



Lutheran Church of the REFORMATION



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Our Common Prayer at Home
August 16, 2020

“Woman, great is your faith!”
Matthew 15:28

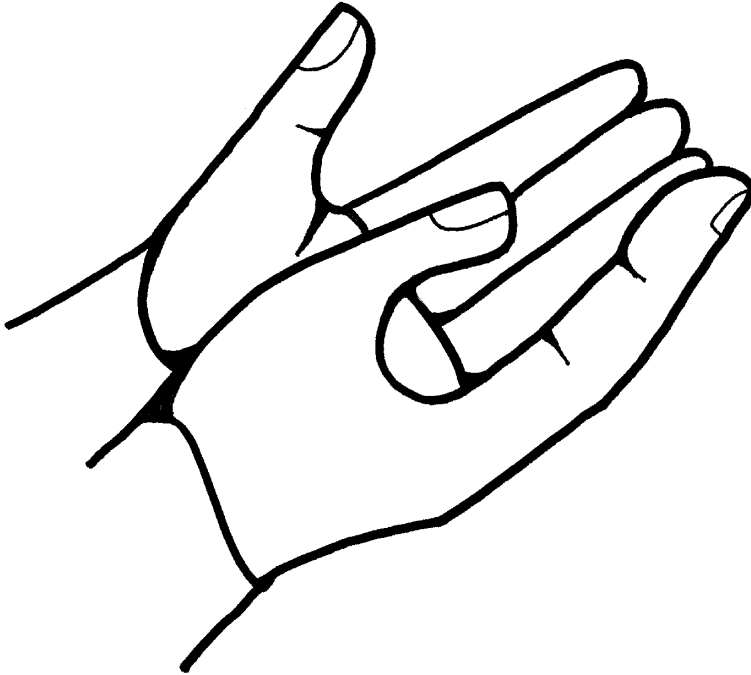
GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome

Welcome to worship! We are responsible for the Good News entrusted to us, though it might not be so obvious. In Isaiah, we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering, we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.



Remembering Baptism ~ Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us
alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus
Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through
the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the God of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise the Al - might - y, o'er all life so won-drous-ly reign - ing,
 3 Praise the Al - might - y, who pros-pers your work and de - fends you;
 4 Praise the Al - might - y! In won - der my spir - it is soar - ing!



My heart is long - ing to of - fer up sweet ad - o - ra - tion.
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 see from the heav - ens the show - ers of mer - cy God sends you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es out - pour - ing.



Mel - o - dy make; dul - ci - mer, harp, now a - wake.
 Have you not seen? All that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do;
 Let the a - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain,



Sound forth your praise, ev - 'ry na - tion.
 sent by God's gra - cious or - dain - ing.
 in - fi - nite Love here be - friends you.
 glad - ly for - ev - er a - dor - ing!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. composite

Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Erneuerter Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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Greeting

The presiding minister and congregation welcome each other with a greeting shared by Jesus' early apostles and then join their hearts in prayer.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Even though we are distant from one another, the Spirit unites us as we pray this ancient prayer that introduces the biblical readings for today.

Let us pray.

After a brief silence for personal prayer, the presiding minister continues:

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Beloved to love the world with compassion, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



WORD

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The first reading is from the prophet Isaiah. The exiles have just returned to Jerusalem and the prophet reminds them their well-being is rooted in God's command to do justice and God's promise to save. Contrary to some other biblical writers, Isaiah contends that God will gather, welcome, honor, and make joyful eunuchs, foreigners and all the outcasts. Listen for the Word of God.

- ¹Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness will be revealed.
- ²Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast,
who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil.
- ³Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say, "The Lord will surely separate me from
his people"; and do not let the eunuch say, "I am just a dry tree."
- ⁴For thus says the Lord: To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant,
- ⁵I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and a name
better than many children; I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.
- ⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name
of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—
- ⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.
- ⁸Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 67

In response to Isaiah's oracle predicting that also foreigners will be accepted by God, we sing Psalm 67, which asks God's blessings on all the nations of the earth.

- ¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- ²**Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**
- ³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- ⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.**
- ⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- ⁶**The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**
- ⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

For the second reading we continue to hear excerpts from Paul's letter to the Jewish and Gentile community of Jesus in Rome. That many Jews did not follow Jesus Christ raised a question about God's people Israel. Paul, a Jewish Christian, says God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable. Listen for the Word of God.

- ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.
- ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.
- ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once unconvinced about God but have now received mercy because of their lack of confidence, ³¹so now they are unconvinced in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has enclosed all in unbelief so that God may be merciful to all.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

See www.reformationdc.org/worship for today's Children's Message.

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Ben Hogue

As you are able, proclaim the word of God in song.

Hymn

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW 612

Refrain



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad-ness; Spir-it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir-it of com-pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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Creed

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith in God by saying the Apostles' Creed.

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 Intercession

We unite in prayer, asking God to send the Holy Spirit on the church, the world, and all who are in need. Today we combine an ancient form of prayer called a Bidding Prayer, with a contemporary online technique called a Chatterfall. A chatterfall is when a group of people online use the online chat boxes to respond to a question all at the same time. Their responses cascade down the chat box like a waterfall.

So if you are following along online, here's how we'll combine a Bidding Prayer and Chatterfall. The assisting minister will invite you to pray about a one subject at a time, for example, "For the religious communities and leaders we name before you now, we pray." Then the minister will pause silently. During the silence you can say the names of places that need God's Spirit. For those of you who want to use the Chatterfall, during the silence type the name of the place in the chat box—but wait to press enter until the minister says, "Hear us, O God." So during the silence, you could say or type "Pastor Surekha Nelavala" or "United Lutheran Seminary." Then when the minister says, "Hear us, O God" you can press your enter key and all the places we typed will cascade like a prayer waterfall. We'll do that for each petition. Now let us prepare our minds and bodies for prayer.

