

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

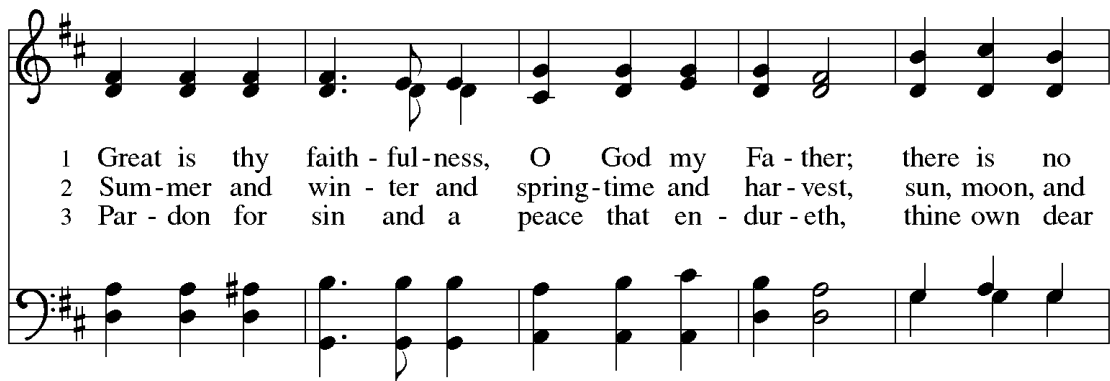
July 26, 2020

Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)

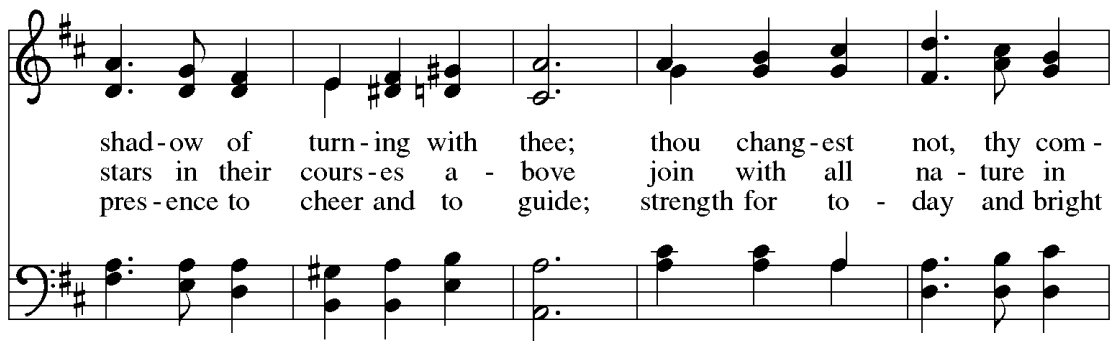
10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134

"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others"

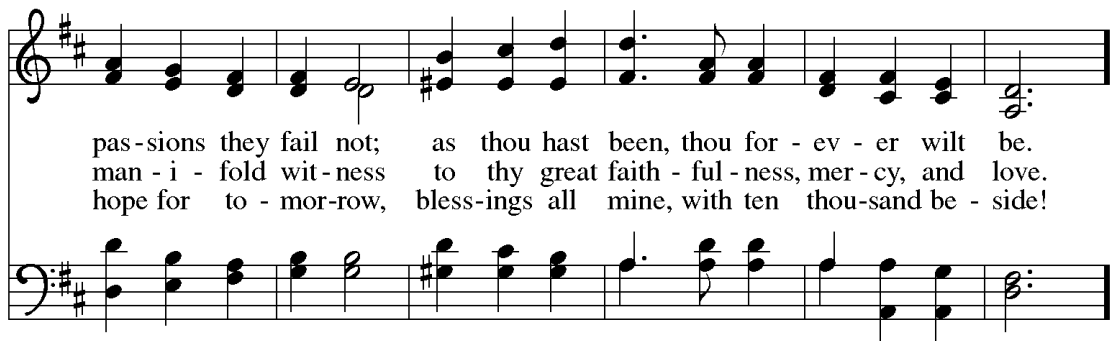
Gathering Song: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"..... ELW 733



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960
 Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957
 Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

Confession

Gracious God, left to ourselves we have taken matters into our own hands and, despite our best intentions, we have made a mess of things: our lives, the lives of others, and of your creation. In humility and with sorrow we confess.

Silence is kept for personal reflection.

We have caused hurt by what we have thought, said, and done.

We have looked away from injustice.

We have remained silent in the face of wrong.

We have done wrong.

Do not stand far off, O God.

Hear us when we call.

Enter into our conflicted and anxious lives and set things right.

In Jesus Christ, God has set things right and forgiven your sins. God sent the Word made flesh to mend what is broken, to heal what is sick, to find what is lost, and to remove every obstacle that stands between us and God.

