

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 20, 2022
Living Faith Lutheran, Davis Bay, BC
A Service of Word and Sacrament

Preservice Music/Announcements

Welcome

In this time and place, we gather on the *swiya*,
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 give thanks for the light of God
that shines in the darkness. **A light no darkness can quench.**

In this time and place, we give thanks for the light and peace of Jesus Christ,
the Word made flesh. The light of all people.

In this time and place, we pray that the Spirit of God
will be renewed in our hearts and minds.

That we might be the light of God in the world.

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

Gathering Hymn #396 “Spirit of Gentleness” v.3 – *piano only; all sing refrain*

Refrain

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free;
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

- 1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." *Refrain*
- 2 You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. *Refrain*

3 *You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. Refrain*

4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. *Refrain*

*The baptismal party gathers at the font during the last verse of the hymn.
The Liturgy for Holy Baptism begins on page 227 in the front part of the red books*

The presider begins with the following prayer.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

The mother presents the candidate for baptism p. 228

I present **Colin Julian** for baptism

The presider addresses the parent

As you bring *your child* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:
to live with *him* among God's faithful people,
to bring *him* to the word of God and share the holy supper,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that *your child* may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *your child* grow in the Christian faith and life?

I do and I ask God to help me.

Do you promise to remain faithful to your child whatever the future may bring,
to respect him wherever he may go, remembering he is a child of God?

I do and I ask God to help me.

By what name do you wish your child to be called? **Colin Julian**

The presider responds

Colin Julian. May this name be written in the book of life and in the palm of God's hand.

The presider addresses the family and friends p. 228

Do you promise to nurture *Colin* in his faith

and to help live with love in his family and in the wider world? **We do.**

The presider addresses the assembly

People of God, do you promise to support Colin
and pray for him in his new life in Christ. **We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

page 229 *All rise if able*

The presiding minister addresses the whole the assembly inviting all to respond

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Apostles' Creed *(On the inside cover of the red hymnals or on page 105)*

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

**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.** *Be seated*

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

page 230

Water is poured into the font during the prayer (which is different than the version in the book)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into this child baptized here. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The holy washing

Colin Julian, I baptize you into Christ that you may share his death and resurrection in the name of the Father. . .and of the Son . . .and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The presiding minister continues

page 231

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain *Colin Julian* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized using oil prepared for this purpose.. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Colin Julian, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

A lighted candle is given to the newly baptized by a representative of the congregation who says:
Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

The baptismal group faces the assembly and the same representative leads the assembly in the welcome.
Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

*The baptismal party returns to their seats. The gathered community is "aspurged"
or "sprinkled" with water as a reminder of their baptisms into Christ.*

Hymn #732 "I Was There" *Stand in body or spirit*

- 1 "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."
- 2 "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."
- 3 "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."
- 4 "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."

Greeting

The grace of our Brother, Jesus, the love of God our Mother who gave us birth, and the companionship and joy of the Spirit of Life be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Lord Jesus, **make us instruments of our peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Eternal One and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

Response to the readings: Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

First Reading Genesis 45:3-11, 15 From "The Message" by Dr. Eugene Peterson

3 Joseph spoke to his brothers: "I am Joseph. Is my father really still alive?" But his brothers couldn't say a word. They were speechless - they couldn't believe what they were hearing and seeing. **4** "Come closer to me," Joseph said to his brothers. They came closer. "I am Joseph your brother whom you sold into Egypt. **5** But don't feel badly, don't blame yourselves for selling me. God was behind it. God sent me here ahead of you to save lives. **6** There has been a famine in the land now for two years; the famine will continue for five more years - neither plowing nor harvesting. **7** God sent me on ahead to pave the way and make sure there was a remnant in the land, to save your lives in an amazing act of deliverance.

8 So you see, it wasn't you who sent me here but God. God set me in place as a father to Pharaoh, put me in charge of his personal affairs, and made me ruler of all Egypt.

