 **Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

 **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

Living and trusting in god’s amazing grace we welcome all to worship, learn and serve in celebration of Christ’s love.

**The Third Sunday after Pentecost**

 **June 13, 2021 9:00 AM**

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,

and of the ☩ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**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.**

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. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN “Come Thou Font Of Every Blessing” ELW #807**

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,

 tune my heart to sing thy grace;

 streams of mercy, never ceasing,

 call for songs of loudest praise.

 While the hope of endless glory

 fills my heart with joy and love,

 teach me ever to adore thee;

 may I still thy goodness prove.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:

 "Hither by thy help I've come";

 and I hope, by thy good pleasure,

 safely to arrive at home.

 Jesus sought me when a stranger,

 wand'ring from the fold of God;

 he, to rescue me from danger,

 Interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor

 daily I'm constrained to be;

 let that grace now like a fetter

 bind my wand'ring heart to thee.

 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;

 prone to leave the God I love.

 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;

 seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

**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.**

**KYRIE Spoken Responsively ELW p. 138**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,

and for our salvation,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,

for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,

and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE “This is the Feast” ELW p. 140**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,**

**whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,**

**and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God,**

**and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might**

**be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

**Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

**WORD**

### **The First Reading Ezekiel 17:22-24**

22Thus says the Lord God:
 I myself will take a sprig
  from the lofty top of a cedar;
  I will set it out.
 I will break off a tender one
  from the topmost of its young twigs;
 I myself will plant it
  on a high and lofty mountain.
 23On the mountain height of Israel
  I will plant it,
 in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
  and become a noble cedar.
 Under it every kind of bird will live;
  in the shade of its branches will nest
  winged creatures of every kind.
 24All the trees of the field shall know
  that I am the Lord.
 I bring low the high tree,
  I make high the low tree;
 I dry up the green tree
  and make the dry tree flourish.
 I the Lord have spoken;
  I will accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 Reading Responsively**

### 1It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord,to sing praise to your name, O Most High;2**to herald your love in the morning****and your faithfulness at night;**

### 3on the psaltery, and on the lyre,and to the melody of the harp.4**For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord;****and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

### 12The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.13**Those who are planted in the house of the Lord****shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

### 14they shall still bear fruit in old age;they shall be green and succulent;15**that they may show how upright the Lord is,****my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

### **Second Reading  2 Corinthians 5:6-10 14-17**

*Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God’s new creation.*

6So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—7for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. 10For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.
  14For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. 15And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.
  16From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. 17So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” ELW p. 142**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### **Gospel: Mark 4:26-34**

26[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,27and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. 28The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”
  30He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? 31It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; 32yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”
  33With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON The Mystery of God’s Growth Pastor Tim Larson**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “Great is Thy Faithfulness” ELW #733**

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;

 there is no shadow of turning with thee;

 thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;

 as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain*  Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

 Morning by morning new mercies I see;

 all I have needed thy hand hath provided;

 great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,

 sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

 join with all nature in manifold witness

 to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

 thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

 strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

 blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

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**apostles’ creed elw P. 105**

**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**

Each portion of the prayers ends with “Lord, in your mercy”. Congregation response: **Hear our prayer.**

**THE 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.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “This is My Father’s World”**  **ELW #824**

1 This is my Father's world,

 and to my list'ning ears

 all nature sings, and round me rings

 the music of the spheres.

 This is my Father's world;

 I rest me in the thought

 of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;

 his hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world;

 the birds their carols raise;

 the morning light, the lily white,

 declare their maker's praise.

 This is my Father's world;

 he shines in all that's fair.

 In the rustling grass I hear him pass;

 he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

3 This is my Father's world;

 oh, let me not forget

 that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,

 God is the ruler yet.

 This is my Father's world;

 why should my heart be sad?

 The Lord is king, let heaven ring;

 God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

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**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor – Timothy P. Larson

Musicians –Mariah Rudningen

Lector – Carmen Maus

Ushers – Theresa Smith

Acolytes – Henry and Zoey Harkema

Greeter- Ev Williams

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** *(Periodically these prayer concerns will be moved to the prayer concerns list in the newsletter)* Family of Alma Ritchie, sister of Bill Brendemuehl, Keith and Kari Lundberg, Calvin Carls, Florence Smith, Pastor Bill Miller

**Stewardship Snippet:**  **The Third Sunday after Pentecost , June 13, 2021**

*“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new.” – 2 Corinthians 5:17*As we emerge from our Covid cocoons, we are all new creations, changed in a variety of ways. In addition to renewing existing relationships, we can look for new ones that will help us deepen our faith walk, challenge our biases and prejudices, and love our neighbor.