Amen

Lamb of God

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 3/2 time. It begins with a piano (*p*) section featuring a six-measure rest in both staves, followed by the lyrics "Lamb of God, your gen-tle-ness in-vites us". The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The score then transitions to a crescendo (*cresc. poco a poco*) section with the lyrics "to lay down our bur - dens, to rise and walk be -". This is followed by a fortissimo (*ff*) section with the lyrics "side you, to sit down at your ta - ble." and "Oh, on earth and in hea - ven." The score concludes with a piano (*p*) section featuring a three-measure rest in both staves, followed by the lyrics "Lamb of God, your gen - tle - ness in - vites".

p

6

[C] Lamb of God, your gen-tle-ness in-vites us

cresc. poco a poco

to lay down our bur - dens, to rise and walk be -

side you, to sit down at your ta - ble.

ff

Oh, on earth and in hea - ven.

p

3

Lamb of God, your gen - tle - ness in - vites

3

us to take up your mer - cy,

to take up your vis - ion, to take up your

ff
jus - tice. Oh, now and for -

p
ev - er. Lamb of God,

give us your peace.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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. Amen.

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that 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 our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

First system of musical notation, featuring treble and bass staves with a key signature of three sharps and a 2/4 time signature. The system includes a repeat sign and a 15/16 measure rest.

Second system of musical notation, featuring treble and bass staves with a key signature of three sharps and a 2/4 time signature. The system includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking and a common time (C) symbol.

Al - le - lu - ia, give us your Word.---

Third system of musical notation, featuring treble and bass staves with a key signature of three sharps and a 2/4 time signature. The system includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking.

Al - le - lu - ia, give us your Word.--- The

Fourth system of musical notation, featuring treble and bass staves with a key signature of three sharps and a 2/4 time signature. The system includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking.

Word that gives light--- and life, the Word that shat - ters--- the

Fifth system of musical notation, featuring treble and bass staves with a key signature of three sharps and a 2/4 time signature. The system includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking.

dark - ness,--- the Word that rais - es--- the

dead to new life!

Al - le - lu - ia, give us your Word.

give us your Word, give us your Word, al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Children's Sermon Rev. Becky Sells

Sermon Rev. Becky Sells

Hymn of the Day: "Seek Ye First"..... WOY 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.

Text: st. 1, Matt. 6:33, adapt. Karen Lafferty, b. 1948; st. 2, Matt. 7:7; st. 3, Matt. 4:4
Music: Karen Lafferty, b. 1948
Text st. 1 and music © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Co.

LAFFERTY
irregular

The Apostle's Creed

Let us declare our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

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. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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, especially those on the prayer list and those we name before you now. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In you our lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places. Embolden our witness to faith in the here and now as we look forward to and long for day when you will gather us up with all the saints in light. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

Offering

Now is the point in our service where we are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to also give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth while we sing.

Offertory

mf

[C] Ev-er liv-ing God, ev-er giv-ing God, e-ven

feed-ing the ra - vens, cloth-ing lil-ies of the fields.

f

mf

It is your good plea-sure to give us all we need; you de-

p *mf*

thanks to you. — We give thanks to you. — Ev-er

liv - ing God, ev - er giv - ing God, giv - ing to us our dai - ly need,

cloth - ing peo - ple glo - r'ous - ly! It is your good plea - sure to

give us all we need; you de - light to give us all that we have.——

We give thanks to you.—— We give thanks to you.——

[L] Bread in a - bun - dance, wa - ter now wine. wa - ter now wine. wa - ter now wine.

mf

We are the leaves in Christ the true vine.

mf

Our sins for-giv - en, live life a - new.
live life a - new.
live life a - new.

f *pp*

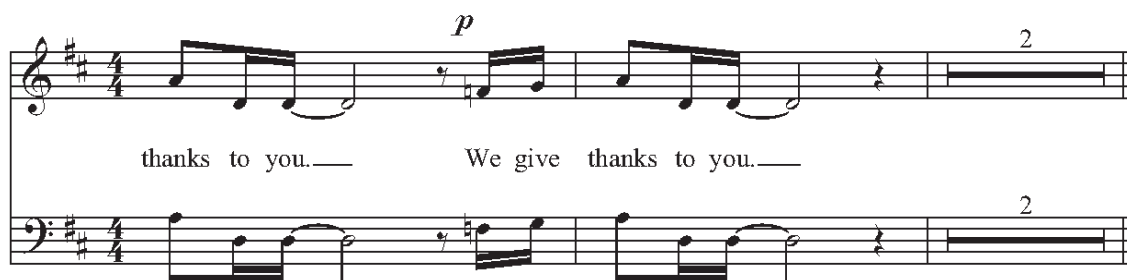
Liv - ing the gos - pel in all that we do.

mf

It is your good plea-sure to give us all we need; you de-

mp

light to give us all that we have. We give



Offertory Prayer

Let us join together in praying the offertory prayer,

Merciful God, we offer to you ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Signs of your gracious love. Help us to use these gifts creatively and boldly to further your mission and embody your presence in the world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

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.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2007 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24833.

Reprinted by permission CCLI License #3067941

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989,

Used by permission. All rights reserved