

Welcome To
Mt. Hope Lutheran Church
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A Stephen Ministry Congregation

July 18th-19th, 2020
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 11)

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

We welcome all who gather here today! We are blessed to celebrate together the mercy, grace, and love we have from God through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Children: Families with children are *very* welcome here. Having children in church is important so they can begin to learn about their faith in Jesus, and it's good for the whole congregation to see. *Please feel comfortable keeping "squirmy" kids in the service. This is where they belong, too!*

Pew Cards: While we don't have pew cards to fill out during this time, if you have a prayer request please email or write a note to Pastor or the church office.

If standing is difficult: Please feel free to remain seated during any portion of the service. Please let an Elder or Usher know if you need communion in your pew seat.

About our celebration of Holy Communion: We celebrate the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood contrary to that which is stated above do so to their great harm, and also because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with Pastor. Those not communing are still invited to come forward for a blessing from Pastor, and you may indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

GREETING and SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: Peace be with you.
C: **And also with you.**

(From Divine Service Setting One LSB pg. 151 ff.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Please stand as able

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

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 86:11-15; antiphon: 86:6

P: Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
C: **listen to my plea for grace.**
P: Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;
C: **unite my heart to fear your name.**
P: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
C: **and I will glorify your name forever.**

P: For great is your steadfast love toward me;
C: you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.
P: O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life,
C: and they do not set you before them.
P: But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
C: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
C: listen to my plea for grace.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Let us pray.
O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
“I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷ Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.
Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
⁸ Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?
There is no Rock; I know not any.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as able

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴ [Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

**C: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated

SERMON

Please stand as able

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with this response: P: Lord, in Your mercy,
C: **hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C: **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.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and give it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood,

which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Please be seated

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion will be served in a continuous fashion. Households may commune at the same time together. Ushers will help direct you forward via the center aisle; please return to your seats via the side aisles. Gluten-free bread is available for those who need it, as is non-alcoholic grape juice. Simply request either when you come forward to receive Communion.

Please stand as able

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SENDING WORDS

P: We go to live for Jesus!

C: **We go to share His love!**

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