

# Faith Lutheran Church LCMC

Hutchinson, MN

July 30, 2023 ~ 10:10 a.m.

Library Square

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Season Color: Green



*“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” - Matthew 13:44*

Gathering Music “Living Hope”

**How great the chasm that lay between us.  
How high the mountain I could not climb.  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke your name into the night.**

**Then through the darkness Your loving kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul.  
The work is finished the end is written  
Jesus Christ, My living hope.**

**Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame.**

**The cross has spoken, I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me his own.  
Beautiful Savior, I'm yours forever  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.**

***Chorus:* Hallelujah, praise the one who set me free!  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!  
You have broken every chain, there's salvation in your name  
Jesus Christ, my living hope. (repeat)**

**Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me. (repeat)**

**Jesus, yours is the victory! *Chorus***

CCLI # 7106807

“How He Loves”

**He is jealous for me loves like a hurricane.  
I am a tree bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy.  
When all of a sudden I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory.  
I realize just how beautiful You are and how great Your affections  
are for me.**

***Chorus:* He loves us, oh how He loves us.  
Oh how He loves us. Oh how He loves. (repeat)**

**We are His portion and He is our prize drawn to redemption by the grace  
in His eyes. If grace is an ocean we're all sinking. So heaven meets earth like  
an unforeseen kiss and my heart turns violently inside of my chest.  
I don't have time to maintain these regrets when I think about the way that**

***Chorus***

CCLI # 1585683

Greeting/Announcements

Song “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

**My life flows on in endless song; above earth’s lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

**Chorus: No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock  
I’m clinging. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?**

**Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? *Chorus***

**What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.**

**The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? *Chorus***

WOV 781 Text: Robert Lowery, 1826-1899 Music: Robert Lowery, 1826-1899. alt.

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 “Seek Ye First”

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.  
Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.  
We do not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.**

CCLI Song No. 1352

Prayer of the Day

**Almighty God, through your Son’s death and resurrection you draw all creation into your eternal reign. Grant us the grace to recognize the signs of your reign, the wisdom to value it above all else, and the faith to proclaim your coming kingdom to those who have yet to experience your mercy and grace; 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: Deuteronomy 7:6-11

You are a people holy to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession. It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. It was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. Therefore, observe diligently the commandment—the statutes, and the ordinances—that I am commanding you today.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-39

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that 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 our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Faith Seeds: Shelly Kirchoff

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 13:44-52

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Sermon: "Irrational Exuberance" Pastor Scott Grorud

Song “10,000 Reasons”

**Chorus: Bless the Lord, oh my soul, oh my soul. Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, oh my soul, I 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.**

*Chorus*

**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,  
10,000 reasons for my heart to find.**

*Chorus*

**And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come,  
soon my soul will sing your praise unending.  
10,000 years and then forever more.**

*Chorus*

CCLI #6016351

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.**

Offering ..... “How Great Is our God”

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty. Let all the earth rejoice  
All the earth rejoice. He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice. And trembles at His voice.**

**Chorus: How great is our God, Sing with me: How great is our God.  
And all will see how great, how great is our God.**

**And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands. Beginning and the End,  
Beginning and the End. The Godhead three in one, Father, Spirit, Son.  
The Lion and the Lamb. The Lion and the Lamb.**

*Chorus*

**Name above all names. Worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing How great is our God.**

*(repeat) Chorus*

CCLI Song No. 4348399

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 “Your Grace Is Enough”

**Great is Your faithfulness O God. You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart. You lead us by still waters into mercy and nothing can keep us apart.**

**Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob. You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of your salvation and all Your people sing along. So remember Your people, remember Your children. Remember your promise O God.**

**Your grace is enough; Your grace is enough; Your grace is enough for me. Yeah, Your grace is enough. Heaven reaches out to us. Your grace is enough for me.**

**God I sing Your grace is enough. I'm covered in Your love. Your grace is enough for me for me.**

CCLI #4477026

## **“What Does This Mean?”**

Questions about Today’s Worship Theme.

- ✠ What was irrational about the exuberance of the farmer and merchant?
- ✠ Why is irrational exuberance fully justified when it comes to the Gospel?
- ✠ According to St. Paul, what makes the good news of Jesus an invaluable treasure?
- ✠ How does the very goodness of the Gospel help to explain why many do not believe it?

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