

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 13, 2021

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska, 402-662-3125
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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15)

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap,

showing that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

GATHERING HYMN: "Praise to the Lord" LBW 543. vv. 1,2,4

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?

4. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

C: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

MESSAGE

Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Hymn of Promise"

- 1. In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed an apple tree. In cocoons a hidden promise butterflies will soon be free. In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.**
- 2. There's a song in every silence seeking word and melody. There's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future, what it holds a mystery. Unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.**
- 3. In our end is our beginning, in our time infinity, in our doubt there is believing, in our life eternity. In our death a resurrection, at the last a victory. Unrevealed until its season something God alone can see.**

"Hymn of Promise", words & music by Natalie Sleeth. © 1986 Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission. CCLI License #2497574.

DEDICATION OF STAINED GLASS WINDOWS AND AUDIO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT

P: Here in this place of worship we gather in the name of God the Creator, the Redeemer and Sustainer to dedicate this audio/video system equipment, furniture and stained glass windows to the service of God. Let us pray:

C: Creating and Re-Creating God, we give thanks for the gifts made by families who gather here today, for gifts given in memory of those who have gone before us. and we give thanks for the promise of gifts that have yet to be shared. Today we give thanks that because of the generosity of many, the life of this faith community is enriched.

C: "My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendor all day long." (Psalm 71:8)

P: Lord God, the world is filled with the sounds of your glory. May this audio/video equipment and furniture help to offer all who are a part of this faith community and throughout the world a fuller worship experience. And may we be encouraged to raise voices in praise in response to hearing God's promise, God's hope, and God's love. We give thanks for those who operate this equipment.

C: Amen.

C: "I will make your windows of agates and all your borders of pleasant stones" (Isaiah 54:12)

P. Look upon the rainbow and praise him who made it.

C: How beautiful it is in its brightness.

P: O Lord God, the whole world is filled with the radiance of your glory. Accept our offering of these windows which we now dedicate to you for the adornment of this place and the inspiration of your people. Grant that as the light shines through it in many colors, so our lives may show forth the beauty of your manifold gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE PEOPLE

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

THE LORD'S 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.

BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May his face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May He look upon you with favor and grant you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Earth and All Stars" LBW 558, vv 1 & 6

1. Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the Lord a new song! Oh, victory! Loud shouting army! Sing to the Lord a new song! He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

6. 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! He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

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SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP! It's wonderful to gather as the body of Christ to worship and give thanks to God! Thanks be to God for all of you here in person, in the parking lot and on-line!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: our shut-ins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Karlea Nouzovsky (June 16), Mike Rehrs (June 17), Wayne Hill (June 18).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Virgil & Pat Jobman (6-13-76), Stanley & Denise Fritzen (6-16-00), Wayne & Gayle Robinson (6-16-18), David & Buffy Kagy (6-17-96).

BELOVED MEETING – today following worship. This is for everyone willing to help/volunteer in any way with BeLoved this coming year. In order to keep BeLoved running smoothly, we need approximately 20 volunteers each week. Men, women, and youth are all welcome as volunteers. If you are unable to be at the meeting but would like to volunteer, please contact Brenda.

TO CELEBRATE PASTOR LURAE'S MINISTRY with American Lutheran, the church will host a dinner beginning 11:00 a.m. next Sunday, June 20. Please join us to thank Pastor for her time of serving our congregation.

THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE will be meeting after church on June 27 to discuss upcoming expenditures.

SIGN-UP SHEET FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Please sign the sheet on the table in the narthex if you would be willing to host Fellowship Hour. Thank you!

JUNE THRIVENT ACTION PROJECT - We will be supporting families that stay at the Ronald McDonald's House in Omaha. On the table in the narthex is a Wish List of donations we are collecting through June, along with collecting can tabs. There is a jar in back of church for the tabs. Monetary donations are being accepted too. In 2020, the Ronald McDonald's House in Omaha hosted 196 families from 22 states who spent a total of 4,777 nights - with an average stay of 35 days - at the House. Half of these families were making the trip to Omaha for the first time. When your loved one is being transferred to a hospital further away from home, one doesn't have time to pack everything they need. Each of these items helps make their stay at the house a little more comfortable while they are caring for their sick child. The NICU (Newborn Intensive Care Unit @Nebraska Medical Center) will receive 33 lap blankets to be given to families of NICU babies. If you want to know more, take the Virtual Tour on their website (<https://rmhcomaha.org/>) or on FaceBook. A Thrivent Action Team Card for this project is provided by Virgil & Pat Jobman

HELP NEEDED: We have quilt blocks downstairs on the table in the Fellowship for people who are willing to sew them together. Also, blankets for hemming. Thank you for your ministry!

SUNMART RECEIPTS: Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! SunMart/Spartan Nash Co. supports a fundraising program called "Support Our Schools and Churches." All you have to do is save your SunMart cash register receipt tapes and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall (or give to a council person). When we have collected \$150,000 in receipt tapes Spartan Nash Company awards us a check for \$1000. We have reached our first goal of \$150,000 and received the first check for \$1000, so now we are starting over again! You can also ask your check-out person if they have any extra receipts. They save the ones that people don't want and give them out - first come, first serve. Thank you to everyone who is helping with this ministry!

PLEASE DONATE TO OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY: American Lutheran Church gathers food donations for the Community Pantry and Emergency Services in Beatrice on an ongoing basis. The Food Pantry serves all of Gage County. If you would like to give to this ministry, please leave your donated items in the shopping cart in the Fellowship Hall at any time. NO glass jars, please. **THANK YOU** for your continued support to this ministry!

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE: You can find our church website at www.filleylutheranchurch.com or by scanning this QR code:



BULLETIN ITEMS are due by Tuesday evenings. Please call Sandy or email her at smahleris@gmail.com.

BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND on Facebook and on our website, filleylutheranchurch.com. Bulletins are also being sent out by email to everyone that we have an email address for. If you are not receiving the bulletin by email and would like it, please email Sandy at smahleris@gmail.com with your email address.

WORSHIP HELPERS:

Council – Dave Norton-President, Virgil Jobman-Vice President, Carol Frerichs-Secretary, Brenda Hippen-Treasurer, Linda Searcey-at large

Reader – Linda Searcey

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video – Virgil Jobman

Accompanist: Sandy Mahler