

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
305 Livingston St, Filley, NE
Pastor LuRae Hallstrom**

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 2, 2020**

PLEASE MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Radio frequency will be announced. Facebook @ American Lutheran Church - Filley, NE
Financial contributions can be brought to Sunday morning worship or can be forwarded to American Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 66, Filley, NE 68357. You may also do on-line giving at www.filleylutheranchurch.com.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

We gather together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21)

P: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

C: The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

P: The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

C: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

P: You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

C: The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.

P: The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

C: He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.

P: The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

C: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The Gospel lesson for today tells of Jesus trying to find peace and quiet.

C: We too seek peace. Peace of mind and peace of heart.

P: Sometimes we are the ones who cause turmoil in others.

C: Lord, forgive us.

P: Jesus went to a quiet place seeking peace, but the crowds found him...

C: We have moments of peace...but then it leaves. Jesus remained calm. He listened to the needs of those who came to him.

P: He had compassion on the crowd and healed all who were ill.

C: When evening came and they were hungry, Jesus said "Give them something to eat", but the disciples said it was impossible.

P: Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up, blessed the food, and told the disciples to serve the people. The people ate and were satisfied.

C: Lord, we too are ones who need and desire your presence. We have need of healing and forgiveness. Like the disciples we do not always believe you can possibly care for our needs.

And sometimes we don't feel we should bother you or we feel that our concerns aren't worth your time. Forgive us for the many moments we do not trust. Forgive us when our faith is weak. Forgive us when we are the cause of turmoil or anger or anxiousness in others. Forgive us when we let turmoil or anger reside in us. Forgive us for not seeing the miracle of your caring... every moment of every day.

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.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray...

C: Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

READINGS

Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

MESSAGE: Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

(Words printed for meditation/reflection only - no singing.)

- 1. Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need. Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked Your mercy's perfect deed: We, Your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart; consecrating to Your purpose every gift which You impart.**
- 2. Still Your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead. As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, by Your Spirit send Your power to our world to make it whole.**
- 3. As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light, in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight. Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to ardent service, Your abundant life to share.**

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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

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.

You take resources that appear to be meager, bless them, and there is enough. May your church trust that what you bless and ask us to share with the world is abundantly sufficient. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all. Reverse the damage we have caused your creation. Replenish ground water supplies, provide needed rains in places of drought, and protect forests from wildfires. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You offer yourself to all the nations and peoples of the earth, inviting everyone to abundant life. Bring the prophetic vision to fullness, that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find their joy in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Hear the anguish of tender hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest needs. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You offer freely the fullness of salvation. Give our congregation, American Lutheran Church, such a welcoming heart, that our words and actions may extend your free and abundant hospitality to all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You gather your saints as one, united in the body of Jesus. Bring us with all your saints to the heavenly banquet. We remember with love and thanksgiving the saints we have known. 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

The grace, love, and forgiveness of Jesus lavishly showered on each one of us means we can come to the table of the Lord without fear or hesitation, trusting in the patient work of God's Spirit. God's grace revealed in Jesus creates a welcome space for all to come, confessing and trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

The Words of Institution

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.

Prayer of Consecration

Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love, and may this, the bread of life, bring healing of body, mind, and spirit. Through Christ, our Lord. 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.

DISTRIBUTION

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.

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.

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!

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Dustin Fritch

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Arlene Schmidt (Aug. 3), Declan Milburn (Aug. 4), Steve Janssen (Aug. 5), Wendy Garrels (Aug. 7), Ruthie Fritzen (Aug. 8).

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Brad & Kelly Baehr (8-3-91) and Don & Glenda Van Eperen (8-7-66).

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.

THANK YOU to everyone who supports Community Food Pantry. Please note that they could use financial support rather than food items at this time.

WE ARE COLLECTING ITEMS FOR SCHOOL KITS (new items only) for both globally through Lutheran World Relief and for local needs. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage. There is a box in the narthex for your items. Each School Kit needs:

Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper

One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

One pencil sharpener; One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); One box of 16 or 24 crayons

Please help fill our bags and be a part of this ministry. Thank you!!!

THERE ARE ALSO QUILTS to be hemmed and quilt blocks to be sewed together in the fellowship hall. If you would like these delivered to you, please contact Carol Frerichs.