**Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

**A Ministry of the 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 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 24, 2022 9:00 AM**

Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**DEDICATION OF THE LITTLE LIBRARY**

*We dedicate a Little Library to promote the free exchange of ideas, specifically to passively proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, with our neighbor. Today we reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and continue to build our hope on God.*

L: We begin this dedication in the name of the   
 Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L:  Let us pray, Gracious God, we know that you   
 delight in hearing the prayers and praise of your   
 people.

**C:  Thank you, Lord, for the making us your own,   
 for the blessing of public worship, for the comfort   
 and strength you give in this place, and for the   
 praise and joy you prompt in our hearts.**

L: Thank you for the many gifts you have blessed us with to proclaim your gospel: for language and   
poetry, for music and handmade work, art and   
architecture; each intending to focus our minds and hearts on your marvelous grace in Baptism, Holy Communion, and the proclamation of your Word.

**C: Bless us whenever we gather in your name and move us to use these gifts to praise you.**

L: You have given to your church throughout the world artisans who create with their hands to inspire our worship and glorify your name. For all who use their gifts to your glory:

**C:  We thank you, O Lord.**

L: For those who use their time and ability to prepare and assist our worship: for those who preside at   
worship and preach the Gospel, for singers and   
musicians, for those who prepare your house each week, for talents with flowers, banners and with all the arts:

**C:  We thank you, O Lord.**

L: Lord, pour your blessings upon this Little Library and grant that its presence will spark curiosity and help us to love our neighbor in your name. Continue to move the hearts of our members to give   
generously through the gifts of their time, talents, and treasures. Through them you richly bless us.   
For those who labor faithfully and give freely,

**C: We thank you, O Lord.**

L:  We reflect on you through the written word, the   
 power of image, and strength of symbol. You walk   
 beside us in moments of inquiry, as we exchange ide   
 as, and when we study your Word. Books, pamphlets,   
 and studying resources are only one of the many   
 ways we deepen our faith. For the strengthening of   
 our faith,

**C: We thank you, O Lord.**

L: Lord, we confess that we do not always put our hearts and minds completely into worship. Forgive us for our carelessness, infrequency, and our   
indifferences.

**C: Send your Holy Spirit, so that everything we see, hear, and do in your name spiritually enriches us and the lives of our neighbor.**

L: Bless this Little Library, may it help us connect more authentically with both our selves and our neighbor.

**C: We dedicate this Library to your glory, O Lord, and for the benefit of your people, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from sin to live for you alone. Give us he power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and gow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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** **“Gather Us In” ELW # 532**

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,

now is the darkness vanished away;

see in this space our fears and our dreamings

brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,

gather us in, the blind and the lame;

call to us now, and we shall awaken,

we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,

we are the old who yearn for your face;

we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,

called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,

gather us in, the proud and the strong;

give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,

give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water,

here we will take the bread of new birth,

here you shall call your sons and your daughters,

call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,

give us to eat the bread that is you;

nourish us well, and teach us to fashion

lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,

not in some heaven, light years away—

here in this place the new light is shining,

now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,

gather us in and make us your own;

gather us in, all peoples together,

fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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**GREETING**

L: 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.**

**KYRIE** *Congregation sings refrain, Leader sings verses* **ELW p. 184**

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**CANTICLE OF PRAISE “This is the Feast” ELW p. 187**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and ever-living God, **you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

### **First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32**

### 20Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! 21I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." 22So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. 23Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?" 24Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? 25Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" 26And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." 27Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD, I who am but dust and ashes. 28Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." 29Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." 30Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." 31He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." 32Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 138 Reading Responsively**

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;

before the gods I sing your praise;  
 **I bow down toward your holy temple  
 and give thanks to your name for your steadfast**

**love and your faithfulness;**

for you have exalted your name and your word

above everything.  
 **On the day I called, you answered me,  
 you increased my strength of soul.**

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,

for they have heard the words of your mouth.  
**They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
 for great is the glory of the LORD.**

For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;

but the haughty he perceives from far away.  
 **Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
 you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
 you stretch out your hand,  
 and your right hand delivers me.**

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me,

your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

**Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

*Here ends the Psalm*

**SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-15**

### 6As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. 8See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. 9For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. 11In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; 12when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, 14erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. 15He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” ELW p. 188**

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**GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13**

The Holy Gospel **… Glory to you, O Lord.**

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." 2He said to them, "When you pray, say:  
Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
3Give us each day our daily bread.  
4And forgive us our sins,  
 for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial."  
5And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' 7And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' 8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. 9So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Michael Buller**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “Sweet Hour of Prayer” OSB # 198**

1 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,

that calls me from a world of care,

and bids me at my Father’s throne

make all my wants and wishes known.

