

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 21, 2020 - 10:00 AM

Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223

www.livingspringscolumbia.org



God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

GATHERING: GOD-STORIES

You may send your photos and/or God Stories to GodAroundUs@livingspringscolumbia.org. Where have you seen or experienced God at work in yourself, in the lives of others, or the world this past week? Names are NOT required.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS/SUMMER HOPE MOMENT

We stand as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

People: **Amen.**

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

(Silence for reflection - we kneel as able)

Pastor: Reconciling God,

People: **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.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

We focus on the cross as it enters the sanctuary.

GATHERING SONG

"God of Grace and God of Glory"



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick

APOSTOLIC GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

We are seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dea Jones

Children, youth, and young at heart are invited for a special message. All may bring coins or dollars for the bucket collection to help those in need.

*This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

FIRST READING

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

Lector: A reading from Jeremiah.

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers. (Jeremiah 20:7-13)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 69:7-18

Lector: Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

**People: I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

Lector: Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**People: I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

Lector: I put on sackcloth also,
and became a byword among them.

**People: Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

Lector: But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD:
"In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

**People: Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

Lector: Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up;
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

**People: Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

Lector: Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

**People: Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**



SECOND READING

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

Lector: A reading from Romans.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:1b-11)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

We stand for the reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 10:24-39)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"When it Seems the Day Will End"



1. When it seems the day will end, and all light give way to fear, we will
2. When it seems the day will end, sink-ing low un-der our skin, we are
3. When it seems the day will end, and a cold-ness fills our bones we will



speak your name a - gain to re - mind us you are here. New life ri - sing
dead and born a - gain, and with you now en - ter in.
walk the way you've been, and our hearts will be your home.



(echo) Ash - es fall - ing (echo) Joy and weep - ing (echo)



In your call - ing (echo)

Text & Music: Justin Rimbo. All right reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

People: 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

Pastor: Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

+ A brief silence +

Pastor: Expansive God, you bring diverse voices together to form your church. Open our hearts and unstop our ears to learn from one another, that differences might not overshadow our baptismal unity. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Providing God, your creation shows us that life comes from death. Renew the places where our land, air, and waterways have been ill for too long. Direct the work of all who care for birds and their habitats. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Protecting God, sustain and keep safe all who work to defend others. Revive and strengthen all who are caring for refugees and migrants throughout the world, while their homelands struggle for peace. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Loving God, you promise to be with all who are persecuted for your sake. Guide all who speak your word of racial justice, and console any who are tormented or targeted for being who they are. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Healing God, you care for those who are burdened in body, mind, or spirit. Bring comfort & healing all who are sick, grieving, or burdened in any way, especially: *Melody Hair; Ed Brennan; Kellee Flores; Margaret Blank; Charles Kauffman; Bunie Talbert; the family of Joann Pulse; Carrie Malyerick; Don Woodruff; Jack Ramsey; Danny Weaver; Jason Anderson; James; Michelle Williams; Kyle Humphries; Charles Levitt; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud...* Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Compassionate God, you are with us and we are never alone. Bless all fathers, grandfathers, and father figures who strive to love and nurture as you do, *especially our LIVING fathers, grandfathers, fatherly figures who we name before you now...* Comfort all who long to be fathers and all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Reigning God, you bless us with guides and caretakers in the faith. We give thanks for those who have died, especially for our fathers, grandfathers, and fatherly figures who have passed to life in the Church triumphant *and we name before you now...* Increase our care for one another until we walk with them in newness of life. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Holy One, we pray for our nation and the world as we, your human family, face uncertainties around coronavirus, especially in these days of its resurgence. Protect the most vulnerable among us, those who are currently sick, in isolation, or awaiting test results. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care/essential workers, especially as their daily work continues to puts them at risk. Guide us as we consider how best to continue to respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear or self-centeredness, but with compassion, concern, and acts of loving service and sacrifice for others, trusting that you abide with us always. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We greet one another, with the words that the risen Jesus spoke to his disciples: "Peace be with you."

OFFERINGS ARE GIVEN

Offering may be dropped off at the office during the week or sent through the mail. For those who wish to give electronically, you may use the secure Givelify app.



OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

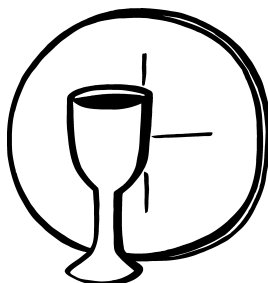
Remembering therefore his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Spirit of love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

People: 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

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

People: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

After today's streaming worship will conclude with an optional distribution of Holy Communion in the church parking lot. You can arrive at any time between 11:30 and 12:30 in your vehicle. We will utilize sanitary-packaged individual communion elements, which have been consecrated during the worship service. There will be an "usher" in the parking lot to direct vehicles to the distribution altar, and the pastor will be there, wearing mask and gloves (he will change gloves after each vehicle). Everyone please remain in your vehicle throughout the process. Once it's your turn, drive up and put your vehicle in park. The pastor will come to your car window(s) to distribute Holy Communion. AFTER you have consumed the elements, the Pastor will offer a blessing – and then you can pull away. While in the parking lot, everyone should be in prayerful worship-mode, as you represent God's people gathered to continue the worship experience from the morning service. Think of this in the same way you would think about "coming up to the communion rail for distribution" in your vehicle during an ongoing worship service.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

"The Table"

I will feast at the table of the Lord

I will feast at the table of the Lord

I won't hunger anymore at His table (Repeat)

CHORUS 1a



Come all you wear - y, come _ and _ find His yoke is
eas - y, His bur - den _ light. He is a - ble; He will re - store at the
ta - ble of the _ Lord.

Verse 2

There is peace at the table of the Lord

There is peace at the table of the Lord

I won't worry anymore at His table

Verse 3

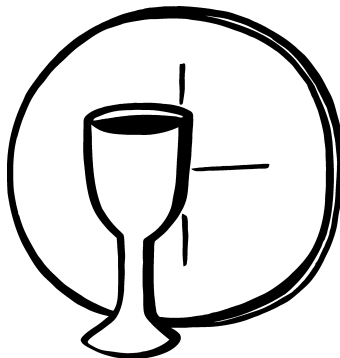
There is healing at the table of the Lord

There is healing at the table of the Lord

Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table (Chorus 1a)

CCLI Song # 7028956; Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Wayne Jolley; © 2014 S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com; CCLI License # 11402641

+ DURING THE COMMUNION SONG, THE ELEMENTS ARE CARRIED OUTSIDE TO THE DISTRIBUTION TENT +



BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

"Lift High the Cross"



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin; rev. Michael R. Newbolt; © 1974 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Grow deeper in Grace, deeper in Love, deeper in Christ—who is always with you.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Scatter the Seed of God's Love this summer:
LIKE & SHARE this Streamed Worship Service
via Facebook or YouTube!

JUNE "ALTAR FLOWERS"

Since we are not meeting in the sanctuary to enjoy the flower donations, the following have given monetary gifts in lieu of the flowers on the altar:

June 1: Gift to *Disaster Response* given to God's glory in honor of the people of Living Springs with thanksgiving for 7 years of partnership in ministry, from Kris & Eric Fink.

June 14: Gift to God's glory with thanksgiving to God for all the blessings in my life for the past year, from Patricia Brouwer Jolly.

God's Love, Our Hearts & Faces!



One Life Deeper in 2020!

Our prayerful goal is that God will work in every LS disciple to have an impact of faith and hope in the life of one person during 2020. **What shoes might they be wearing?** It may be someone you know already—at work, at home, at school, in the neighborhood, in your daily life. It may be a stranger whom God will bring to you this year. How will the Spirit work through you to bring someone deeper in 2020? **Deeper in Christ, Deeper in Grace, Deeper in Love!**

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS: inviting, involving, mentoring, discipling relationships one person at a time!

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS: for the work of God's kingdom in our community and world!

SHARING GOD'S LOVE: with those who are hurting, alone, marginalized, or feeling unloved!

SHARING GOD'S STORIES: so that we do not remain silent about God's ongoing work in the world!

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Good News for Cowards

Jesus is more straightforward in today's gospel than we might want to hear. He makes it strikingly clear that there is danger in this life, especially in following Jesus in his way of love, mercy, justice, and compassion. There is danger because many forces oppose God's way because of fear, greed, and selfishness.

Just by saying these things, Jesus raises our anxiety and provokes our own worry. But he doesn't leave us there. In fact, he says outright, "Do not fear" (Matt. 10:28). And beyond that, he tells us why we do not need to be afraid: "You are valuable to God."

We might feel like cowards at times. Fear grips us. We find it difficult to act for the sake of the gospel when there is risk, be it physical, social, or financial. The word coward comes from the word for "tail," like an animal putting its tail between its legs. We want to put our tail between our legs and hide.

Jesus summons us to something else: courage. The word courage comes from the word for "heart." Sometimes we say to someone facing a difficult time, "Take heart!" Courage enables a person to act even though they are afraid. They act from their heart, their sense of who they really are. Jesus tells us who we really are: we are valuable to God, so our lives matter. We will not be forgotten or abandoned, especially when we face troubles. This is our heart, our courage.

Jesus also says, "It is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher" (Matt. 10:25). Jesus faced ridicule, rejection, suffering, and death for his commitment to God's kingdom of love. We are not alone in our attempts to walk the way of love, mercy, justice, and compassion. Jesus, our teacher, walks this way with us. Take heart!

June Books of the Month: Galatians & Ephesians

