

As a community following Christ, we LOVE with an open heart GROW with a curious mind and SHARE with a generous spirit.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please turn off all cell phones.

If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.

Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.

Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.

In the order of service, the words that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.

SUMMER NARRATIVE LECTIONARY

Time after Pentecost: OLD TESTAMENT WISDOM & POETRY

Sunday, August 6, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand.

CALL TO CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross, + the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Kneel or stand.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Stand.



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 • "BELOVED, GOD'S CHOSEN"

Evangelical Lutheran Church



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord, You remind us that there is a time for everything: let today be a time to love and a time for peace.

Let today be a time to heal hurts of the body and hurts of the heart, to mend what has been broken.

Let today be a time to embrace our fellowship with You and with each other, to build up Your Beloved Community.

Let today be a time to speak out for justice, to scatter the stones of ill-will and plant compassion in their place.

Let today be a time to keep watch with those who work or wait or mourn, with those whose times are in Your hand.

Amen.

Sit.

READING

A reading from Ecclesiastes.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; 3:1-17

¹The words of the Teacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ³What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun? ⁴A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. ⁵The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. ⁶The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. 7All streams run to the sea. but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow. ⁸All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing. ⁹What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has already been, in the ages before us. ¹¹The people of long ago are not remembered, nor will there be any remembrance of people yet to come by those who come after them.

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
³a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;
⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
⁵a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to lose; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to tear, and a time to sew;
⁸a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
⁸a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. ¹¹He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. ¹⁴I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. ¹⁵That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

¹⁶Moreover I saw under the sun that in the place of justice, wickedness was there, and in the place of righteousness, wickedness was there as well. ¹⁷I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for he has appointed a time for every matter, and for every work.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE • "CELTIC ALLELUIA"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 174

Sing twice.



READING

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

Matthew 16:2-3

²[Jesus] answered [the Pharisees and Sadducees who came to test him], "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON + SERMON

Pastor Briana Merkle.

Stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY • "ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL"

With One Voice 767



CREED

Together, let us confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Sit.

OFFERING

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." —ECCLESIASTES 1:1

Now is a time to *share* with a generous spirit.

Every minute of every day, God is making all things new, giving and giving and giving again, and you are called to be part of God's work of generosity: you are called to give; to surrender your time, talent, and treasure to this God-work of making all things new.

You are called to give. We are called to give. This morning's offering will now be given and received!

You can participate in the Offering electronically by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.



OFFERTORY

"We Limit Not the Truth of God" Flute trio.

Stand.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE • "THANKS TO GOD, AUTHOR OF LIVING"

Samoa



OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things.

Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS • "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

All Creation Sings • Holy Communion, Setting 11 • Puerto Rico



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER • "CAMBODIAN LORD'S PRAYER"

Global Choral Songs • Cambodia



COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION

At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)

If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who are loved by God, whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often

and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow

and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

Come, not because the Church invites you;

it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God.

LAMB OF GOD • "LAMB OF GOD"

Sweden



COMMUNION HYMN • "TASTE AND SEE"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 493



COMMUNION HYMN • "LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 490



comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark-ness clears a - way. "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

COMMUNION HYMN • "COME, LET US EAT"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 491



Stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, generous God,

for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.

Send us now as a community following Christ, to LOVE with an open heart, GROW with a curious mind, and SHARE with a generous spirit.

Amen.

DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to "make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example." (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

O God of tender compassion,

as you healed the sick and welcomed the stranger, bless those who leave this assembly to share the gifts of this table with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. May they be sustained by the love and prayers of this community, and by the Bread of Life that satisfies all hunger, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, + the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • "OUT IN THE WILDERNESS"

Worship & Praise 115



SENDING

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by the MVLC Altar Guild by Joe and Rosemarie Anderson in honor of their 63rd wedding anniversary.

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Worship leaders include:

-) PREACHER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
-) PRESIDERS: Pastor Eric Bostrom.
- ASSISTING MINISTER: Karin Weberg.
-) DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
- **VIDEOGRAPHER:** David Burch.
- ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Gray, Karen Lonn, Marie Philipsen.
- / USHERS: Janice Harrison, Skip Harrison (head usher), Gary Larson, Lindy Nelson.
- GREETER: Flora Larson.
- ACOLYTES: Alison Hutton, Colin Hutton.
- LECTOR: Bob Linden.
-) COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Ellen Leapaldt, Sandi Swanson.
-) SOUND: Megan Hutton.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Sunday, September 10, 2023

- Worship at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
- Gathering Day education at 9:30 a.m. for all ages.
- Backpack blessing for children and youth during worship. Blessing of educators during worship.

Mountain View Lutheran Church • www.mtviewlutheran.org

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GROW with a curious mind,





and SHARE with a generous spirit.