**Fellowship Hour:** Please join us for coffee and fellowship this morning in the parish hall following worship services. WELCA is serving their Mid-Summer Brunch this morning with some favorite Scandinavian dishes.

**Next Sunday, June 20, 2021**: **The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion, worship is in person and live streamed.

**KLC Worship Services are also available for viewing on YouTube!**

**KLC Office Hours for the Week of June 14-18, 2021:** Church office hour will be Monday - Office closed, Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00-4:00 pm. The church office is closed on Friday. If you have questions or need assistance please call: Ann Hanson – 320-894-4464.

**“It’s Miller Time” concert:** This concert is to celebrate and honor Pastor Bill, who is battling pancreatic cancer. It is taking place today at 3:30 pm at Peace Lutheran in New London. “It’s Miller Time” will be available on YouTube at Peace Lutheran Church, New London.

**WELCA Quilting:** Quilting continues each Wednesday 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Masks and social distancing protocols will be followed. There will be a catered noon luncheon with a free will donation each week.

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** The Nominating Committee presented the KLC church council a slate of members that have agreed to serve on the Call Committee for KLC. They are as follows: Amber Doering, Tom Baker, Kristin Stivers, Leif Carlson, Loretta Falk, LeRoy Meyer and Julia Carlson. These individuals were approved by the Council and a special congregational meeting is being called to do a final call for additional nominations and to vote on the members of the Call Committee. This meeting will be held on Sunday June 20, following the worship service at approximately 10:00 am, in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in being on the Call Committee please contact the church office or one of Nominating Committee members: Lane Carlson, Ann Hanson, Sue Nelson, Grace Marquardt or Christine Forsell.

**Thank You!** Kerkhoven Lutheran Church has received an anonymous gift of the proceeds from the sale of 800 bushels of corn. We are extremely grateful for this generous gift and it has been used to repay funds borrowed from the church savings to meet budget shortfalls during the past year and a half. There now only remains $2,888.00 that has not yet restored to the church savings account.

**Thank You!** Thank you to Loretta Falk and Barb Norton for all their work with the Community VBS that took place this past week. These two KLC members have been the KLC leaders for many years. We appreciate your time and effort in this endeavor. Also, thank you to all of the KLC volunteers and helpers.

**Thank You!** Jesse Nelson for delivering the senior citizen food boxes this month.

**Backpack Program:** The food bags for KMS students will continue to be packed for students who are eligible and participating in the summer school program at the Elementary School. It is anticipated that we will be packing approximately 30 food bags during this summer program. If you would like to help with the packing of these bags please contact Alison Nelson. The bags will go out to the students on Wednesdays.

**Sunday Musicians:** Do you play the piano or organ? Would you be interested in helping to lead our congregation’s Sunday morning worship music? We are looking for musician to substitute on Sunday mornings with neither Alison or Mariah are able to be here. KLC does pay $30 per service for leading worship. If you would like to be put on a list of people who would be interested in filling in when needed. Please let the church office know or contact a member of the KLC Board of Worship and Witness. Thank you.

**Let Us Know:** If you have a prayer request to be **added or removed** from the KLC prayer list, please notify the church office. kerkhovenlutheran@gmail.com or 320-264-2823.

**Stay In Touch:** If you have not been receiving bulletins, newsletters or prayer requests and would like to, please contact the church office with your information. kerkhovenlutheran@gmail.com or 320-264-2823

**KLC Website:** We again have a website. It can be found at <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/>

**On-Line Giving:** It is now possible to give your offering or a donation to KLC on-line at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> This link will now be available on our Kerkhoven Lutheran Facebook page and is available on our new website (see link above).

**At the Lake This Summer:** Supporting our summer ministries and mission is only a click away. We offer convenient online giving, so you never have to worry about not attending worship at home. You can make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts – a great option if you will be traveling during the summer months. Get started by visiting our online donation page at <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> or the KLC website at <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/> where you can keep up on all the news and events happening at KLC.

**Service Opportunities:** Prairie Five Community Action is making a request for volunteers. Many of their programs’ success is owed to the compassion of volunteers that dedicate their time toward helping in the food shelves, thrift stores, meal delivery, and providing rides connecting people with their communities. In our rural areas, the need for these programs continues to rise and so does the need for volunteers. Prairie Five offers flexible, convenient opportunities for volunteers. This month, they have volunteered with Americorps Seniors Ecumen RSVP to make volunteer driving more favorable for adults 55-75, as they will now be eligible to receive tax free reimbursement for each volunteer mile. Please contact the Prairie Five Office at 320-269-6578 or 800-292-5437 to reach Elizabeth Koehl or Emily Castaneda to learn more and sign up.

