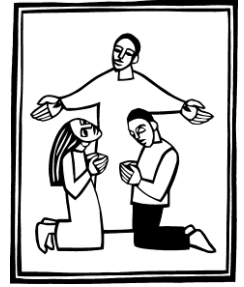


**Worship in the Home**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 6, 2020**



*In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While you cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. We offer this brief resource as an aid for prayer in the home. As with our prayers in the gathered assembly for worship, you are encouraged to prepare or adapt them locally for your context.*

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Invocation**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

You Are Mine

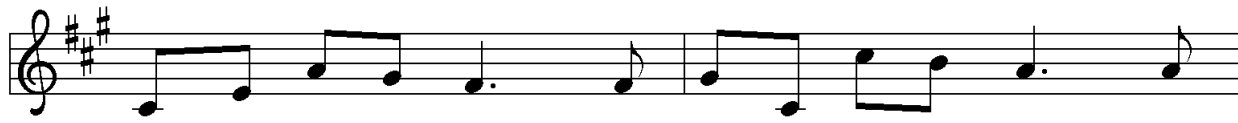
ELW # 581



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,  
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,  
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,  
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.  
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the  
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be  
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.  
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and  
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*  
 Come and rest in me. *To refrain*  
 all will know my name. *To refrain*  
 up, now walk and live! *To refrain*



*Refrain*  
 Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



*To stanzas 3 and 4*  
 love you and you are mine."

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray...O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** Ezekiel 33:7-11

**Semi-Continuous Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 12:1-14

## **Psalm 119:33-40**

<sup>33</sup>Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

<sup>34</sup>**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.**

<sup>35</sup>Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

<sup>36</sup>**Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**

<sup>37</sup>Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

<sup>38</sup>**Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.**

<sup>39</sup>Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

<sup>40</sup>**Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.**

**Second Reading:** Romans 13:8-14

**Gospel:** Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

**Homily**



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
 2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
 3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

## Reflection

Let Ezekiel the prophet speak to us today, in the name of God. If we do not turn from our own sins toward the mercy of God, we will waste away and die. And we are such sinners. But in Matthew, Jesus gives us a way of mutual forgiveness. The “keys” that he gave to Peter two Sundays ago, he gives now to the whole church. When someone has offended us, we should not respond with gossip nor with announcing a grievance on social media, but with direct contact and mutual reconciliation. And in the midst of our common life, especially as we are gathered in prayer but even when we are isolated from each other, the risen Christ dwells, as he promised. He is the source of all forgiveness, the grounds of reconciliation. He dawns for us like the day. Baptized in his Spirit, we may put on Christ like clothing, which is: we may put on love for our neighbor.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Drawn together by the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Unite your church, O God. Give to all the baptized the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships and interracial cooperation among the churches. Guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. O God, Leader of the church, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways to live that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Give to the animals the habitat they need for life. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. O God, Creator of the earth, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Bless the nations, O God. Frustrate the designs of dictators. Give to the military a clear and moral purpose. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward the well-being of all. Infuse the coming election season with honesty and integrity. O God, Governor of the world, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give employment to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. O God, Guardian of all peoples, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Guide our civil discourse, O God. Alert us to social evils and show our nation how to end the patterns of racial injustice. Accompany all are endeavoring to bring about a renewed society. Curb the violence in our cities. O God, Haven of righteousness, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Tend to all in need, O God. Assist all friends and family members who are seeking restored relationships. Give community to the lonely and welcome to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit, especially those we name here before you. O God, Physician of the sick, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Receive once again, O God, our plea for the end of the coronavirus. Comfort those afflicted with COVID-19 and uphold our medical workers. Give all people a sense of responsibility for others and provide the world a vaccine. O God, Healer in times of plague, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

Hear each one of us, O God, as we pray now for ourselves. O God, Lover of us all, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation. O God, Eternal One, in your mercy, **hear us and help us.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; 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**

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

# Closing Hymn

# Come, We That Love the Lord

ELW #625



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;  
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets  
4 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;



join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with  
but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the  
be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the  
we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -



sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur - round the throne.  
heav'n - ly King may tell their joys a - broad, may tell their joys a - broad.  
heav'n - ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.  
man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

### *Refrain*



We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on:



we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

**Join us for Fellowship on Zoom: ID 596-621-1441 Passcode 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.

**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, 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 Buehler, Mark Calvert, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Jesse Fay, Joe Fay, Brian Fleck, Jim Freyer, Shari Gilbert, Ryan Guyer, Erica & Helena Hallam, Bill Hainaut, Dan Hershberger, Stephen Hinish, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Fred Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Darren Kreutzer, Kristen Malloy, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Zowe Orczeck, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Dan Sinal, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Katie Stormer, Wyatt Sweinhart, Cindy Thomas, 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 Orczeck.

### **September Worship Schedule**

Sunday Worship, **Sept. 13 is at the Kreider Farm at 10:00 AM**

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

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 – Shawn Orczeck

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).



## 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 116:65-72. **Tuesday** Romans 13:1-7. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, died 1654) Matthew 21:18-22. **Thursday** Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13. **Friday** Genesis 41:53—42:17. **Saturday** Matthew 6:7-15. **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost** (commemoration of John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407) Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35.

Reflection text: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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