

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 20, 2021

American Lutheran Church, Filley, Nebraska, 402-662-3125
LuRae Hallstrom, Pastor; Cell: 402-269-7147, Home: 402-269-3147

PRELUDE: "Blessed be the Name", "Sanctuary", "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 107)

God's faithful love endures for ever and ever.

Because of God's everlasting goodness, we offer God our thanks and praise.

God's faithful love endures for ever and ever.

Because of God's care and concern for humanity, we offer God our thanks and praise.

God's faithful love endures for ever and ever.

Because of God's transforming powers and actions, we gather as a community of faith and trust in God— and we offer God our thanks and praise. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Baptized In Water" WOV 693, vv. 1,3

1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King: heirs of salvation, trusting His promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.

3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King: born of the Spirit, we are His children; joyfully now God's praise we sing.

"Baptized in Water," words by Michael Saward. ©1982 The Jubilate Group. Used by permission. CCLI License #2452533.

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(People may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Please be aware of those who may choose to do this from a distance.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

C: O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (All children are invited to come forward)

FIRST READING: Job 38:1-11

¹The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: ²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. ⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? ⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?—⁹when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, ¹¹and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped’?”

GOSPEL: Mark 4:35-41

³⁵When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.” ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

MESSAGE

Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Don’t Stop Believing”

Pastor LuRae, Sandy Mahler, Penny Oestmann, Cindy Post

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you gather your people from east and west, north and south. We pray for the mission of the church throughout the world, that your steadfast love may be made known to all peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You laid the foundations of the earth and the waters are the womb of creation. The morning stars sing your name and all creation shouts for joy. We pray for your blessed creation, that it may continue to flourish and magnify your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You keep watch over all nations. We pray for countries experiencing violence, hunger, and unrest. Guide worldwide and local community organizations in their efforts to establish safety and justice.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You are close to the brokenhearted and near to those in distress. We pray for those who are experiencing oppression. Liberate us from the systems and chains that bind us. Remove the barriers that separate us from one another. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You dwell with us in this faith community. We pray for our leaders and elders. Grant them knowledge, patience, and kindness, that through their leadership you may be exalted in this assembly. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your love endures in all situations. On this Father's Day, we pray for those who are fathers or wish to be fathers, for those with broken or strained relationships, for those who are missing their fathers, and for fathers who have lost children. Bless and strengthen them. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION (Pre-Covid communion practices will be used for continuous communion. Individual cups are available at your discretion.)

COMMUNION SONGS: "Let Us Break Bread Together", "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)", "On Eagle's Wings", "Borning Cry"

POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

P: The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

All: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GODSPEED AND FAREWELL TO PASTOR

Congregational Leader: Century after century Christians continue to take certain persons in the communities, set them apart and say, "You are our shepherd. We want you to be responsible for saying and acting among us what we believe about God and kingdom and gospel. We need help in keeping our beliefs sharp, accurate and intact. We know there are strong influences that would dilute or destroy our faith. We want you to give us help. Minister with Word and Sacrament through all the stages of our lives, in our work and play, celebrations and sorrows. This is what the church says to individuals it calls its pastors. Today we are not just saying good-bye — this is a time of sending.

Pastor LuRae, your first day as a Vicar in the Teem Program at American Lutheran Church was almost nine years ago - August 1, 2012. On June 28, 2015, Pastor Megan Morrow, Assistant to the Bishop, presided as you were officially installed as a Pastor here at American Lutheran Church.

Congregational Leader: (at pulpit) You were invited into this pulpit. In this spot you have proclaimed the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. This pulpit has not belonged to you; the saving message of Christ is not something one can possess, but only bear witness to. You have been a faithful occupant of this church's pulpit and messenger of the good news of God's love in Christ. As you leave this pulpit we thank God for your preaching ministry.

CONGREGATION: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Congregational Leader: (At font) At this font you have presided at the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Through the cleansing waters of baptism, we welcome new members into the family of Christ. The gift of new life in Christ belongs to God. The church is the custodian of this rite of welcome, and you have introduced this congregation to many new brothers and sisters in the faith. You have presided as confirmands affirmed their baptismal promises during your years with us. As you leave this font, we thank you for your ministry surrounding baptismal promises.