**Community Event:** The summertime version of Food and Fun begins Wednesday, June 16, at the Pillsbury Park Lions Shelter at 2pm.  Join us there for coffee, cookies and conversation with friends and neighbors that we haven't seen out and about for quite some time.  Sign up for door prizes.  Enjoy some great treats, visiting, and hopefully, wonderfully cooler weather that day.  It's an outdoor event, so no masks needed.  But do think about respectful social distancing.  See you there

**Changes to KLC Membership:** Covid-19 caused several changes in our lives. It is partially responsible for the delay in reporting some changes to our church membership. During the Wednesday, June 9, 2021, meeting of the KLC church council the following transfers were approved:

**Transfers In: 4**

James and Lynne Dykema transfer from Vinje in Willmar

Cindy Clasen returned KLC membership to active status

Kristin Stivers transfer from Crown of Glory Chaska

**Transfers Out: 11 (includes 4 children)**

Roger and Faye Helms transfer to Bethesda Murdock

Naomi Baker transfer to Calvary Willmar

Pam and Steve Ruka transfer to Sunburg Free Lutheran

Nathan and Mindy Ruka Family transfer to Sunburg Free Lutheran

Cody and Amy Ruka Family transfer to Sunburg Free Lutheran

Please welcome these new and returning KLC members, who have been worshiping with us for some time now. Welcome to the KLC family. We look forward to worshiping and serving with you as Christ’s hands and feet on earth.

We wish the members who are transferring best wishes in their new faith homes.

 **KLC Executive Board** **Board of Christian Education**

 **Ted Almen, President** Jesse Nelson Amber Doering

 **Scott Mitteness, Vice Pres**. Shelly Lottman Kris Cortez

 **Eric Rudningen, Treas**. \* Heidi Winter Melaine Wirth

 **Beth Carlson, Secretary** Cindy Clasen

**Board of Worship & Witness** **Board of Stewardship and Finance**

 \* Susan Nelson Barb Norton Lane Carlson Mike Wirth

 \*Arlene Carls Ann Hanson Cliff Nystrom Vacancy

 Becky Carlson Tyler Carlson

**Board of Evangelism & Outreach Board of Properties & Grounds**

 Ross Carlson Christy Nystrom Jacob Carlson \*Scott Doering

 Kristin Schmidt \*Alison Nelson \*Reid Carlson Ryan Carlson

 Ashley Weddington Tony Olson Andrew Forsell



**June 13, 2021**

**Mark 4:26-34**

*Use this resource at home to guide your household’s daily devotions.*

**Pray:** Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

**O Lord, your word is indeed life to us. May we receive it with joy, unencumbered by the concerns of our lives, caring only to hear your invitation of grace: abundant life in your service. Through Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday’s reading.

***He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”* (Mark 4:30-32)**

**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**Jesus taught by parables so that some would understand, while others were kept from knowing the word. For now, Jesus would invest in those ready to follow.**

**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household or community.

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**What does it take for seeds to grow? How much do they depend on human intervention, and how much is by design?**

**Sometimes we are not able to fully influence a situation—we can only plant a seed. When is the last time you planted a seed in someone? Did you see it come to fruition?**

**For the littles: How do you grow? God is helping you grow along with rest, play, and healthy food!**

**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May the God of growth help you find good soil for all the seeds you sow. Amen.**

**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God’s word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

**Pick a type of plant you’d like to grow. Find seeds and plant those seeds. Examine the seed carefully so you can truly appreciate how amazing it is that a plant comes from something so tiny!**

**Go Deeper:** Go to **bit.ly/daily-devotions-rcl** for the daily readings!

Monday, Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 13:23-14:23; Galatians 6:11-18

Tuesday, Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 15:10-23; Revelation 21:22-22:5

Wednesday, Psalm 53; 1 Samuel 15:24-31; Luke 6:43-45

Thursday, Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 16:14-23; Acts 20:1-16

Friday, Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5; Acts 21:1-16

Saturday, Psalm 9:9-20; 1 Samuel 18:1-4; Luke 21:25-28

**Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

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Email Address:

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Web Site:

www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/

Ann Hanson, Secretary

Tim Larson, Interim Pastor

June 10, 2021

Greetings:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:**

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Sincerely,

Kerkhoven Lutheran Church