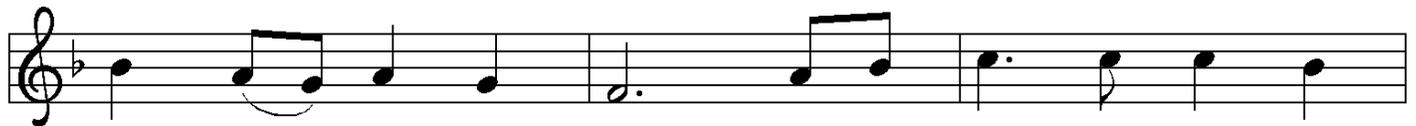
# Opening Hymn....."All Are Welcome"



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
claim the faith of Je - sus: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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## Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Gospel: Matthew 15:10-28**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."] Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

# Sermon Song....."Mighty to Save"

## VERSE



1. Ev-'ry-one needs com-pas - sion, love that's nev - er fail  
 2. So take \_ me as You find \_ me, all my fears and fail



- ing. \_ Let mer - cy fall on \_ me. \_  
 - ures. \_ Fill my life a - gain. \_



\_ Ev - 'ry-one needs for - give - ness, \_ the kind - ness of a Sav -  
 \_ I give \_ my life to fol - low, \_ ev - 'ry-thing I be - lieve .



- iour. \_ The hope of na - tions. \_  
 \_ in. \_ Now I sur - ren - der. \_

## CHORUS



Sav - iour, He can move the \_ moun - tains. My God is



might - y to save. \_ He is might - y to save. \_ For -



-ev - er, Au - thor of sal - va - tion. He rose and



con - quered the grave. \_ Je - sus con - quered the grave. \_

Last time to Coda ⊕

Continued . . . .

1. INSTRUMENTAL 1

2. INSTRUMENTAL 2

BRIDGE

Shine your light, and let the whole world \_ see. We're sing-ing

for the glo - ry of the ris - en \_\_\_\_ King. \_ Je - sus.

Shine your light, and let the whole world \_ see. We're sing-ing

for the glo - ry \_\_\_\_ of the ris - en \_\_\_\_ King. \_

D.S. al Coda

CHORUS

⊕ Coda

Sav - iour, He can move the \_ moun - tains. My God is

might - y to save. \_ He is might - y to save. \_ For -

*Continued . . . .*

-ev - er, Au - thor of Sal - va - tion. He rose and con - quered the grave. \_ Je - sus

BRIDGE

con - quered the grave. \_ Shine your light, and let the whole world .

\_ see. We're sing - ing for the glo - ry of the ris - en \_

\_ King. \_ Je - sus. Shine your light, and let the whole world .

\_ see. We're sing - ing for the glo - ry \_ of the ris - en \_ King. \_

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## Farewell and Godspeed for Stephen and Marcia Page

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Stephen and Marcia, as you leave our community of faith, we wish to bid you farewell.

*A reading from Isaiah:* Thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (*Isaiah 43:1-3*)

When you came to Living Water we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. In this community you have come to know and to share in God's loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you both in Living Water, and God has blessed us through you.

Let us pray. Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servants Stephen and Marcia, who have enriched Living Water Lutheran Church and shared their gifts with our church family. Now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Day by day, guide them and give them what is needed, friends to cheer their way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling them. By your Holy Spirit be present in this pilgrimage, that they may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

May Almighty God bless them and direct their days and their deeds in peace.

**Amen.**

## **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 power of 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**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make your face shine upon all. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and town, and for those who need your healing (*especially: Cy, Becky, Judi, Don, Betty, Becky, Nancy, Jeff, Vicki, Joy, Barbara, Sharon, Al, Kathryn, Mike, Michael, Ken, Claudia, Thelma, Lynne, Beth, Gene, Richard, Kathie, Charles, Shannon, Ruth, Gil, Trent, Dave, Allan & Betty Jane, Lew, Robert, Friends and Family of Linda, Dale, Arnold, & June*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation (name) grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

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.

## **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

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

## Distribution of Communion

At this time take the elements you have with you saying these words:

**The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.**

## 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.**

## Blessing

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✚ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn....."I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad  
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,  
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**