



**Worship for Sunday, August 16, 2020 - 11th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church**  
**Greendale, WI [www.ssmelca.org](http://www.ssmelca.org)**

### **Introduction to the day**

*In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

**PRELUDE - "Rondeau" by F. Couperin**

**Harpsichord: Kipp Zimmermann**

### **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 three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "creatures here below; praise God above, ye". The third staff contains the melody for the third line: "heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDETH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C:** **God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

**L:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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 15:21-28

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup>He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup>He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup>She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE - Rev. Brian Hooper

## HYMN OF THE DAY *In Christ There Is No East or West*

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;

but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
all Christ - ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.  
Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

## 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 helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

L: Lord, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make your face shine upon all. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and town, and for those who need your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. 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 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 THE 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. Use us and the gifts that you have entrusted to us in service to others. Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE - "Temecula Prelude" by Adrienne Foster Potter**

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

We're trying to gauge interest for in-person vs virtual vs bag pick up Sunday school. Please complete survey by Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. [SSM Sunday School Survey](#) .Thanks in advance for your help. Jodi Haasch

## **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
	Sharon Maschke, sister in law of Pam Maschke