

# **Worship in the Home**

## **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **August 30, 2020**



*In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.*

#### **Prelude**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Invocation**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

## Opening Hymn:

## *Oh, Worship the King*

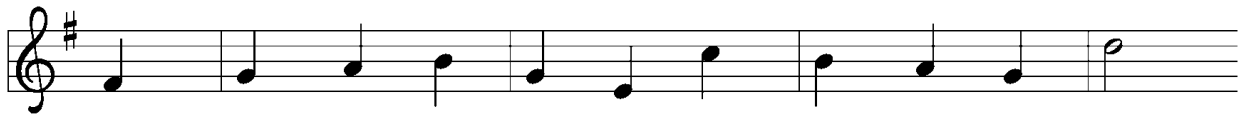
ELW #842



1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.  
2 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
3 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?  
4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,  
5 O mea - sure - less might, in - ef - fa - ble love,



Oh, grate - ful - ly sing God's pow - er and love;  
Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,  
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;  
while an - gels de - light to hymn you a - bove,



our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,  
your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,  
the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays,



pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.  
and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend.  
with true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise.

## The Prayer of the Day

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 15:15-21

**Semi-continuous Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 3:1-15

**Psalm: 26:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

**Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21**

**Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son-of-Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son-of-Man coming in his dominion.”

**Homily**

# Hymn of the Day:

# Shepherd Me, O God

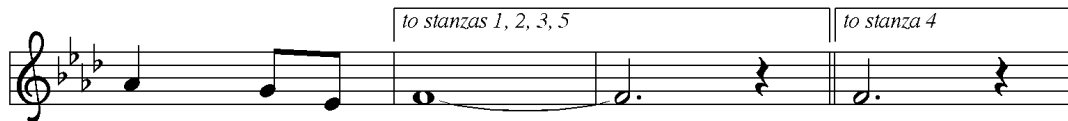
ELW #780

*Refrain*

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I  
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you  
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I  
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my  
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

*Refrain*



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.  
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.  
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

*Final refrain*

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

## Reflection

We would often like to think that having faith in God should lead to an easy life. Jeremiah discovered the opposite. And in Matthew's Gospel, Peter made a God-given confession last Sunday but this Sunday he opposes Jesus by arguing for that easy life. Still, what is it to "take up our cross?" This is not a call to invent new sufferings nor to think we will save ourselves nor to counsel other people to put up with injustice. Rather, we need to tell the truth about how the world is full of suffering and see that in sharing our sufferings and death, God in Christ saves us all and shows us a way to walk behind him. Paul gives detail to that way: taking no vengeance; associating with people who are considered lowly; weeping with those who weep; not claiming to be wiser than we are; persevering in prayer; rejoicing in hope — those are some of the traits of the way of the cross for us. In ordinary times we were able to be strengthened for this humble way by receiving the gift of Christ's life-giving cross in the holy communion. But now, in this time of waiting, we can still gladly join Jeremiah in eating — trusting and taking deeply into our lives — the words we read.

## Prayers of Intercession

As we gather separately and together in the Spirit, let us pray for the needs of the world:

Caring for the church around the world, we pray — for a spirit of ecumenical cooperation, for the health of congregations during this difficult time, for our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. . .Hear us, God our Savior; **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

Seeing before us your good creation, we pray — for the repair of what we have harmed, for polar ice, for lands dealing with oppressive heat, for fields ravaged by storms and fires. . .Hear us, God our Creator: **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

Facing so many international problems we pray — for the strengthening of democracies, for peaceful resolutions to conflicts, for the people of Belarus, Lebanon, and Yemen, for researchers seeking a vaccine, for racial justice within our nation, for our legislators to assist the lives of the poor, for an ethical election campaign. . .Hear us, God our mighty Fortress; **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

Surrounded by people with great and hidden need we pray — for families frightened by the uncertain future, for those whose homes have burned down, for students deprived of effective education, for refugees and for prisoners. . .Hear us, God our Hope, **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

Aware of all who are sick and suffering we pray — for all who are facing the coronavirus, for those without medical care, for those we remember here before you.

