

# Sunday, August 25, 2024

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

9:30 A.M.

Hymnists: Ron & Doris Freund

## Prelude

### **GATHERING:**

#### **“They’ll Know We Are Christians” (vv. 1, 2, & 4)**

1. We are one in the Spirit,  
We are one in the Lord;  
We are one in the Spirit,  
We are one in the Lord.  
And we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored.

2. We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand;  
We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand.  
And together we’ll spread the news  
that God is in our land.

*Refrain:*

*(repeat at end of each verse)*

**And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.  
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

*Words and Music by: Peter Scholtes  
© 1966 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 The Lorenz Corporation  
Song #26997 Used by Permission – CCLI #1976436*

#### **“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”**

**ELW, #697**

*Refrain:*

*(repeat at end of each verse)*

**Just a closer walk with thee, grant it Jesus is my plea  
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

1. I am weak but thou art strong:  
Jesus keep me from all wrong;  
I’ll be satisfied as long as I walk,  
let me walk close to thee.

2. Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden share?  
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

3. When my feeble life is o’er, time for me will be no more,  
Guide me gently, safely o’er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.

*Text and Music: North American traditional  
Public Domain*

## Welcome & Announcements

### Corporate Prayer:

**“Into Your hands we commit our lives. Into Your hands we commit Your church.”**

### Confession and Forgiveness:

ELW, pp. 94–96

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**P:** Most merciful God,

**C:** **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.**

**P:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen**

## OPENING HYMN

**“All Are Welcome” (vv. 1, 3, & 4)**

**ELW, #641**

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

**Refrain:**

*(repeat at end of each verse)*

**All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

3. Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

*Continues next page*

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

*Text & Music: Marty Haugen*  
*Text and Music: © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.*  
*Song #00004 Used by Permission One License # A715553*

## **Greeting:**

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

**C: And also, with you.**

## **Kyrie**

**ELW Setting 8**

**Kyrie Eleison**

**pp. 184-185**

*Refrain:*

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison, every day.**

1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;  
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Refrain**

2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;  
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Refrain**

3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;  
For life and for love, for our work and our play,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Refrain**

4. For your spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;  
That you nourish our souls with your body and blood,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**Refrain**

*ELW License #1544470101*

# Prayer of the Day

## WORD

READING: Ephesians 4:1–16

## Gospel Acclamation

ELW Setting 8

ELW p. 188

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # 1544470101

ELW License #1544470101

Gospel: John 15:1–17

## HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Bind Us Together”

WOV #748

*Refrain:*

*(repeat at end of each verse)*

**Bind us together, Lord,  
 Bind us together with cords  
 That cannot be broken.  
 Bind us together, Lord,  
 Bind us together, Lord;  
 Bind us together with love**

*Continues next page*

1. There is only one God.  
There is only one King.  
There is only one body;  
That is why we can sing:

2. You are the fam'ly of God.  
You are the promise divine.  
You are God's chosen desire,  
You are the glorious new wine.

Words & Music: Bob Gillman  
© 1977 Thankyou Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere Integrity's Hosanna! Music  
Song #1228 Used by Permission – CCLI #1976436

## **Sermon:**

**“Life As Story: Unity in the Body” Pastor Barb Lemke**

## **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 into hell.  
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:**

Ukraine and Israel, our prayers are with you

John & Casey Howshar

Delores Rasmussen & Dan Rasmussen

Eyes: Marvin Bohrer & Bonnie Frank

Robert McBride – Patti Schoenfeld – Mike Lemke – Susan Riley (*Lorraine Chambers' friend*) – Ashlyn (*daughter of friend Wade and Lynn Hampton*) – Alicia Jerrup (*friend of Mary Katherine Smith*) – Leisa Mortenson (*friend of Lynn Hampton*) – Gary (*Andrea Newport's brother-in-law*) – Scott Petrock (*Carol Einertson's son-in-law*) – Tammy Hawley (*Sheila Kelly's boss*) – Trudi (*Debbie Diedrich's friend*) – Donna (*Debbie Diedrich's friend*) – Lilly (*two-year-old, neuroblastoma*) – Linda Hardy – Andrew Carpenter (*friend of Alexa Weaver*)