9 "Hurry back to my father. Tell him, 'Your son Joseph says: I'm master of all of Egypt. Come as fast as you can and join me here. **10** I'll give you a place to live in Goshen where you'll be close to me - you, your children, your grandchildren, your flocks, your herds, and anything else you can think of. **11** I'll take care of you there completely. There are still five more years of famine ahead; I'll make sure all your needs are taken care of, you and everyone connected with you - you won't want for a thing.' Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 1:18-22 From "The Message"

18 Well, you're wrong. I try to be as true to my word as God is to God's word. Our word to you wasn't a careless yes canceled by an indifferent no. How could it be? **19** When Silas and Timothy and I proclaimed the Son of God among you, did you pick up on any yes-and-no, on-again, off-again waffling? Wasn't it a clean, strong Yes? **20** Whatever God has promised gets stamped with the Yes of Jesus. In him, this is what we preach and pray, the great Amen, God's Yes and our Yes together, gloriously evident. **21** God affirms us, making us a sure thing in Christ, putting God's Yes within us. **22** By the Spirit, God has stamped us with an eternal pledge or seal--a sure beginning of what God is destined to complete.

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

Alleluia verse "Hallelujah!" Leonard Cohen *Rise if able*

Holy Gospel Luke 6:27-38 **Glory to you, O Lord**

⁷But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Response after the reading

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Heidi Magnuson-Ford

Be seated

Song of the Day

#726 "Light Dawns on a Weary World" *Stand in body or spirit*

- 1 Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain


*The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.*

- 2 Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find bread and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain*
- 3 Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world: the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain*

Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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Prayers of the Faithful *Be seated*

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made. *A brief silence is kept*

You teach us to love our neighbours and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest, hunger or threats, especially those in Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, Myanmar and Afghanistan. Calm the fears of those in the Ukraine and give all leaders involved the wisdom to choose peace over conflict. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled *especially Margo and Margaret who are recovering from surgery; Terry and Tory and Linda, Dorothy and Dorcas, Bud and Pam, Ingrid and her dying friend, Dan; Erika and Rikki; Pat's sister who is dealing with an incurable illness; Ed, Morrie, and Les who mourn. . . and those known only to us whose names and needs we bring before you now in silence or aloud. . .* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve differences with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love particularly to those little ones who are part of our extended family: Colin, Naomi, Chloe and Brooklyn. We also ask you to grant strength, courage and patience to Bishop Kathy as she carries out the multitude of responsibilities particular to her office. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom (*especially Gwen, Sarah, Sher, Hildegard and Freda*). As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace *A musical reflection is played as the table is set*

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe: **You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.**

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

God is with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**
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, our Creator and Sustainer. And so, with the saints on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join the unending hymn:

#191 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer over the gifts of the earth

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.
Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.
Through him all glory and honour is yours, Ancient of Days, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

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

Prayer after the Holy Supper

We give you thanks, gracious God, **for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.**
Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favour to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Blessing

Sending Song #840 "Now Thank We All our God" *Stand if able*

- 1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
- 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
- 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Postlude

Dismissal

Go with Christ into a weary world. Be the good news you share. **Thanks be to God.**

Our thanks to Heidi Magnuson-Ford for her message this morning—particularly since it is her grandson who was (is?) baptized. . .bringing a lot of family members and friends to share this celebration. Talk about stress! Preaching to a congregation is one thing but preaching to sisters . . .and in-laws. . .well, that's another thing entirely.

Thanks as well to Pam Horner, who, with her spouse, Dan, is one of our “guests-becoming-friends-becoming family” for not only sharing the idea of a shell given to the newly-baptized (a practice she followed in her parish ministry in Virginia) as a reminder of this special occasion, but who gave the shell to Colin and his family as her/our gift.

Special thanks to Elisabeth Stephenson who loaned us a gorgeous abalone shell which was used in the baptism. Such a gift of the creation to enrich this “new creation” which took place today is something over which to rejoice.

We ask your personal prayers for Dorcas, Steinar Haugen’s sister who is critically ill, for Pat Wing's sister, who is dealing with a life-threatening illness, and for Margaret Rowe who underwent major surgery this past Friday at Lion’s Gate Hospital.