12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 23, 2020 - 10:00 AM

Living Springs Lutheran Church

4224 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223 www.livingspringscolumbia.org

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.



WORSHIP HELPERS FOR TODAY'S STREAMED SERVICE - THANK YOU!

Adriana McMurphy (Assisting Minister/Children's Message); John Imbert (Lector/Acolyte); Karen Kranz (Crucifer); Dea Jones/ Kay Herbert (Leader Worship Singers); Cathy Lowman (Congregational Singer); Bob Turnmire (Cantor/Sound); Trado Mayson (Piano); Leslie Bloss (Gathering Hymn Singer); Kris Fink (Guitar/Gathering Hymen Singer); Jan Berger/Sarah Schultz/Laura Turnmire (Bells); Shirley Laingen (Altar Guild). *Worship for next Sunday to be recorded this Wednesday at 7:15. Go to* <u>https://</u> <u>www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-sunday2</u> to sign-up to help for upcoming worship recordings (as a family, couple, or individuals).

CONGREGATION SUMMER FAVORITE HYMNS

"On Eagle's Wings" "We Are Marching in the Light " from Bob Gabbard from Anita Gabbard

LS Justice Ministry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS / TEMPLE TALK

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.

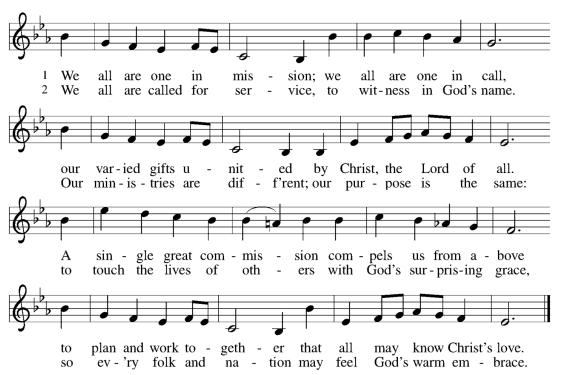
Pastor: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

(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.

We focus on the cross as it enters the sanctuary. **GATHERING SONG** "We All are One in Mission"



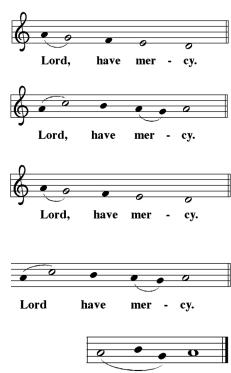
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APOSTOLIC GREETING

- 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.

KYRIE & PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pastor: For this community of faith, and all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



A

men.

- Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us Gracious Lord.
- Pastor: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **People: Amen.**

We are seated CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children, youth, and young at heart are invited for a special message. You may collect your coins or dollars at home for the bucket collection and bring them to the Parking Lot Communion Distributions (or drop them off at the church office). Current collection is for the Family Assistance Fund.

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.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" by Robert Robinson LS Disciples of Harmony hymn requested by Tom Willingham

FIRST READING

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

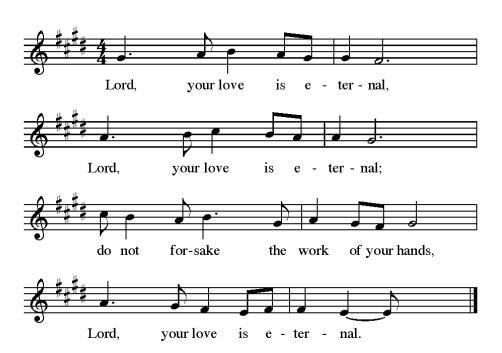
Lector: A reading from Isaiah.

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended. (Isaiah 51:1–6)

Lector:Word of God, Word of life.People:Thanks be to God.



PSALM 138 (Sung responsively) All: *Refrain -*



Cantor: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart; you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I praise you. I bow down toward your holy temple. **All:** *Refrain*

Cantor: I give thanks to your name for your merciful love and your faithfulness. On the day I called, you answered me; you increased the strength of my soul. All: Refrain

Cantor: The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly, and the haughty he knows from afar. O Lord, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

All: Refrain

SECOND READING

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

Lector: A reading from Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. (Romans 12:1–8)