CONGREGATION: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Congregational Leader: (Behind or at the altar) At this altar you have presided at the Sacrament of Holy Communion. You have reminded us of the story of Jesus' beginning of this meal. You have provided instruction to those who would receive it for the first time. The meal is the Lord's, and this congregation has been provider of this meal to the baptized who seek to be fed with the living presence of Christ. You have presided over this meal so that it could be served in an orderly fashion. As you leave this table, we thank you for presiding at the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

CONGREGATION: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Congregational Leader: (top step) Standing in front of this congregation you have led services where we thanked God for people who had died. You led us in the midst of grief while we expressed gratitude for God's gift of life. You proclaimed the Good News of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and encouraged the community with the comfort of the gospel, celebrating God's victory over death. As you leave this sanctuary, we thank you for being with us in our times of loss.

It is also here that you presided at services where couples were married. You were present to rejoice with those who rejoice. Thank you for sharing those and other great times of joy.

CONGREGATION: **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Congregational Leader: We will hold you, Pastor LuRae, in our prayers as you discern the next part of your journey. We pledge our love and support to you and wish you God's blessing. We will care for American Lutheran Church in its transition and seek God's will as we step in the next part of our journey.

CONGREGATION: You have been part of this church family, and as we release you from the call to serve this congregation, we thank you for sharing your gifts for the sake of Christ's mission in our community. We are proud to send you with our prayers and blessing.

All: Eternal God, you hold the times and seasons, endings and beginnings, in your hands. We give you thanks for our time together, for work accomplished, for joys and pains woven into the fabric of our common life. Grant to us all the guidance of your Holy Spirit, that fears and uncertainties about the future be transformed into the confidence that belongs to the children of God. May each day be received as a sacred trust and lived to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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: "A Choral Benediction"

May the light of God shine on us today. May the light of God shine on us today. May it show us where to travel, lead us back if we should stray; May the light of God shine on us today.

May the love of God live in us today. May the love of God live in us today. May the warmth we feel within us, show in all we do and say. May the love of God live in us today.

May the peace of God be with us today. May the peace of God be with us today. May it guide us and protect us as we go our sep'rate ways, May the peace of God be with us. (Men sing- May the love of God live in us.) May the light of God shine on us today. And every day !!!

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SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

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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 Lindsey Meints (June 20), Serryn Lenner (June 22), Gina Tremain, Carlyne Wolken (June 23), Dallas Shufeldt (June 25), Jim Frerichs, Brie Rehrs (June 26).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Robert & Arlys Jurgens (6-20-69), Tim & Stephanie Crocker (6-25-16), Ross & Lodene Kaufman (6-25-82).

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY: This morning we celebrate the Baptism Anniversary of Molly Rose Milburn who was received into God's family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on June 21, 2020. We pray for God's richest blessings on Chris, Ashley, Declan and Molly.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM: This morning we welcome Allen Fenton Sasse through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Allen is the son of Brian & Jill Sasse and was born July 21, 2014 in Omaha, NE. His sponsors are Wyatt Currie, Tristan Sugden and Colby Sugden.

FIRST COMMUNION: God's blessings to Justice Currie who has completed her First Communion studies and will be receiving her first communion this morning:

YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP CELEBRATE PASTOR LURAE'S MINISTRY this morning as we enjoy a meal together beginning at 11 a.m. Everything is provided and all members and visitors are welcome!

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

VISITATION SUNDAY will be Sunday, July 4. Please take this time to visit the church of your choice and bring back bulletins/ideas for American Lutheran!

THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING of American Lutheran Church will be held Sunday, July 18, following worship.

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!

GREAT JOB - SECOND GOAL REACHED! Thanks to everyone who has been saving their SunMart receipts! We have reached our second goal of \$150,000 and applied for the \$1000.00 check, and now are starting over again with about \$9000.00 in receipts counted! 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. 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 – Kierstin Rehms

PowerPoint Preparer/Presenter – Brenda Hippen

Audio/Video – Norm Flesner

Musicians: Sandy Mahler, Pat Jobman, Tom Karlin, Virgil Jobman, Lodene Kaufman, Dave Norton, Linda Searcey, DeeAnn Schmidt, Dave Wolken, Tom Young
Brynn Jobman, Trumpet