



Worship for Sunday, August 2, 2020 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost
St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church
Greendale, WI www.ssmelca.org

Introduction to the day

In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

PRELUDE - "It is Well with My Soul" arr. John Purifoy *Kipp Zimmermann, Pianist*

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.

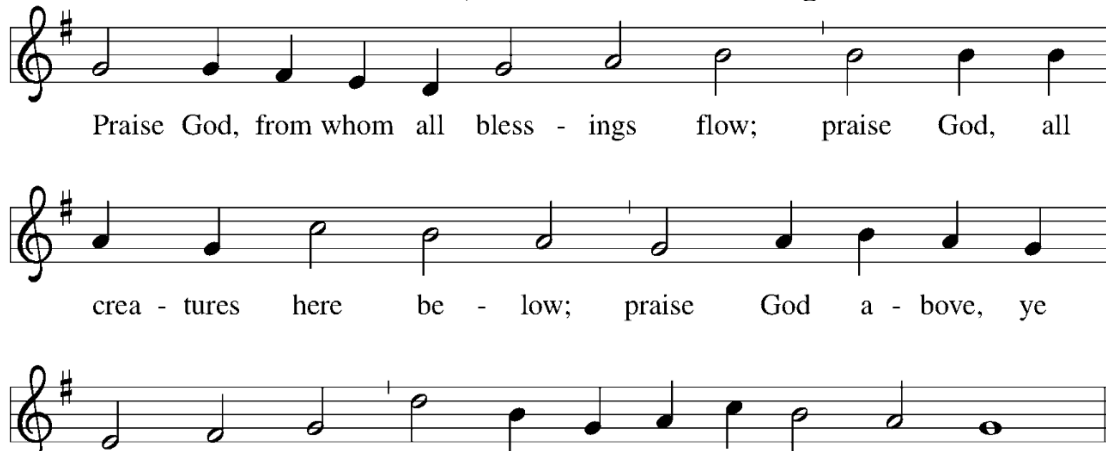
C: **Amen**

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"



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5 *(Read by Norah Hooper)*

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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

(Read by Norah Hooper)

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever.

Amen.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

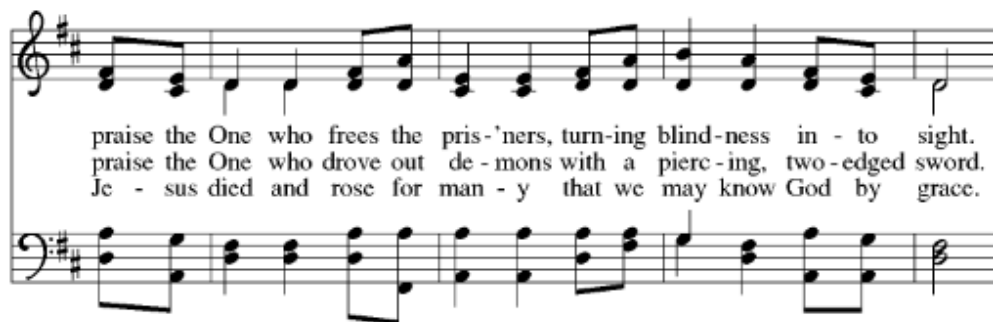
After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY - "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



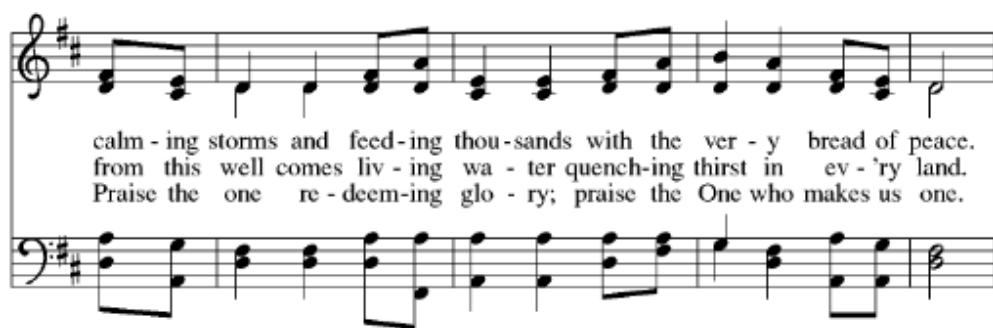
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813
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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 helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for all who are in need, responding to the words "Lord, in your mercy" with the phrase, "hear our prayer."

