 **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 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

**AUGUST 15, 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 “Morning Has Broken” ELW #556**

1 Morning has broken like the first morning;

 blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

 Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

 Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,

 like the first dewfall on the first grass.

 Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,

 sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,

 born of the one light Eden saw play!

 Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,

 God's recreation of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965

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**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

**First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6**

*Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom’s food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom’s banquet is the way to life.*

1Wisdom has built her house,
 she has hewn her seven pillars.
2She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
 she has also set her table.
3She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
 from the highest places in the town,
4“You that are simple, turn in here!”
 To those without sense she says,
5“Come, eat of my bread
 and drink of the wine I have mixed.
6Lay aside immaturity, and live,
 and walk in the way of insight.”

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 34:9-14 Reading Responsively**

9Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,
 for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

10**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,**
 **but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

11Come, children, and listen to me;
 I will teach you reverence for the Lord.
12**Who among you takes pleasure in life**
 **and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

13Keep your tongue from evil
 and your lips from lying words.
14**Turn from evil and do good;**
 **seek peace and pursue it.**

### **Second Reading  Ephesians 5:15-20**

*True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.*

15Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, 16making the most of the time, because the days are evil. 17So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

### **Gospel:  John 6:51-58**

*In John’s gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true “bread of life.” Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church’s celebration of holy communion.*

[Jesus said,] 51“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”
  52The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” 53So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON Pastor Carlton Nelson**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “We Who Once Were Dead” ELW #495**

1 We who once were dead

 now live, fully knowing

 Jesus as our head.

 Life is overflowing

 when he breaks the bread.

2 We were lost in night,

 but you sought and found us.

 Give us strength to fight;

 death is all around us.

 Jesus, be our light.

3 He became our bread;

 Jesus died to save us.

 On him we are fed,

 eating what he gave us,

 rising from the dead.

4 Let us share the pain

 you endured in dying;

 we shall then remain

 living; death defying,

 we shall rise again.

5 Jesus, you were dead,

 but you rose and, living,

 made yourself our bread,

 in your goodness giving

 life though we were dead.

6 This is your design;

 in this meal we meet you.

 Be our bread and wine,

 Jesus, we entreat you.

 This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909-1972; tr. composite

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**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING INTERLUDE**  - Offering plates will be brought to the altar.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes or tropical storms (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer (*especially*). God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of beauty, inspire artists. Bless those whose visual and musical gifts enliven this assembly (*especially*). Bless the creative work of poets, hymnwriters, composers, painters, sculptors, and others that enrich our worship and daily life. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with (*Mary, mother of Jesus, name/s, and*) all the saints to eternal life. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**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.**

**MEAL**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND 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.**

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

 **“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” ELW # 759**

1 My faith looks up to thee,

 thou Lamb of Calvary,

 Savior divine!

 Now hear me while I pray,

 take all my guilt away,

 oh, let me from this day

 be wholly thine!

2 May thy rich grace impart

 strength to my fainting heart,

 my zeal inspire;

 as thou hast died for me,

 oh, may my love to thee

 pure, warm, and changeless be,

 a living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread

 and griefs around me spread,

 be thou my guide;

 bid darkness turn to day,

 wipe sorrow's tears away,

 nor let me ever stray

 from thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,

 when death's cold, sullen stream

 shall o'er me roll;

 blest Savior, then, in love

 fear and distrust remove;

 oh, bear me safe above,

 a ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

 **“O Bread of Life from Heaven” ELW # 480**

1 O bread of life from heaven,

 O food to pilgrims given,

 O manna from above:

 feed with the blessed sweetness

 of your divine completeness

 the souls that want and need your love.

2 O fount of grace redeeming,

 O river ever streaming

 from Jesus' wounded side:

 come now, your love bestowing

 on thirsting souls, and flowing

 till all are fully satisfied.

3 We love you, Jesus, tender,

 in all your hidden splendor

 within these means of grace.

 Oh, let the veil be riven,

 and our clear eye in heaven

 behold your glory face to face.

Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862-1946, sts. 1, 3; tr. Philip Schaff, 1819-1893, st. 2

 **“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*  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. *Refrain*

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;

 let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us

through the healing power of this gift of life;

and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us,

through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love

toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

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

**SENDING SONG “On Our Way Rejoicing”**  **ELW # 537**

1 On our way rejoicing

 gladly let us go.

 Christ our Lord has conquered;

 vanquished is the foe.

 Christ without, our safety;

 Christ within, our joy;

 who, if we be faithful,

 can our hope destroy?

*Refrain*  On our way rejoicing;

 as we forward move,

 hearken to our praises,

 O blest God of love!

2 Unto God the Father

 joyful songs we sing;

 unto God the Savior

 thankful hearts we bring;

 unto God the Spirit

 bow we and adore,

 on our way rejoicing

 now and evermore. *Refrain* Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

**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 – Carlton Nelson

Musicians – Alison Nelson & Mariah Rudningen

Lector – Sue Nelson

Ushers – Darrell and Dorothy Toutge

Acolytes – Holtkamp Family

Communion Assistant – Sue Nelson

Greeter- Lee and Phyllis Meyer

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** *(Periodically these prayer concerns will be moved to the prayer concerns list in the newsletter)* Donna Baker, Wally and Phyllis Loven, Calvin Carls, Pastor Bill Miller

**Stewardship Snippet:**  **The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost , August 15, 2021**

**Ephesians 5:15,16 –** Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil.

*God gives all of us the same abundance of time – 24 hours in every day, and it’s so easy to waste! Steward disciples pray for wisdom to live each day to its fullest, and to turn away from the world’s evils--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission.*

**Fellowship Hour:** Please join us for coffee and fellowship this morning in the parish hall following worship services.

**Meals on Wheels:** KLC is responsible for the local delivery of Meals on Wheels for the month of August. The meals arrive at KLC each Wednesday at 11:00 am. These are the meals for the entire week for each recipient and it takes approximately 1 hour to deliver them. Dates are August 18, and 25. If you can deliver on both or either of these Wednesdays, please sign up on the sheet that is on the table between the office doors. Thank you.

**Next Sunday, August 22, 2021**: **The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 am Worship Service in person and Live Streamed – Eric Rudningen, Worship Leader

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

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

**KLC Office Hours for the Week of August 16-20:** Church office hour will be Monday - Office closed, Tuesday thru Thursday 9:00-3:00. The church office is closed on Friday. If you have questions or need assistance please call: Ann Hanson – 320-894-4464.

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

**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 when neither Alison nor 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.

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**August 15, 2021
John 6:51-58**

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

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

**God of wisdom, we sometimes struggle to understand your ways. Grant us the insight to know and truly follow the spirit of your word, for the sake of Jesus our teacher. Amen.**

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

***“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”*(John 6:51)**

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

**Many were confused by Jesus’ words to consume him, the bread of life. Jesus’ words were an invitation to follow him fully—to be all in.**



**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 are you “all in” for? What about it makes you want to give it your all?**

**How does God nourish your soul?**

**For the littles: What do you do the best?**

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

**May God pull you all in. Amen.**

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

 **Bring your A game to a task this week. Reflect on how it feels to do your very best.**



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

Monday, Psalm 101; 1 Kings 3:16-28; Acts 6:1-7

Tuesday, Psalm 101; 1 Kings 7:1-12; Acts 7:9-16

Wednesday, Psalm 101; 1 Kings 8:1-21; Mark 8:14-21

Thursday, Psalm 84; 1 Kings 4:20-28; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Friday, Psalm 84; 1 Kings 4:29-34; Romans 13:11-14

Saturday, Psalm 84; 1 Kings 5:1-12; Luke 11:5-13