

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

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 9, 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](http://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: (based on Psalm 85:8-13)

P: Peace-loving and peace-giving God, you bless us with your unfailing and unconditional love:

**C: We come to worship and praise our loving God, and rejoice in God's tender mercy towards us.**

P: Generous God, you pour blessings and grace upon us, forgiving us for our sin and shame:

**P: We come to worship and honour our merciful God, and rejoice in the wonder of forgiven and forgotten sin.**

P: Holy God, in the beauty of your peace, and in the glory of your presence, all barriers are lowered:

**C: We come to worship our glorious God, who enriches the lives of God's own people and speaks peace into the hearts of all who are faithful. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the Gospel lesson for today the disciples are in a boat on the Sea of Galilee.

**C: They get overtaken by a powerful storm.**

P: There are storms of nature so powerful that entire towns can be destroyed.

**C: There are storms of evil that invade our world and cause death and tragedy.**

P: There are storms of the mind and heart that destroy relationships and devastate families.

**C: There can be storms within us that cause hurt and pain to ourselves and others.**

P: Jesus said to the storm, "Be still", and said to Peter, "Come, walk on the water".

**C: As long as Peter kept his eyes on Jesus he could walk on the water. We confess that we do not always keep our eyes on Jesus. We get distracted by so many things. We know God is there for us, yet we turn away. We know God's way is the right way, yet we can go against that way. There are times of stress and hurt when we get afraid and give in to our fears. We start to sink and feel panic and helpless. Forgive us, Lord, for not trusting you.**

P: Jesus invites us to take his hand and have faith. 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: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## READINGS

Reading: Romans 10:5-15

*A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.*

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say?

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

<sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

*Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.*

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

MESSAGE:

Pastor LuRae Hallstrom

HYMN OF THE DAY: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

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

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.

Public Domain. African American spiritual.

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.*

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness meet, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will be saved. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. We pray for those suffering this day. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For our congregation. You have gathered us here today as your people and we thank you for this gift. We pray for those who are new to this community, for students and teachers preparing for a new school year, and for those struggling with unexpected hardship. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. 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.**

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.**

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER AND BLESSING

P: At this time we would ask all students, and everyone who works with them in any way: teachers, administrators, paras, aides, office workers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, counselors, school psychologists and all others to please stand up or give a honk of your horn.

Let us pray for students:

God of all knowledge and wisdom, we are reminded that a new school year will be beginning this week, with many feelings, expectations, fears and hopes. We pray for those learning in classes, online and at home – students young and old - as they begin a new year. God, keep them safe, especially during the pandemic. Be with them as they learn new rules in the classroom. Help them to discover and develop the gifts you have given them. As they grow in knowledge, help them to also grow in kindness and compassion, learning respect for themselves and others.

Let us pray for teachers, paras, school administrators, staff and families of students: And bless, O Lord, all those who stand with these students. Whatever their task or role, guide them to do it in love and faithfulness to you, knowing that even the most ordinary task becomes extraordinary when it is done in your name. Give them strength for the days ahead. Give them patience with themselves and with others. Give them the gifts of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence, awe and wonder. We ask all things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

And now will the congregation join in blessing the students and all who work with them, remembering the words of Psalm 121:

**C: May the Lord keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forever more. 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:** Tanner Schmidt, Dustin Fritch, our shut-ins.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Jordan Tyo (Aug. 14) and DeeAnn Schmidt (Aug. 15). Happy belated birthday to Hiedi Lenner (Aug. 8).

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM:** Lennox Grace Robertson is being welcomed into God's family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism following our worship service this morning. Lennox is the daughter of Aaron & Tiffany Robertson and was born December 20, 2019 in Lincoln, NE. Her sponsors are Courtney Hill and Caden Searcey. Welcome to your new family at American Lutheran, Lennox!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jade Diehl and Brandon Jensen on the birth of Cayson Hayes born August 4, 2020. Cayson's Grandma is Diane Timmerman, Great-Grandma is Jeanne Garrels.

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WEBSITE:** You can find our church website at [www.filleylutheranchurch.com](http://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](mailto: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.

**BULLETINS EACH WEEK CAN BE FOUND** on Facebook and on our website, [filleylutheranchurch.com](http://filleylutheranchurch.com). They 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](mailto:smahleris@gmail.com) with your email address. We will try to send these out by Thursday of each week so that you can print it out if you desire.