

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 26, 2020 • 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

“Be Thou My Vision” • Larry Shackley

Welcome

Confession

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

C Amen.

+ *The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their baptism.*

P Trusting in the mercy of God, we 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.

Opening Hymn • "Be Thou My Vision"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Greeting

☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

☑ **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise • "Oh, Sing to God Above"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 555



1 Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of joy - ful greet-ing,
2 Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of praise and bless-ing,



a song of grate-ful love in the new day's light re - peat - ing:
a song of grate-ful love, hope and faith our hearts ex - press-ing:



you made the sea and sky, the sun and stars in splen-dor;
cre - a - tion lifts its voice to tell your might and glo - ry,



de - light shone in your eye— all your works were filled with won-der.
and we, too, will re - joice to pro - claim the sav - ing sto - ry.

Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia! Oh, sing to God a -



bove: Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu -



ia! Oh, sing to God a - bove: Al-le - lu - ia!

Last time



Oh, sing to God a - bove: Al-le - lu - ia!

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P 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.

C Amen.

First Reading

L A reading from First Kings.

1 Kings 3:5-12

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119 • "Blessed Are They"

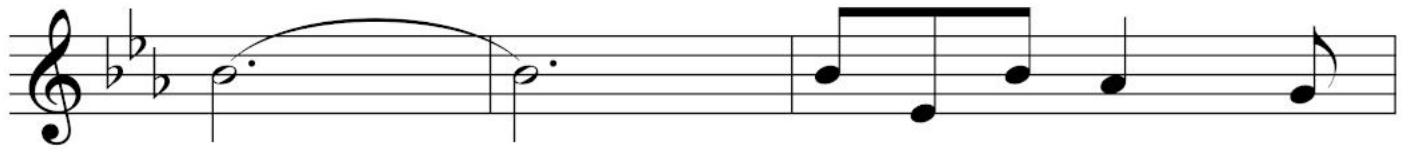
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Cantor sings the refrain first, then all repeat.

Congregation speaks verses and sings refrain.



Bless - ed are they who fol - low the law of the



Lord!

Bless - ed are they who



fol - low the law of the Lord!

Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
When your word goes forth it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple. **Refrain.**

I open my mouth and pant;
I long for your commandments.
Turn to me in mercy,
as you always do to those who love your Name. **Refrain.**

Steady my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments. **Refrain.**

Let your countenance shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your law. **Refrain.**

Second Reading

▮ A reading from Romans.

Romans 8:26-39

▮ The Word of the Lord.

▮ **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation • "Celtic Alleluia"

Gather, Third Edition 334

Sing twice.



Gospel

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

☐ The Gospel of our Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“Dare to Believe, Dare to Imagine”

Rev. Mike Greenwalt

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Hymn of the Day • "Seek Ye First"

With One Voice 783

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -

D Em A⁷ D F#m

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be
ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

G D G D Em A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
mouth . . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Apostles' Creed

P Together, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

Offering

We give to the Lord of our tithes and offerings.

Ways that you can give electronically:

TEXT

- Text “Give” to 253-292-9599.
- You will be sent a message to (a) text your giving amount and/or (b) set up recurring giving.

ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

- Visit www.mtviewlutheran.org.
- Hover over the “GIVE” dropbox.
- Choose “Make a Donation via Bank Account” or “Make a Donation via Credit/Debit Card.”
- Fill out all information on the page and then click the blue “GIVE” button.
- If you want it to remember your information, visit “SIGN IN” and create an account.
- NOTE: Online giving is a one-time gift unless you check “Make this Gift Recurring.”

Offertory

“All Creatures of Our God and King”
Joan Kohler

Offertory Prayer

P God of goodness and growth,
C **all creation is yours,**
and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
Water and word, wine and bread:
these are signs of your abundant grace.
Nourish us through these gifts,
that we might proclaim your steadfast love
in our communities and in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

▮ 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.

▮ Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways you encounter us in daily life. Lord, in your mercy,

▮ **hear our prayer.**

▮ When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home. Lord, in your mercy,

▮ **hear our prayer.**

▮ As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace. In the midst of the brokenness that exists between us and amongst us as a nation—the brokenness of promises, the brokenness of equality and justice and destructive “isms”—guide us all upon healing paths of mending. Grant us the humility to confess our sins, the courage to change needed courses, the wisdom to weave a new cloth of community and sensitive consciousness. Lord, in your mercy,

▮ **hear our prayer.**

Prayers of the Church

P Your Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for the saints according to your will. Help us when we do not know how to pray. Give comfort to the dying, refuge to the weary, justice to those who are oppressed, and healing to the sick. Hear now those we name aloud and in our hearts: comfort for Craig Latterell, brother of Pastor Kim Latterell; comfort for Stewart Luckman; the family of Betty Waterhouse as they mourn her death; Nancy Edmonds and family as they mourn the death of her brother Brian Cratsenberg; Larry Gillespie and family as they mourn the death of his son Brent. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help this congregation ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and time. Guide us, stir us, excite us in and through this season of transition. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In you our lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places. Embolden our witness now and one day gather us with all your saints in light. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In the certain hope that nothing will separate us from your love, we raise our prayers before your heart and throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

Blessing

☐ Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

☑ **Amen.**

+ *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

Sending Hymn • "Bring Forth the Kingdom"

Worship & Praise 22



1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the king-dom of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the cit - y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the word, O peo-ple: bring forth the king-dom of God!
 4 We are a blest and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the king-dom of God!



Share the fla - vor of life, O peo - ple: life in the king-dom of God!
 Shine so ho - ly and bright, O peo - ple: shine for the king-dom of God!
 Seeds of mer-cy and seeds of jus - tice, grow in the king-dom of God!
 Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the king-dom of God!



Bring forth the king-dom of mer - cy, bring forth the



king-dom of peace; bring forth the king-dom of jus - tice,



bring forth the cit - y of God!

Sending

☐ Go in peace. Christ is with you.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“City of God” • Dan Schutte

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www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance

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Susan Bloomfield

LECTOR/CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES
Jeanne Anderson

...the Kingdom of heaven

is like...

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