A brief silence.

L: O God our Savior, bless your church around the world. Where believers must be isolated from one another, be present through your gracious word. Give to our bishops, pastors, deacons and congregational leaders wisdom for their tasks in this challenging time. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: O God, Redeemer of all, bless the Jewish people with your covenant promises. Bring an end to global anti-Semitism, and strengthen ties of cooperation and friendship between Christians and Jews. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: O God, Creator of a wondrous earth, protect the glories of your seas and lands. Replenish groundwater supplies, refresh lakes and ponds, send rains where there is drought, and shelter forests from wildfires. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: O God, Sovereign of the world, form the leaders of nations to strive for justice for all. Strengthen the world's democracies. Bring an end to racism in our society. Guide our elected officials. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: O God, Storehouse of goodness, visit all who face the coronavirus, especially those who are incarcerated. Give us, O Lord of life, a vaccine. Assist all who face eviction from their residence. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body or spirit, especially those whom we name now or out loud. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: O God, Giver of bread, teach us how to feed the hungry: the children starving in war zones, the families who cannot afford groceries, the homeless on our streets, Give to all creatures their food in due season. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God, everlasting mercy, we praise you for the lives of all who have died in the faith. 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 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. Use us and the gifts that you have entrusted to us in service to others in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

POSTLUDE - "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" arr. Charles Callahan

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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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
Laurence Freemont, friend of SSM
Katie Stull, granddaughter of Phil &
LaVerne Morgan
Jane Janicki, sister of the Winter Family
Jerelie Caston, daughter of Joan Retzlaff
Nancy & Mike Andritsch, sister/brother in law
of Barbara & Dan Davies
Josh Knapp, friend of Amy Billman
Linda Radike, friend of Julie Herman
Karen Stolz, neighbor of Julie Herman
Roger & Kathy Blanchard, cousin of Bob
Lieske
Billy Waters, husband of Darlene Waters &
Stepdad of Lori Salas
Mike Derrick, nephew of Ron & Carole Ropel
Daniel Kilimann, son of Joy Kilimann
Carson Wudtke, grandson of Dan & Barb
Davies
Sharon West, friend of Lynda Johnson
Ted P., brother-in-law of Gail Jakus
Jay Lessing, friend of LaVerne Morgan
Jeanne Jimenez, daughter of Shirley Rau
Cindy Molter, mother of Fred Ankebrant
Mark Molter, uncle of Fred Ankebrant
Ashton Miller, nephew of Jenny & Kurt Koeff
Terry Betchner, friend of Dianne Niese
Beth Klosinski, daughter of Linda Schmidt
Tom Ervin, former father-in-law of Shelly
Rosenstock

Dawn Salopek, sister of Karen Miller
Janet Heino, great aunt of Stephanie Falksen
Tinsley Marie, great granddaughter of Sue
Herman
Cameo Abifarin, friend of Julie Herman
Cathy & Mark Kossow, friends of Lynda
Johnson
Tippecanoe's "Larry under the bridge", friend
of the Homeless
Judy Ventimiglia, friend of Shelly Rosenstock
Katie Manzeck, friend of Carol Manning
Susan White, sister of Sally Kowalewski
Jon Kowalewski, husband of Susan
Kowalewski
Lauryn Ramintho, great-granddaughter of
Karen Miller
Lucy Copeland, granddaughter of Dianne
Niese
Liane Guthrie, daughter of Dianne Niese
Leroy Robinson, father of Linda Schmidt
Maria Hill, friend of Lynda Johnson
Pastor Hartmut Barsnick, friend of SSM
Steve, son of Louise Becker
Ann Scorzynski, friend of LaVerne Morgan
Kristin White, daughter of Sue Herman
Laura Sussman, mother of Kimberly Carroll
Diane Schauer, friend of Carol Manning
Louie Baumgartner, son-in-law of Bob Lieske
Richard Kurcharski, dad of Jenny Resterhouse