



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 31, 2016**



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS





CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*brief silence*)
Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.





OPENING HYMN ~ “Earth and All Stars!”

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

God has done marvelous things.

I too sing praises with a new song!





**Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!**





**Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!**





**Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!**





**Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

Refrain

**God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!**





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

C: **And also with you.**





INTRODUCTION

P: Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things





that are above.” To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord’s supper and the encouragement of God’s word.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.





**ALL: Benevolent God, you are the source,
the guide, and the goal of our lives.
Teach us to love what is worth loving,
to reject what is offensive to you, and
to treasure what is precious in your
sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior
and Lord.**

Amen





Children's Church





First Reading Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

A reading from Ecclesiastes

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has





given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.





So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their





days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation;
even at night their minds do not rest. This also is
vanity.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God!**





Psalm 49: 1-12 ~ A Responsive Reading ~

R: Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all
you who dwell in the world,

C: **you of high degree and low, rich and
poor together.**





R: My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding

C: I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

R: Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,





C: the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?

R: One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;

C: for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,





R: in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.

C: For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.





R: Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

C: Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.





Second Reading Colossians 3:1-11

A reading from Colossians, the third chapter

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your





life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed,





when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no





longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all! He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God!**





ALLELUIA



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.





GOSPEL Luke 12: 13-21

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,]
“Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him,
“Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator





over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger





ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up





treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.





~ **SERMON** ~
Rev. Denver Bitner





HYMN OF THE DAY ~ “Borning Cry”

**"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.**

**I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.**

**I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;**

**in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."**





**"When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."**





**"In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."**





**"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."**



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



P: Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.* O God, enliven the body of Christ with energy and creativity. Work through partnerships across towns, denominations, and ministry contexts, that Christ be shared with all.

Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**





P: Guard your creation against greed and over consumption. Restore polluted air and waters, protect animal habitats, and send new growth where it is needed.
Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**





- P:** Break down barriers between neighborhoods, peoples, and nations (*especially*). Sustain community leaders, legislators, volunteers, peacemakers, and all who seek the good of their communities. Hear us, O God.
- C:** **Your mercy is great.**





P: Soothe furrowed and fevered brows. Give energy and compassion to caregivers, those who sit at bedsides or wait by the phone. Comfort all in need of healing (*especially*).

Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**





P: Inspire our congregation to live in the present moment, O God, and to trust in you. In committee meetings, classrooms, and all ministries, give us flexibility to follow where you lead.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.





P: We give thanks for those who have died recently and across the ages (*especially*), and we rejoice in the hope of the resurrection.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.





P: We lift our prayers to you, O God,
trusting your promise to hear us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.





SHARING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of Christ be with you.

C. **And also with you.**





~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~

“Never Too Far Gone”

By Jordan Feliz





1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.



OFFERING PRAYER



P: Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.



DIALOGUE



P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the
Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.





WORDS OF INSTITUTION





THE LORDS 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.





COMMUNION





P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.





BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen





CLOSING HYMN

“Choral Benediction”





**May the light of God shine on us today.
May the light of God shine on us today.
May it show us where to travel,
lead us back if we should stray.
May the light of God shine on us today.**





**May the love of God live in us today.
May the love of God live in us today.
May the warmth we feel within us,
show in all we do and say.
May the love of God live in us today.**





**May the peace of God be with us today.
May the peace of God be with us today.
May it guide us and protect us,
as we go our separate ways.
May the peace of God be with us today.**





DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

****Please pick up your 6-month offering statement in the Narthex today.***

