

8th Sunday after Pentecost
July 18, 2021
Living Faith Lutheran Church, Sechelt, BC

Preservice Music/Announcements

Welcome

In this time and place, we gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the shíshálh Nation.
With people from many places and times, we come to this house of prayer.

In this time and place, we meet in the presence of the living God.
The living God who creates us and all that is.

In this time and place, the risen Christ stands in our midst.,
The risen Christ who accompanies us and all people.

In this time and place, God's Holy Spirit breathes in and through us.
The Holy Spirit who transforms us and all life.

In this time and place, together, one people of God.
In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Amen.

GATHERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn #525 "You Are Holy"

You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,
you are wholeness,
you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

Prayer of the Day

O God, powerful and compassionate, **your shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us and makes us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

First Lesson 2 Samuel 7:1-14

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie

down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

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

Second Lesson Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"--a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands--¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of our God. **Thanks be to God.**

Lesson Hymn #635 "We Walk By Faith" *v. 3 – piano only*

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
 O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
- 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
 but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
- 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
 to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:
- 4 For you, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine:
 beneath the water and the word, beneath the bread and wine.
- 5 And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
 we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

Holy Gospel Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. ⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #325 "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
 all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me; in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
 when my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me; when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
 when my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Prayers of the Faithful

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence is kept for personal reflection*

Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice and to speak the truth to power without fear or worry. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters, especially those places in Europe where floods have caused great damage, where coastlands are threatened by rising sea levels, and in the Amazon, Asia and other parts of our world where forests are being leveled and those who live in them are losing their homes, their heritages and their livelihoods. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. Particularly do we pray for those living in conflict zones like Ethiopia, Tigray and Eritrea, Afghanistan, Iraq and South Africa.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, refugees, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost and forgotten. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill, grieving, fearful of losing their mobility and independence, *especially Ed and Randi and their families, Tory and Margaret, Pam and Bud, Dorothy and Ingrid, Erika and Erin, Nicholas and Terry, Merv and Marlene, Jan and Walter, as well as those whose needs and cries are only known to us and to you—those whose names we bring before you now in silence or aloud. . .*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Nourish and renew this congregation, O God, after our long and difficult time of being apart from one another. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and move us to be generous to those ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbours whether local or global, community or church-sponsored. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to trust you, O God, no matter where we go, what difficulties we face, how deep our sadness is and how strong our fears may be. Help us to remember always that you are beside us, around us and within us now and always. Hear us, O God. **Your merc is great.**

You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints, especially Gwen and Karsten and our indigenous sisters and brothers whose resting places are unnamed and unknown but whose names and lives are mourned by those who loved them and never got to say “goodbye”. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace/Offertory *A musical reflection is played while the table is set*

Offering Prayer

God of love, **you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.**

Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us always and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Opening Dialogue

Our God is with you. **And is also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift our hearts to heaven.**

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and, speaking, join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanks over the gifts

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 upon us the Spirit of your 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 honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

Fraction (Breaking of the bread)

The gifts of God for the beloved people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Invitation to the Meal

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

Distribution *Directions will be given prior to the sharing of the meal*

Song during distribution #483 "Here is Bread"

1. Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

*Refrain: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.*

2. Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here. *Refrain*

3. Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified.

*Refrain: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.*

Prayer after the Meal

Wellspring of joy, **through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.**
Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life, Divine Parent ✠ Beloved Child, and Indwelling Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song #326 "Bless Now, O God, the Journey"

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.
- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors, your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound;
together we are seeking the road where faith is found.
- 3 Divine eternal lover, you meet us on the road.
We wait for land of promise where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!

Postlude