Ray Johnson

Danny Cowan

Bob and Margaret Zenn

Carol Kirkegaard

*Continues next page*

Al Ryberg, *Sylvia Cowan's brother*  
Linda Washington (stroke)  
Dan Dunn, *friend of Hamptons*  
Kaylee, *friend of Hamptons*  
Carol Smith  
Virginia Miller, *Marv Kelley's sister* (growth on shoulder)  
Sydney, *Vicki Florer's granddaughter* (heart transplant recovery)  
Breanna, *friend of Kim Gednalske Evancho*  
Susan Armor, healing of broken legs  
Matthew Zenn, *Bob and Margaret Zenn's 22-year-old grandson* (heart issues)  
Teresa Linkem, *Judy Arffman's sister* (pneumonia)  
Larry Seprick (health)  
Catherine McConchie (stroke recovery)  
Glenis, *Delores Rasmussen's sister* (home from hospitalization)  
Dana Neumann, *former member* (recovery from stroke)  
Cindy and Randy Peters (heart issues)  
Vaselissa, *friend of Laura and Vern Thompson's granddaughter* (car accident)  
Elise Weaver (surgery recovery)  
Ron Freund (broken ankle)  
Joyce Wilming, *Vicki Florer's sister* (recovery from heart attack and bronchitis)  
Joe Baker, husband of Donna Haight's sister Cathy (biopsy being tested for cancer)  
Brooke Anna Harris, friend of Weaver family (upcoming surgery and recovery)  
Dorothy, *Dee Dee Pargman's mother* (mild stroke recovery)

**Homebound Members:** Wil Wertz – Jim Craig – Josh Carter

**Thanksgiving for Bethel Members:**

Arlene Bliss  
Sheila Kelley, Jacob Carter  
Carol Kirkegaard

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY:**

**“We Are an Offering”**

**ELW #692**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you:  
We are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices,  
Lord use our hands, Lord, use our lives,  
they are yours: we are an offering.  
All that we have, all that we are,

*Continues next page*

all that we hope to be,  
we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering,  
we are an offering

*Words and Music by: Dwight Liles  
© 1984 Word Music, LLC  
Song #16220 Used by Permission – CCLI #1976436*

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us Give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Words of Institution**

**ELW, p. 190**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **SONGS DURING COMMUNION:**

### **“Be Still (for the Presence of the Lord)”**

- 1.** Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One is here.  
Come bow before Him now,  
With reverence and fear.  
In Him no sin is found,  
We stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
The Holy One is here.
- 2.** Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around.  
He burns with holy fire,  
With splendor He is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight,  
Our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around.
- 3.** Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place.

*Continues next page*

He comes to cleanse and heal,  
To minister His grace.  
No work too hard for Him,  
In faith receive from Him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place.

*Words and Music by: David J. Evans*  
© 1986 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
Song #120824 Used by Permission – CCLI #1976436

**“One Bread, One Body”**

**ELW #496**

***Refrain:***

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many through-out the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.**

1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.
2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.

*Words and Music by: John Foley, SJ*  
© 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications  
Song #80673 Used by Permission One License # A715553

**“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

**ELW #471**

1. Let us break bread together on our knees  
Let us break bread together on our knees

***Refrain:***

*(repeat at end of each verse)*

**When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun  
O Lord have mercy on me**

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees  
Let us drink wine together on our knees
3. Let us praise God together on our knees  
Let us praise God together on our knees

*Words and Music: African American spiritual*  
*Public Domain*

**Post Communion Blessing and Prayer**

**Benediction**



**CLOSING SONG:**

**“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”**

**ELW #656**

1. Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above.

2. Before our Father’s throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.

3. We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.

4. From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign  
through all eternity.

*Words: John Fawcett, alt.  
Music: Johann G. Nügel  
Public Domain*

**Corporate Prayer:**

**“Into Your hands we commit our lives. Into Your hands we commit Your church.”**

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

+++++

**Worship Team for Today:**

**Presider:** Pastor Barb Lemke

**Pianist:** Cindy Josephson **Hymnists:** Ron and Doris Freund

**Reader:** Robert DeLapp **Greeter:** - **Usher:** Marvin & Ev Kelley

**Communion Asst.:** Jon Lohmer & Laina Kelley-Walker **Screen/Sound:** Travis Kleven

**Video FaceBook:** Jamie Villante **YouTube:** Tom Lenahan

## **WORD**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Ephesians 4:1–16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup>(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow

up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

**Gospel:** John 15:1–17

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. <sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide

in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.