



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Wilton, WI
 10th Sunday after Pentecost
 August 9, 2020
**Inviting People to Journey with Christ's
 Family in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Gathering
*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God**

Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather
Sekai no tomo to te o tsunagi

Se - ka - i no to - mo to te o tsu - na - gi,
 1 Here, O Lord, your ser - vants gath - er, hand we link with hand;
 2 Man - y are the tongues we speak, scat - tered are the lands,
 3 Na - ture's se - crets o - pen wide, chang - es nev - er cease.
 4 Grant, O God, an age re - newed, filled with death - less love;

Jyu - ji - ka no mo - to ni ta - tsu wa - re - ra,
 look - ing toward our Sav - ior's cross, joined in love we stand.
 yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's de - mands.
 Where, oh where, can wea - ry souls find the source of peace?
 help us as we work and pray, send us from a - bove

Ka - mi no mi - ku - ni o me a te to shi,
 As we seek the realm of God, we u - nite to pray:
 E'en in dark - ness hope ap - pears, call - ing age and youth:
 Un - to all those sore dis - tressed, torn by end - less strife:
 truth and cour - age, faith and pow'r, need - ed in our strife:

Shu Ye - su no mi - chi o su - su - mi yu - kan.
 Je - sus, sav - ior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.
 Je - sus, teach - er, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.
 Je - sus, heal - er, bring your balm, for you are the Life.
 Je - sus, mas - ter, be our Way, be our Truth, our Life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

FIRST READING

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

P: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:8-13

- ⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- ⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.

SECOND READING

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

Romans 10:5-15

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

P: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt..

The gospel according to Matthew 14:22-33

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

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

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations and their leaders. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those in need. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are seeking affordable place to live. We pray for those suffering this day, whether in body, mind or spirit, especially Katie, Bill, Dakota, Carla, Ruth, Judy, Alrita, Dick, Lisa, Pam, Jim, Curt, Deb, and all those we name aloud and in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For our congregation. You have gathered us here today as your people and we thank you for this gift. We pray for those who are new to this community, for students and teachers preparing for a new school year, and for those struggling with unexpected hardship. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

.We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. 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.

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

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.

SENDING

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

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING. Robert Lowry, alt.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

IN OUR PRAYERS

Katie Wallace, Bill Collar, Dakota Holiday, Carla Von Haden, Ruth Johnson, Judy Bever, Alrita Ornes, Dick Krause, Lisa Rhodes, Jim Bender, Pam Liefke, Curt Brueggen, Deb Paeth

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Todd Nofsinger, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Seth Tormoen, Robert Cale.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

To Dana Cale and Jeremy Stanek, married yesterday at the Stanek Family farm in rural Hillsboro. Dana is the daughter of Kathy and Rich Cale. May God bless them today and always.

GRADUATION PARTY INVITATION

Members of St. Paul's are invited to the graduation party of Kaylin Gruen on Sunday, August 9, at the Elroy Firemen's Shelter located in the Elroy Park. The celebration will be from 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Kaylin will be attending UW-Madison in September.

CHICKEN DINNER

We are having a chicken dinner fundraiser on September 13, 2020, to help reduce the effect of the pandemic on our finances. The meal will cost \$10.00 and will consist of ½ barbeque chicken, potato salad, beans, cranberry relish, dinner roll, and 8 oz. water. All meals will be take-out with serving time from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. We are asking for your help in selling tickets. All tickets must be sold in advance to allow for precise ordering. Lori Brueggen or Nalani Bever will be contacting you. Thanks for supporting this project.

PART-TIME OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR WANTED

The La Crosse Area Synod is seeking a Part-Time Office Administrator to work approximately 20 hours/week (hours negotiable). Responsibilities include: working with the bishop and the assistant to the bishop in securing pastors for congregations and guiding candidates through seminary, greeting visitors and answering telephone; updating databases, various forms and website; and other general duties. Needing a self-starter with skills in social media and online messaging, and the ability to multitask. Confidentiality is required. If interested, please contact the synod office by August 16: office@lacrosseareasynod.org or 608-788-5000.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY – UW LA CROSSE

The most important way you can support the ministry of Common Ground is by praying for us. The church is going through one of its hardest seasons yet, and the generation we work with is the most resistant to anything that seems religious. Jesus told us that if our faith was like a mustard seed we could move mountains. Campus Ministry is a bit like mountain moving but we know we have the support of so many.

This ministry is possible because everyday people like you choose to give. We are grateful for every gift, no matter the size. We use your gifts to show up on our campuses with the love of God, to proclaim boldly that ALL students are loved, and to see lives transformed by love.

You may support this vital ministry in a number of ways. You may designate your church offering to Common Ground, or mail a donation to Lutheran Campus Ministry at Common Ground, 1334 Pine Street, La Crosse, WI 54601, or go to their website www.laxcg.org and click on support.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support of Campus Ministry.

SPARE KITCHEN ITEMS

Our friends, Ella and Dan Yoder are hosting their church service on Sunday, August 16. They need a little help with some items to host a fairly large crowd. Would you be willing to donate any of the following items?:

- Glasses (any size)
- Silverware (any odds and ends you might have)
- Hand towels
- Dish towels

Ella is also running low on old jeans for her sewing project so, if you have any of those, please bring them as well. Thank you.

CONTACTS DURING CORONAVIRUS CLOSURE

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074, Justin Arndt (608-435-6336) (414-587-6642) or Nalani Bever (608-387-2311).

To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani or Louise Buchholz (608-435-6435).

Additional Contact Information:

Pastor Cathleen: cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu

Justin Arndt: arndt.now@gmail.com

Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com

Nalani Bever: nalanib@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

FACEBOOK!! Home page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI

*The Sunday Assembly, Lorraine S. Brugh, Gordon W. Lathrop, Augsburg Fortress, 2008

Liturgy from SundaysAndSeasons.com @Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission Augsburg Fortress Liturgies. Annual license #SAS004131