**Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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July 19, 2020

PRELUDE Chorale Preludes on Two American Hymn Tunes Richard Purvis

ANNOUNCEMENTS: ELW Holy Communion Setting Eight

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **Amen**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.** Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, **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.**

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. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**   **ELW 853**

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**GREETING**

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

**KYRIE**

**C:\Users\Messiah\Downloads\ELW Setting Eight Kyrie (Melody) (2).tif**

C:\Users\Messiah\Downloads\ELW Setting Eight Glory (Melody) (2).tif**Canticle of Praise**

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### Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### Semicontinuous First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19a

God’s graciousness to Jacob is shown in God’s revelation of the divine self to the patriarch, who is running for his life after cheating his brother Esau out of the family inheritance. Jacob promises that if God brings him back to the land, he will be loyal to God and give God a tenth of everything (vv. 20-22).

10Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. 11He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. 12And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; 14and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. 15Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” 16Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” 17And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”  
18So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. 19aHe called that place Bethel.

### Psalm: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

*You have searched me out and known me.*(Ps. 139:1)

1Lord, you have searched me out; O Lord, you have known me.  
 2**You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**  
 3You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.  
 4**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**  
 5You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.  
 6**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**   
 7Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?  
 8**If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.**  
 9If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
 10**even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.**  
 11If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,”  
 12**darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.**   
 23Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.  
 24**Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting.**

### Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God’s children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

12So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. 18I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 20for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21that 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. 22We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 23and 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. 24For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 25But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

C:\Users\Messiah\Downloads\ELW Setting Eight Alleluia (Melody) (1).tif**Gospel Acclamation**

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

### Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God’s judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

24[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;25but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ 28He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ 29But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30Let 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.’ ” 36Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” 37He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** *Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**Apostles’ Creed**

**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

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

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.*

God of the harvest, you sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into your field. Help your church throughout the world to be both diligent and patient, full of resolve and gentleness, that our witness may be faithful to your intentions. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all space and time, your whole creation groans in labor pains, awaiting the gift of new birth. Renew the earth, sky, and sea, so that all your creation experiences freedom from the bondage of decay. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, teach us your ways, that we may walk in your truth. Mend the fabric of the human family, now torn apart by our fearful and warring ways (regions and nations in conflict may be named). Guide us by your mercy, grace, and steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of hope, you accompany those who suffer and are near to the brokenhearted. Open our hearts to your children who are lonely and abandoned, who feel trapped by despair, and all who suffer in any way (especially). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the seasons, in the midst of summer, give us refreshment, renewal, and new opportunities. We pray for the safety of those who travel. We pray for those who cannot take the rest they need. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of life, those who have died in you shine like the sun in your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints of all times and places and saints close to us (especially). Gather us with them on the day of salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**



### 

Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

**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.**

### Blessing

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. **Amen.**

**C:\Users\Messiah\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1_For the Fruit of All Creation (AR HYD Y NOS) (1).zip\For the Fruit of All Creation (AR HYD Y NOS) (Melody).tifSending HYMN**  **ELW 679**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

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Postlude Fugue on the “Kyrie” Francois Couperin

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| Messiah Lutheran Church | |  |  |
| 6/30/2020 |  |  |  |
|  | Actual | Actual | Budget |
|  | Jun-20 | Jan - Jun 20 | Jan - Jun 20 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Revenue | $7,152.28 | $88,584.68 | $74,130.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Expenses | 12,262.90 | 83,163.63 | 82,715.10 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Surplus (Deficit) | -$5,110.62 | $5,421.05 | -$8,585.10 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Reserve Balance | $75,719.15 |  |  |

***Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray* Members of Messiah**:

Rolland Christenson, Har Shogren, Donna Forsberg, Walli Ellis, Sue Untz, Betty Peterson.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Friends of Messiah**  Donna Stejksal  Denise  Suzi Gentine  Bill Stephenson  Dawn  CJ Griffith’s  Bryan Otte | Daniels' friend  Pari Ford’s mother  Paul’s sister-in-law  Joy Janis’s brother  Sharon Hoffman’s Daughter  Carla Wilson and Corey Griffith’s brother  Chris Reinert’s brother | Erin Erb  Stephani White  Karla Goewert  Orin Shogren  Daniellle VanDeVyvere  Bruce Butler  Krista Bahler  Betty Finney  Meghan Presley | Friend of Sherry Peterson  Betty Holcombe’s daughter  Friend of Kirsten Bruce  Har’s brother  Robbie Peterson’s granddaughter  Mary Jo Roch  Betty Peterson’s Niece  Sharon Hoffman’s friend  John & Margaret Presley’s daughter |

**Serving the U.S.A.**

Alex Klapp Betty Russin’s grandson Vicki Charboneau Elaine Eller’s granddaughter

Ben Youngquist S Hoffman’s nephew Jeremy Guy Hensley’s son-in-law

Luke Hammontree Daniel’s grandson T.J. Paulsen Barb Malm’s child

**Serving the U.S.A. Overseas**  **Seminary**

Daniel & Miranda Norland Randy/Gretchen’s son & wife Kaylie Ines

**Please pray for all affected by Covid-19**: Healthcare workers/administration/staff, residential staff and residents, those who seem unaffected and those who are currently aware they are infected and are fighting the virus. As well, we pray for all who are being economically negatively affected by the virus and it’s social disruption

**Birthday’s next week:**

Dwight Swisher 7/22

**Anniversaries next week:**

Dwight & L’Jean Swisher 7/26

**Announcements:**

**Youth Group Fund Raiser:** please keep in mind that the youth are still receiving donations for their initial fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering in 2021! You can give online or through the office. They are believing and hoping and trusting that the National Gathering will happen!

Dear Fellow Congregants,  
  
The Executive Council met today and decided, that in the interest of health, it was best to postpone gathering for worship in the sanctuary. With the rising number of cases in our county and the governor’s postponement of the phase out, it is the right thing to do.   
  
COVID-19 has certainly put a wrinkle in many of our plans this year. But, some wonderful things have happening despite the pandemic. The Dala Pantry has taken off with great gusto. Who knew when Pastor Amy begins putting the pieces in place for Messiah to host this wonderful community resource last fall that our church would be able to answer the call in this unprecedented time. It is due, largely, to this congregation members’ time and support that this venture has been successful.   
  
Online worship has also given us a new way to gather and when looking at the numbers of people who view the online service we can tell our church’s message is reaching many throughout the smoky valley, state, country and world. Thank you to each of you for answering the call and adding so many wonderful parts with your recorded additions to the weekly services.   
  
We look forward to seeing you all in person and worshipping together again. We are hopeful this may be in August.  
  
In Christ,  
  
Kirsten Bruce  
MELC Council President