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## ***July 26, 2020 ~ Pentecost 8***

*As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!*

### ***Service of the Word***

#### ***The Gathering***

Prelude

*Chris Lehne*

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin... Reconciling God,

**C: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

\*The Apostolic 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.**

1 My God, how wonderful thou art, thy majesty how bright!  
How beautiful thy mercy seat, in depths of burning light!

2 How wonderful, how beautiful, the sight of thee must be,  
thine endless wisdom, boundless pow'r, and awesome purity!

3 No earthly father loves like thee, no mother e'er so mild  
bears and forbears, as thou hast done with me, thy sinful child.

4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, almighty as thou art,  
for thou hast stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.

5 My God, how wonderful thou art, thy majesty how bright!  
How beautiful thy mercy seat, in depths of burning light!

### The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray, C: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### *The Word*

#### The First Reading

#### *Psalm 119*

Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. 130 The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. 131 With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. 132 Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name. 133 Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me. 134 Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts. 135 Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. 136 My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.

Response

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### The Second Reading

#### *Romans 8:26-39*

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.<sup>27</sup> And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.<sup>28</sup> We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.<sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.<sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.<sup>31</sup> What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?<sup>32</sup> He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?<sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.<sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.<sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?<sup>36</sup> As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,<sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Response

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -  
 lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## The Gospel Reading

*Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*P: The holy gospel according to Matthew **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**H**e put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." <sup>33</sup> He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. <sup>45</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup> on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. <sup>47</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup> when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>51</sup> "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup> And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Response

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Message

*"Mastering"*

*" And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."*

Romans 8:28

## Song of the Day

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*N<sup>o</sup> 733

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
 there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
 thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;  
 as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**(Refrain): Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
 all I have needed thy hand hath provided—  
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
 sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
 join with all nature in manifold witness  
 to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.**

**(Refrain)**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
 thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
 strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
 blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)**

## The Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 power of 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 Intercession

*After each petition, please respond with... L: Turn to us, O God,  
Cong: Be gracious to us"*

### *The Offering*

#### \*The Offertory Song

#### *"How Great is Our God"*

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty  
Let all the earth rejoice; All the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in Light, and darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice; Trembles at His voice.**

**Chorus: How great is our God, sing with me,  
How great is our God, and all will see,  
How great, how great is our God!**

**Age to age He stands; And time is in His hands,  
Beginning and the end; Beginning and the end!  
The Godhead, Three in One; Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb; The Lion and the Lamb (Chorus 2x)**

**Then sings my soul, My Savior God to Thee! How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God to Thee! How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
(Chorus 2x)**

#### \*The Thanksgiving for the Word

P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **C: Amen.**

#### \*The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**C: 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.**

### *The Sending*

## The Blessing

\*Sending Song

### *“The Blessing”*

**The Lord bless you And keep you Make His face shine upon you And be gracious to you  
The Lord turn His Face toward you And give you peace (x2) Amen  
The Lord bless you And keep you Make His face shine upon you And be gracious to you  
The Lord turn His Face toward you And give you peace  
May His favor be upon you And a thousand generations  
Your family and your children And their children, and their children  
May His favor be upon you And a thousand generations  
And your family and your children  
And their children, and their children  
May His presence go before you And behind you, and beside you  
All around you, and within you He is with you, He is with you  
In the morning, in the evening In your coming, and your going In your weeping, and rejoicing  
He is for you, He is for you  
Amen.**

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## Announcements

*Please check all scheduled events weekly at Grace Lutheran and Providence Valley Churches as we are making decisions about meetings and gatherings each week. Please stay safe and healthy!*

*Anyone in need of a pastoral or communion visit can contact the church office at 320-769-4394 or 320-841-2206. The pastors or staff would be happy to make a home visit with you utilizing safe gathering practices.*

*If members are comfortable with gathering for worship, a reminder that all members are invited to Providence Valley Lutheran at 9AM on Sunday mornings. Safe gathering practices with facemasks and social distancing will be required at all services.*

*The Bulletin is sponsored by Kathy DeLong in memory of Dona Borstad's birthday on July 24<sup>th</sup>.*

*The Radio Broadcast is given in honor of Roger & Arlys Swenson's 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*

### ***Worship Opportunities***

*Worship will continue to be broadcast over the radio at **our summer worship time at 9:00am on Sundays**. Video of each worship will be available on both the Grace and Providence websites, Grace's YouTube Channel and Wednesday afternoons on Channel 8. Bulletins will be available for download on the websites and for pick up in the main entry of the church.*

***Joint Worship** services will be held on Sundays at Providence Valley Lutheran at 9:00am.*

### ***Summer Super Hero Central***

*The Christian Ed Board is planning an Outdoor VBS week for children in Preschool – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Monday – Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-8:00pm each night! There will not be a meal served during these times. We need for everyone to register by Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> so we know if we have enough kids to attend. \*\*As with most events at this time, we are unsure of what the next few weeks will bring. If these plans change we will contact parents and post online.*

*Please register on the Grace Lutheran website: [gracedawson.org](http://gracedawson.org).*

***Midweek Communion** services have resumed. Join us on August 4<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm in Grace Hall.*

***Riverside Manor Communion** worship has resumed and will meet again on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.*

***Circle groups, bible studies, and board meetings** can resume as desired by the group while staying within the recommended guidelines. For a copy of the guidelines please contact the church office. Please notify staff of any gatherings within the church building so we can prepare adequately.*

*Thank you all for your input with these decisions and your understanding as our leadership begins to move forward during this time.*

### ***Tithes & Offerings***

*Grace and Providence Valley Lutheran Churches have options to give online! On our websites, [gracedawson.org](http://gracedawson.org) or [pvlchruch.org](http://pvlchruch.org), simply click on the "Give Online" tab at the top of the homepage. Or even easier, download our offering app on your phone! Simply search for "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" in your App Store and set up your account! And Grace Lutheran now has TEXT OFFERING! Simply text your offering amount to 800-675-7430!*

*Your offerings can also be mailed to:*

*Grace Lutheran Church – PO Box 549 - Dawson, Mn 56232 or*

*Providence Valley Lutheran Church - C/O 2722 100th Street - Dawson, MN 56232*

***Thank you for your continued support over the past several months, both financially and spiritually.***

### ***In our prayers***

*Butch Anderson, Jim Anderson, Sarah Anderson, Olivia Baldwin, Tom Beals, Todd & Arlys Buer, Gloria Burg, Ken Club, Jack Flayton, Carol Fleharty, Wilton & Madeline Gustafson, MaryAnn Heinrich, Monica Kennedy, Sharla Kruger, John Lund, Evelyn Lundgren, Brad Madsen, Julie Miron, Jeff Moe, Kristi Peterson-Tomas, Pat Saltness, Mike Stangeland, Lauren Thoen, Joanne Trader, Larry Trader, Donna Weidenback, Bonnie Westfield, and Eric Windingstad*