

Faith Lutheran Church LCMC


Hutchinson, MN

July 23, 2023 ~ 10:10 a.m.

Library Square

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Season Color: Green



*“Let both of them grow together
until the harvest; and at harvest
time I will tell the reapers,
‘Collect the weeds first and bind
them in bundles to be burned, but
gather the wheat into my barn.’”*

Matthew 13:30

Gathering Music “Alive and Breathing”

What holds your heart? What stirs your soul?
What matters come to mind? The cares you keep,
the thoughts you think, It's not all wasted time.
Seek and you will find.

Chorus: Joy still comes in the morning, hope still walks with the hurting.
If you're still alive and breathing praise the Lord.
Don't stop dancing and dreaming, there's still good news worth repeating.
So lift your head and keep singing, praise the Lord.

The years roll by, we wonder why we lost our way from home.
Our Father finds the child inside we left for growing old.
Awake, awake, awake my soul. *Chorus*

Let everything, let everything, let everything praise the Lord.
In the working, in the waiting, let it praise the Lord.
In the blessing, in the breaking, come on praise the Lord.
In the dying, the rising, let it praise the Lord.
Let it praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. *Chorus x2*

CCLI Song # 7138680

“See a Victory”

The weapon may be formed, but it won't prosper.
When the darkness falls, it won't prevail
'Cause the God I serve knows only how to triumph.
My God will never fail, my God will never fail.

Chorus: I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory.
For the battle belongs to You Lord. I'm gonna see a victory;
I'm gonna see a victory, for the battle belongs to You Lord.

There's power in the mighty name of Jesus.
Every war He wages He will win. I'm not backing down from any giant;
I know how this story ends. I know how this story ends. *Chorus*

You take what the enemy meant for evil and You turn it for good.
You turn it for good. *Repeat x3 Chorus x2*

CCLI Song # 7129060

Greeting/Announcements

Song “Battle Belongs”

When all I see is the battle, You see my victory.
When all I see is a mountain, You see a mountain moved.
And as I walk through the shadow Your love surrounds me.
There's nothing to fear now, for I am safe with You.

**Chorus: So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees with my hands lifted high.
O God, the battle belongs to You and every fear I lay at Your feet.
I'll sing through the night. O God, the battle belongs to You.**

**And if You are for me, who can be against me? For Jesus, there's nothing impossible for You. When all I see are the ashes, You see the beauty.
When all I see is a cross God, You see the empty tomb. *Chorus***

**An Almighty Fortress, You go before us, nothing can stand against
The power of our God. You shine in the shadows, You win every battle.
Nothing can stand against the power of our God. *Repeat x2 Chorus*
O God the battle belongs to You**

CCLI Song # 7148126

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name, Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a fellow member of the priesthood of all believers and by the authority of Jesus Christ I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Song “Run To The Father”

**I've carried a burden for too long on my own,
I wasn't created to bear it alone.
I hear Your invitation to let it all go, I see it now.
I'm laying it down and I know that I need You.**

***Chorus 1:* I run to the Father, I fall into grace, I'm done with the hiding,
no reason to wait. My heart needs a surgeon, my soul needs a friend,
so I'll run to the Father again and again and again and again.**

Oh, oh, again and again and again and again. Oh, oh, oh. Again and again.

You saw my condition, had a plan from the start.

Your Son for redemption, the price for my heart.

I don't have a context for that kind of love. I don't understand,

I can't comprehend. All I know is I need You.

Chorus 1

Oh, oh, again and again and again and again. Oh, oh, oh. Again and again.

My heart has been in Your sights long before my first breath.

Running into Your arms is running to life from death,

I feel this rush deep in my chest. Your mercy is calling out;

just as I am, You pull me in and I know I need You now.

Chorus 1

***Chorus 2:* I run to the Father, I fall into grace, I'm done with the hiding,
no reason to wait. My heart found a surgeon, my soul found a friend,
so I'll run to the Father. Again and again and again and again. Oh, oh, oh.**

CCLI Song # 7148126

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, when this world seems overrun by the evil that surrounds us, remind us that your Son, Jesus, has conquered evil and death and triumphed over all. Help us to confront the evil that can reside within us and turn it over to your transformative grace and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me?

Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has

announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to

be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?

You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock;

I know not one.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-27

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Faith Seeds: Laura Stowman, Director of Children and Family Ministry

Faith Seeds is a time for children of all ages to come forward for a lesson geared to them.

The Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia to you alone. Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, to you alone.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put another parable before the disciples, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,

and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Sermon: “Evil, suffering, and Kirk Cousins ” Pastor Dave Wollan

Song “Reckless Love”

**Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me,
You have been so, so good to me. Before I took a breath,
You breathed your life in me. You have been so, so kind to me.**

***Chorus:* Oh, the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God.
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine.
I couldn't earn it; I don't deserve it; still You give Yourself away.
Oh, the overwhelming, never ending reckless love of God.**

**When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me,
You have been so, so good to me. When I felt no worth,
You paid it all for me. You have been so, so kind to me.**

Chorus

**There's no shadow You won't light up, mountain You won't climb up,
coming after me. There's no wall You won't kick down,
Lie You won't tear down, coming after me.**

Repeat x3

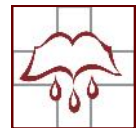
~ *Chorus*

CCLI # 7089641

Baptism of **Brielle Grace Stromseth**

daughter of Garrett and Ashley Stromseth

Sponsors: Jordan & Elizabeth Hoff and Mike & Hannah Janish



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Welcome for Newly Baptized

Pastor: God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus. We receive her with love and rejoice with her at her entrance into our fellowship.

Congregation: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

Offering "A Mighty Fortress"

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper, He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.**

**If we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing.
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He.
The Lord of Hosts His name, from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us.
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us;
And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us.
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us;**

***Chorus:* A mighty fortress is our God (His Kingdom is forever.)
A mighty fortress is our God (His Kingdom is forever.)
A mighty fortress is our God (His Kingdom is forever.)
A mighty fortress is our God (His Kingdom is forever.)
His Kingdom is forever. His Kingdom is forever.
His Kingdom is forever. His Kingdom is forever.**

If we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing.

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Offertory Response: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

LBW #565 Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Tune: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561

Prayers of the Church

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.

Benediction

Sending Song "The Lord's Prayer"

Verse:* Father let your kingdom come. Father let your will be done on Earth as in Heaven right here in my heart. *Repeat

Chorus:* Give us this day our daily bread, Forgive us, forgive us. As we forgive the ones who sinned against us forgive them. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one Let Your kingdom come. *Verse

**It's Yours it's Yours; All Yours all Yours
The kingdom the power the glory are Yours.
It's Yours it's Yours; All Yours all Yours.
Forever and ever the kingdom is Yours. *Repeat Verse*
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart.**

CCLI Song # 7200544

"What Does This Mean?"

Questions about Today's Worship Theme: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

- † What is the Master's response to the weeds?
- † How does that inform our response to evil and suffering?
- † Can we really differentiate between good and evil?
- † What was Jesus' response to suffering and evil?

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