



Worship for Sunday, August 9, 2020 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost
St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church
Greendale, WI www.ssmelca.org

Introduction to the day

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

PRELUDE - Prelude in C Major by J. S. Bach

Kipp Zimmermann, harpsichord

CONFESSION AND 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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The music ends with a double bar line.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

(Reader: Isabelle Barry)

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu

shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

(Reader: Isabelle Barry)

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.

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But 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); ⁹because 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. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But 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? ¹⁵And 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!”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

²²[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. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.

When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

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

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE - "Through the Storms" *Rev. Brian Hooper*

HYMN OF THE DAY - "Listen, God Is Calling: Neno lake Mungu"

Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All Refrain

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
 Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919
 Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, who with Wisdom created life,
and continues to work in all of Creation.

We believe in God who is Alpha and Omega,
the beginning and end of all that is, was and is to come.

We believe in God who liberates us from sin and death,
claiming us in baptism as God's own.

We believe in Jesus the Christ, born of Mary,
who lives and listens to women, men, and children-healing them,
making them whole and leading them into relationship with God.

We believe in Jesus who was both human and divine,
chose to live a life of justice over indifference,
that led to his suffering on the cross.

We believe Jesus died, was resurrected and offers this same promise
of eternal life to all who are baptized.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; Healer, Sustainer, Breath of God,
who works in each one of us to make God's reign a reality
for all humankind.

We believe he abides in us, helping us to see beyond ourselves,
to live an abundant life. Trusting in the promise, presence and
mystery of our Triune God, we are bold to confess our faith
and live as God's chosen children. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Confident of your care and upheld by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need,
responding to each petition with the words "Hear our prayer."

A brief silence.

L: For your church throughout the world, we pray. Strengthen the faith of all who believe. Speak to us
through your word of power and mercy. Abide with those Christians who are isolated from others. Lord,
in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation
and abuse. Tame the storms that threaten human habitations. Maintain the health of pets. Lord, in your
mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For the leaders of nations, we pray. Inspire those who govern to keep peace with their neighbors and to
maintain justice for their citizens. Calm the world's violence. Strengthen the world's democracies.
Uphold a free press around the globe. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For those in need we pray. For those who are unemployed, or homeless, or hungry, or hospitalized; for
those whose money has run out; for those who are fearful of the future; and for those we name before
you now. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For the world facing the coronavirus we pray. Sustain medical workers for their difficult tasks. Assist
our Congress and governors in legislating wisely during the pandemic. Give wisdom to educators as
they plan the fall semester. Give us kindness with one another and patience for ourselves. Lord, in your
mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For the end to racial injustice we pray. Frustrate all prejudices between peoples that are based on ethnic
origin or skin color. Unite into one body politic all who share this land. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Reach our your hand to us; save us when we are sinking... We praise you, O God, for all who have died in the faith, the martyrs, for leaders in the struggle for civil rights, for victims of COVID-19, for those dear to us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY *(Thanks for sharing your gifts. Offering envelopes can still be mailed to the church, you can use the GIVE + app found on the resource tab at ssmelca.org or you may wish to sign up for Simply Giving to have your offering scheduled on an automatic basis.)*

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - "The Lord's My Shepherd" arr. Duane Funderburk

KEEP THESE SSM MEMBERS IN PRAYER

Joyce Gagliano, Sue Herman, Sue Jarchow, Lynda Johnson, Ken & Carolyn Kahl, Shirley Lieske, Sandy Peterson, Teri Peterson, Patrick Rafalski, John Rech, Joan Retzlaff, Ron Ropel, Rob Rutzen, John Winter.

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Roberta Henrichs, sister-in-law of Joan Retzlaff	Dawn Salopek, sister of Karen Miller
Laurence Freemont, friend of SSM	Janet Heino, great aunt of Stephanie Falksen
Katie Stull, granddaughter of Phil & LaVerne Morgan	Tinsley Marie, great granddaughter of Sue Herman
Jane Janicki, sister of the Winter Family	Cameo Abifarin, friend of Julie Herman
Jerelie Caston, daughter of Joan Retzlaff	Cathy & Mark Kossow, friends of Lynda Johnson
Nancy & Mike Andritsch, sister/brother in law of Barbara & Dan Davies	Tippecanoe's "Larry under the bridge", friend of the Homeless
Josh Knapp, friend of Amy Billman	Judy Ventimiglia, friend of Shelly Rosenstock
Linda Radike, friend of Julie Herman	Katie Manzeck, friend of Carol Manning
Karen Stolz, neighbor of Julie Herman	Susan White, sister of Sally Kowalewski
Roger & Kathy Blanchard, cousin of Bob Lieske	Jon Kowalewski, husband of Susan Kowalewski
Billy Waters, husband of Darlene Waters & Stepdad of Lori Salas	Lauryn Ramintho, great-granddaughter of Karen Miller
Mike Derrick, nephew of Ron & Carole Ropel	Lucy Copeland, granddaughter of Dianne Niese
Daniel Kilimann, son of Joy Kilimann	Liane Guthrie, daughter of Dianne Niese
Carson Wudtke, grandson of Dan & Barb Davies	Leroy Robinson, father of Linda Schmidt
Sharon West, friend of Lynda Johnson	Maria Hill, friend of Lynda Johnson
Ted P., brother-in-law of Gail Jakus	Pastor Hartmut Barsnick, friend of SSM
Jay Lessing, friend of LaVerne Morgan	Steve, son of Louise Becker
Jeanne Jimenez, daughter of Shirley Rau	Ann Scorzynski, friend of LaVerne Morgan
Cindy Molter, mother of Fred Ankebrant	Kristin White, daughter of Sue Herman
Mark Molter, uncle of Fred Ankebrant	Laura Sussman, mother of Kimberly Carroll
Ashton Miller, nephew of Jenny & Kurt Koeff	Diane Schauer, friend of Carol Manning
Terry Betchner, friend of Dianne Niese	Louie Baumgartner, son-in-law of Bob Lieske
Beth Klosinski, daughter of Linda Schmidt	Richard Kurcharski, father of Jenny Resterhouse
Tom Ervin, former father-in-law of Shelly Rosenstock	Robert Goist, friend of Denise Sanders