

Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church
Sunday, February 7, 2021

Welcome

Greeting

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.*

Call to Worship – (©2012 Joan Stott – "The Timeless Psalms" RCL Psalm Year B, used with permission).

P: Healing God, we come together in our brokenness,
to call to you to make us whole again.

C: Merciful God, listen to our prayers, we pray.

P: Restoring God, we gather to worship you,
even as we hopefully seek to be renewed and restored again.

C: Steadfast God, listen to our prayers this day.

P: Foundational God, we come to praise and thank you!
In the depths of You we find peace and rest.

C: God – our Beginning and our End, we hope always in you. Amen.

Song – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness¹

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Prayer of the Day

The Readings

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like
stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up
your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and
numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in
power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and
my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The
Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or
grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and
strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall
exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount
up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm 147:1-5, 10-11

Praise the Lord!

How good it is to sing praises to our God;

for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;

but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,

in those who hope in his steadfast love. The Word of the Lord

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons. The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection

Song: Healer of Our Every Ill²

Refrain: Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. [*Refrain*]

In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. [*Refrain*]

Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. [*Refrain*]

You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. [*Refrain*]

Prayers of the People: We pray: *Lord in your mercy...* and respond: *Hear our prayer.*

Holy Communion (Zoom Only)

The Lord's Prayer

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us;

C: 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, and 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

Song – Sent Forth by God's Blessing³

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—

our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.

With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Dismissal L: Go in peace. Christ is with you. *C: Thanks be to God*

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³ ELW hymn #547. Text: Omer Westendorf. Music: Welsh folk tune. ©1964 World Library Publications. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #A736240