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

You have made your church a house of prayer for all peoples. Open our hearts so that we may be gathered with all your children. For the religious communities and leaders we name before you now, we pray:

A brief silence.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.

By your grace the earth brings forth its bounty. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. For the earth and waters, and the places and creatures we name before you now, we pray:

A brief silence.

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. For the national and local government leaders we name before you now, we pray:

A brief silence.

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for refugees and outcasts in this region and around the world, for those who need your healing especially and for all those we name who need your care. O God, we pray:

A brief silence.

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation Lutheran Church of the Reformation grace to find our life refreshed in you. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for service in your name. For our congregation, we pray:

A brief silence.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. Hear also the other prayers in our hearts. For our grief and joy, for our tears and laughter, for our fears and dreams. For ourselves, we pray:

A brief silence.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pause a moment to read the Prayer-Fall.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Exchange of Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with your friends and family while we listen to a musical offering. You may also take this time to text "Peace be with you" to another person -- maybe a friend you miss seeing in person at worship or even a neighbor in another city or state.

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for the saving Word of Christ and all the gifts of God.

Mission Announcements can be found at www.reformationdc.org/worship

Offering of Gifts and Musical Offering

Although we are not gathering in the sanctuary, Reformation's ministries continue every day. Staff members are providing individual and communal pastoral care, coordinating lay leaders and volunteers, caring for our facilities, connecting us with one another, and developing resources for worship and spiritual growth. This time has disrupted the usual way we gather offerings and severely restricted the gifts of some households. We invite you to give as you are able.

Please give online at ReformationDC.org/give or send your checks to the church office. If you want to begin or change your Simply Giving weekly or monthly donation, email Office@ReformationDC.org.

*To use our new **Text-to-Give** option, send a text message to 844-414-8057 with the amount you would like to give to Reformation. You will receive a secure link to input your payment information. Once you have filled out your payment information, the contribution will be deposited directly into Reformation's bank account. After completing this setup, you can use text-to-give to donate again by simply texting additional donations to 844-414-8057*



SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing of the Graduates

Zack Barrette
Ben Hale
Kai Moeller

Sending Prayer

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, grant that your holy word which has been proclaimed this day may enter into our hearts by your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4

We conclude the thanksgiving with the prayer Jesus taught us. You can say this or another translation you know by heart.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach 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

Numbers 6:23-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
 4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
 sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
 O fallen human race!
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever giv'n
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Postlude

Prayer List

WE GIVE THANKS ...

For those who celebrate anniversaries this week:

Karen and Parry Carlson (8/17); Jeffery Watson and Craig Haas (8/18); Eva and Ted Steege, Angie and Erick Lutt (8/19); Jenna Jablonski and Daniel O'Brien (8/20).

For those who celebrate birthdays this week:

Nancy Pfahl (8/16); Philip Moeller (8/18); Nancy Dinse (8/19).

WE PRAY FOR...

The family of Hae-Yin Loke in Singapore and his former partner Philip Moeller, as they grieve his death and celebrate his life.

Maxwell Finkensadt, who broke his arm on August 11.

The friends and family of Rehan, friend of Kiri Nicholson, as they remember him and commemorate his 23rd birthday.

The family of Tom Gill as they grieve his death and celebrate his life, including his daughter Tricia, his spouse Karen, and his sister-in-law Liz Tucker Manty.

John Amberson, brother of Julie Jones, for health and healing.

Chester Hart, for healing from COVID-19 and healthy recovery after triple-bypass surgery.

Members and friends affected by COVID-19.

Mike Cochrane, brother of Karen Carlson, in thanksgiving for a successful brain surgery and continued prayers for increased mobility in outpatient rehab.

Len Hawley, friend of Dale Manty, as he receives treatment for leukemia.

Erica Hoff, daughter of Betty Walker, as she continues treatment.

Rebecca Pfahl, for health and healing.

Wayne Krumwiede, for health and healing.

Mel Antonen, as he continues to heal from serious health issues, including COVID-19.

David, the father of Phillip and Harriet Vender's daughter-in-law.

Robert Pfahl and his family for health and healing.

For our congregational and family members in military and foreign service

Drew Shealy, Diane Kohn, Melinda Manning, Paul Cowden, Jon Jones, Lee Patterson and family members of those in service here and around the world.

From our hearts for

Phil Abbott, Tim Allmond, Angela Braxton, Emanuele and Emmajean Crupi, Bob Hedrick, Bernice Hoveland, Mary James, Leah Jones, Marvin Jones, Emmanuel Kabasaala, Wayne Krumwiede, Margot Lyddane, Carol Ann Mumaw, Valerie Platz, Ron and Daphne Rhine, Bill Scott, Madge Selinsky, Al Stauderman, Helen Vigness, Carolyn Walker, Thomas Winter, and Gloria Wolf.

Please email your prayer requests to Pastor Mike at wilker@ReformationDC.org

Thanks be to God for today's Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister

Assisting Minister

Readers

Cantors

Pastor Ben Hogue

Jane Tobler

Joy Ernst, Emily Andre, Helen Stauderman,

Jon Korman, Jon-Michael Eclar, Gabbi Levy,

Alexa Newlin

The most up-to-date Worship Schedule, will be found on our website, www.reformationdc.org.

We will continue to follow the guidelines of health professionals, scientists, government officials, and church leaders to make decisions regarding gathering for in-person worship. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

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