. . .Hear us, God our Healer; **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

Confident of your love for us, we pray also for ourselves: Hear us, God our Friend; **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

Mindful of all who have gone before us in the faith, we offer our thanks — for all the saints famous and forgotten, for medical workers who have died of the virus, for friends and family we have loved, for John and Dean, for the promise of everlasting life with you. . .Hear us, God our Homeland; **In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.**

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 who taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

*Let All Things Now Living*

ELW #881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



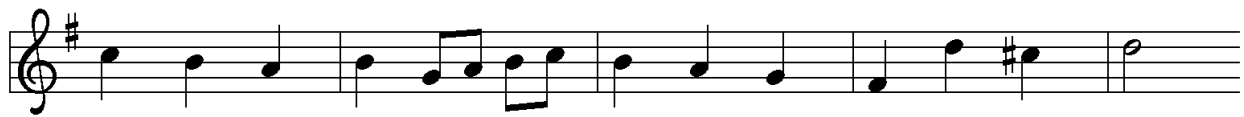
who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

## **Sending**

Go in peace; Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Join us for Fellowship on Zoom: 596-621-1441 Password: 8675309**

**Committee Chairs:** Remember to get meeting dates and times to Lori via email (stmatthewluth@aol.com) so they can be on the weekly schedule.

**Weekly Bulletins and Messengers** are available on the website (stmatthewlc.com) for viewing or printing.

**Worship & Music Committee** is scheduled to meet via Zoom on Wednesday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

**Council** is scheduled to meet via Zoom on Tuesday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Shirley Acker, Carl & Dawn Alexy, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Jim Calvert, Clyde Claycomb, Donna Gearhart, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

**Prayer Concerns:**, John Aljets, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchar, Mark Calvert, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Jesse Fay, Joe Fay, Brian Fleck, Jim Freyer, Shari Gilbert, Ryan Guyer, Bill Hainaut, Dan Hershberger, Stephen Hinish, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Fred Kensinger, Darren Kreutzer, Kristen Malloy, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Scott McFarland, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Dan Sinal, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Katie Stormer, Cindy Thomas, Trenton, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Robert Winston, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

**Our college students:** Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orzeck.

## **September Worship Schedule**

Sunday: 9:30 AM Worship on Facebook, 10:15ish Fellowship on Zoom

Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Kreider Farm at 10:00 a.m.

Monday & Friday: Hymn Devotions at 9AM

Tuesday & Thursday: Morning Prayer 9AM & Night Prayer at 9PM

Tuesday & Friday: Midday Kid's Devotions (without song time)

Wednesday: Holden Evening Prayer at 8PM



## Serving God and Us Today

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott Bowman

Our Organist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Bill Brown

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Beth Garner, Jim Barley

Third Quarter Ventures in Faith to “*OEW & Missionaries*”

**Monthly Messenger’s:** If you would like a mailed copy of the Messenger, please let Lori know in the church office either by email [stmatthewluth@aol.com](mailto:stmatthewluth@aol.com) or by phone 793-2413. Always remember that the Messenger is also found on the Website at: [stmatthewlc.com](http://stmatthewlc.com).

### Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for ...

- Anna Klepser and family upon the death of her son, John Klepser, Monday, August 24, 2020.
- Mary Lou Hinish and family upon the death of her husband, Dean Hinish, Tuesday August 25, 2020.

### Prayer Vigil

To say we are living in a world greatly in need of prayer may seem like a gross understatement. In 2020 we have witnessed the ongoing COVID 19 Pandemic, an economy that is struggling, racial tensions and injustices, political divides, food and housing insecurities, indecision regarding returning to school, cancellation of entertainment and sporting events, etc, etc. if we ever needed our Lord to “HEAR OUR PRAYER” it is now. We are yearning to return to our churches, participate in communion and fellowship even if it is at a distance. In the difficult times and the “normal” times, Jesus has always been there for us. We have only to knock and the door will be opened.



Won’t you join us in our 12 hour prayer vigil by giving one half hour in prayer from your home or wherever you may be on Saturday, October 3, 2020. If you would prefer a morning time from 6 AM until noon, please call Elaine Buchart at 793-3953. Les Loomis will be scheduling from noon until 6 PM at 1-570-885-0572.

## **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday** Psalm 17. **Tuesday** Revelation 3:7-13. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872) Jeremiah 17:5-18. **Thursday** Psalm 119:33-40. **Friday** Romans 10:15b-21. **Saturday** Ezekiel 33:1-6. **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost** Ezekiel 33:77-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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