

Living Faith Lutheran Church
August 23, 2020
12th Sunday After Pentecost

Preservice Music

(see end of this document for today's hymns)

Gathering

Welcome and Gathering Song:

861 – When Long Before Time

Greeting:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with us always. **Amen**

Prayer: (from the Iona Community)

In you, gracious God,
The widowed find a carer;
the orphaned find a parent;
the fearful find a friend.

**In you,
the wounded find a healer,
the penitent find a pardoner,
the burdened find a counsellor.**

In you,
the miserly find a beggar,
the despondent find a laughter-maker,
the legalists find a rule-breaker.

**In you, Jesus Christ,
we meet our Maker and we meet our match.**

And if some need to say, 'Help me'
And if some need to say, 'Save me'
And if some need to say, 'Hold me'
And if some need to say, 'Forgive me'
Then let these be said now, in confidence, by us . . . (silence)

**Beloved, say to us, do to us, reveal within us, those things that will
make us whole;**

And we will wait, and we will praise you. Amen
The Assurance of Pardon (from Romans 12: 1-2)

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.

WORD

First Reading: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Hymn: 704 – When Pain of the World Surrounds Us

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon:

Musical Reflection

The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
We 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.

We 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:

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.

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,

Hear our prayer.

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,

Hear our prayer.

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,

Hear our prayer.

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 (*especially Pat's sister, Donna; the family of Gareth and all who mourn their dead. . .*). Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You call us into this community (*name*), 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,

Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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 (*especially Rick, Dave, Maggie, Elizabeth, Gareth. . .*). Bring us with them to our heavenly home. 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.

Sharing of the Peace

Hymn 708 – Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Offering

Lord's Prayer

Sending Song – 728 Blest Are They

Blessing and Dismissal

LFLC Hymns for 23/08/2020

861 When Long Before Time

When long before time and the worlds were begun,
When there was no earth and no sky and no sun.
And all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,
And even our Maker had only a dream –

The silence was broken when God sang the Song,
And light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,
And with its first birth-cries creation was born,
And creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.

The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,
Their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;
The Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,
The choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.

Though down through the ages the Song disappeared,
Its harmonies broken and almost unheard,
The Singer comes to us to sing it again,
Our God is with us in the world now as then.

The Light has returned as it came once before,
The Song of the Lord is our own song once more,
So let us all sing with one heart and one voice
The Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.

To you God the Singer, our voices we raise,
To you Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,
To you Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,
Be glory forever through life and through death.

704 – When Pain of the World Surrounds Us

When pain of the world surrounds us with darkness and despair,
When searching just confounds us with false hopes everywhere
When lives are starved for meaning and destiny is bare,
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's healing flow through us.

We see with fear and trembling our aching world in need,
Confessing to each other our wastefulness and greed,
May we with steadfast caring the hungry children feed.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's justice flow through us.

The church is a holy vessel the living waters fill,
To nourish all the people, God's purpose to fulfill,
May we with humble courage be open to God's will.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's Spirit flow through us.

We praise you for our journey and your abundant grace,
Your saving word that guided a struggling human race.
O God with all creation, your future we embrace.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's changes flow through us.

708 – Jesus, Jesus Fill Us with Your Love

Chorus:

**Jesus, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the
neighbours we had from you.**

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. (Chorus)

Neighbours are wealthy and poor, varied in colour and race,
Neighbours are near-by and far away. (Chorus)

These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love,
All these are neighbours to us (Chorus)

Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
This is the way we will live with you. (Chorus)

728 – Blest Are They

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they the full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

Chorus:

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Blest are they the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth;
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. (Chorus)

Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure in heart; they shall see God. (Chorus)

Blessed are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. (Chorus)

Blest are you who suffer hate . . . all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see. (Chorus)