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

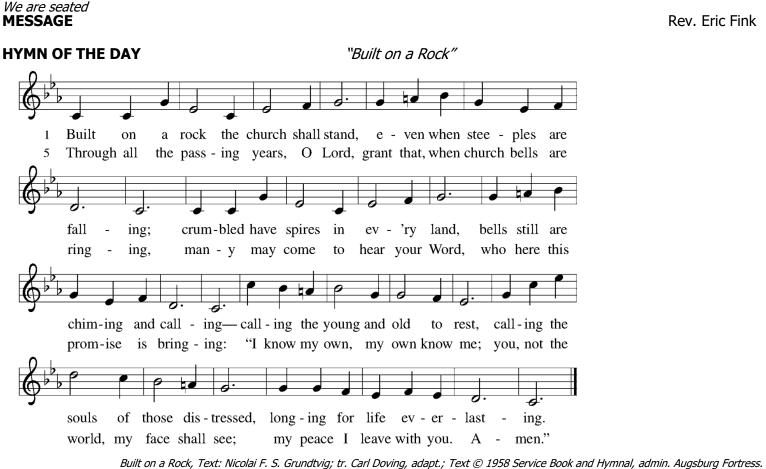
GOSPEL LESSON

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. (Matthew 16:13–20)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, O Christ.



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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

- Assist: 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 +*
- Assist: Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care. We pray especially for: *the Armagost family; Tammy Mancuso; Debbie Smith; Mary Joyce Newton; Gwen Brantley; Ed Brennan; Margaret Blank; Charles Kauffman; Bunie Talbert; Ella Spry; Betty Neal; Lila Bell; Wilma Bracey; Charles Levitt; Holley/Matt Owings; Bob Wormser; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud...* Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: You call us into this community, in which we, though many, are one in Christ. May we recognize in ourselves and in one another the unique gifts you have given us for the building up of the church for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assist: You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O God, As we face ongoing uncertainties around coronavirus, we pray for our nation and the world. Protect the most vulnerable among us, those who are currently sick, in isolation, or awaiting test results. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to scientists, vaccine researchers, and health care/food/essential workers as their daily work puts them at risk. Fill us with patience and 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 for others, trusting that you abide with us always. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

- Pastor: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; 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

Assist: 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 this table. Receive nourishment for your journey.

People: Thanks be to God.

+ THE ELEMENTS ARE SYMBOLICALLY CARRIED OUT OF THE CHANCEL +

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

THIS WEEK: Our worship will continue with **distribution of Holy Communion on Wednesday from 6-7pm** in the Parking Lot. 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.



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The elements are symbolically carried back to the altar.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

People: Amen

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

"All the People Said Amen"

You are not alone if you are lonely When you feel afraid you're not the only We are all the same in need of mercy To be forgiven and be free It's all you got to lean on But thank God it's all you need (Chorus) If you're rich or poor well it don't matter Weak or strong you know love is what we're after We're all broken but we're all in this together God knows we stumble and fall And He so loved the world He sent His son to save us all (Chorus/Bridge)

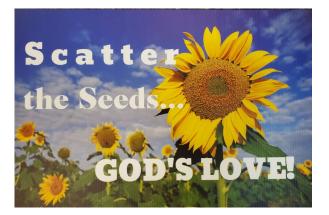


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DISMISSAL

Assist: Go in peace. Scatter the seed of God's kingdom love for all! **People:** Thanks be to God.

Scatter the Seed of God's Love this summer: LIKE & SHARE this Streamed Worship via Facebook or YouTube! SEND PHOTOS of your growing sunflowers: GodAroundUs@LivingSpringsColumbia.org



God's Love Shared Through You ...



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 1 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 we do not remain silent about God's ongoing work in the world!

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:

Who Is Jesus?

"Who do you say that I am?" (Matt. 16:15). When Jesus asks us this question, how do we reply? Do we respond with Peter, proclaiming that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16)? We may respond in that way when we feel we have more faith than doubt. However, we don't always feel so bold. Sometimes we might not have a clear answer when our Lord asks, "Who do you say that I am?"

Our worship here today is one of the ways we learn about what Jesus does so that we might proclaim who Jesus is.

Jesus . . .

... meets us in the assembly gathered for worship and calls us to be united in his love.

... meets us in baptismal waters, drowning our sin and making us new.

... invites us to tell the truth about the ways we have sinned against God and each other.

... responds to our confession with full and immediate pardon.

... is the saving, calling, redeeming Word, coming to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

... invites us to share what God has given us, calling us to offer our resources of money and time so that the church's mission of genuine love may be extended.

... feeds us with his own body. As we take Jesus into our bodies in the form of bread and wine, we become what we receive: the body of Christ.

... blesses us, gives us his peace, and grants us courage to answer his question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Having experienced Jesus in our worship, may we be so bold as to reply: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

August Book of the Month: Daniel

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