In seasons of distress and grief

my soul has often found relief,

and oft escaped the tempter’s snare

by thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

2 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,

thy wings shall my petition bear

to him whose truth and faithfulness

engage the waiting soul to bless;

and since he bids me seek his face,

believe his word and trust his grace,

I’ll cast on him my ev’ry care,

and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.

3 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,

may I thy consolation share,

till from Mount Pisgah’s lofty height

I view my home and take my flight.

With joy I’ll hasten to the place

where God my Savior shows his face,

and gladly take my station there,

thy promise gained, sweet hour of prayer.

Text: William Walford, 1772-1850, alt.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each portion of the prayers ends with “God of grace”. Congregation response: “**hear our prayer”.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you**.

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING Special Music**

**OFFERTORY**  **“We Are an Offering”** **ELW #692**

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

Lord use our voices

Lord use our hands

Lord use our [lives](https://www.definitions.net/definition/lives) they are Yours

We are an offering

We are an offering

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O god, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

**MEAL**

**The GREAT THANKSGIVING ELW p. 190**

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**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND LORD’S PRAYER ELW p. 108**

**Hymns during Communion:**

**“Lamb of God” ELW p.191**

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**“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us” ELW # 789**

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;

much we need your tender care.

In your pleasant pastures feed us,

for our use your fold prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

you have bought us; we are yours.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

you have bought us; we are yours.

2 We are yours; in love befriend us,

be the guardian of our way;

keep your flock, from sin defend us,

seek us when we go astray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

hear us children when we pray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

hear us children when we pray.

3 You have promised to receive us,

poor and sinful though we be;

you have mercy to relieve us,

grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

early let us turn to you.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

early let us turn to you.

4 Early let us seek your favor,

early let us do your will;

blessed Lord and only Savior,

with your love our spirits fill.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

you have loved us, love us still.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,

you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847

**“For the Bread Which You Have Broken ” ELW # 494**

1 For the bread which you have broken,

for the wine which you have poured,

for the words which you have spoken,

now we give you thanks, O Lord.

2 By this promise that you love us,

by your gift of peace restored,

by your call to heav'n above us,

hallow all our lives, O Lord.

3 With the saints who now adore you,

seated at the heav'nly board,

may the church still waiting for you

keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

4 In your service, Lord, defend us;

in our hearts keep watch and ward;

in the world to which you send us

let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

**“Just a Closer Walk with Thee” ELW # 697**

*Refrain* Just a closer walk with thee,

grant it, Jesus, is my plea;

daily walking close to thee,

let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

1 I am weak but thou art strong:

Jesus, keep me from all wrong;

I'll be satisfied as long

as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain*

2 Through this world of toil and snares,

if I falter, Lord, who cares?

Who with me my burden shares?

None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain*

3 When my feeble life is o'er,

time for me will be no more;

guide me gently, safely o'er

to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain*

Text: North American traditional

**“Beautiful Savior” ELW # 838**

1 Beautiful Savior,

King of creation,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee,

truly I'd serve thee,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,

fair are the woodlands,

robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer,

Jesus is purer,

he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,

fair is the moonlight,

bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter,

Jesus shines purer

than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,

Lord of the nations,

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor,

praise, adoration,

now and forevermore be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

**Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, almighty God, **that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, 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**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement

grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit **Amen.**

The God of all grace, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “Lead On, O King Eternal” ELW # 805**

1 Lead on, O King eternal!

The day of march has come;

henceforth in fields of conquest

your tents will be our home.

Through days of preparation

your grace has made us strong;

and now, O King eternal,

we lift our battle song.

2 Lead on, O King eternal,

till sin's fierce war shall cease,

and holiness shall whisper

the sweet amen of peace;

for not with swords loud clashing,

nor roll of stirring drums,

but deeds of love and mercy

the heav'nly kingdom comes.

3 Lead on, O King eternal:

we follow, not with fears,

for gladness breaks like morning

where'er your face appears.

Your cross is lifted o'er us;

we journey in its light;

the crown awaits the conquest;

lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor –Pastor Michael Buller

Musicians –Alison Nelson and Mariah Rudningen

Lector – Susan Nelson

Ushers – Darrell and Dorothy Toutge

Communion Assistant – Susan Nelson

Acolytes – Rudningen Family

Greeter –

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** *(Periodically these prayer concerns will be moved to the prayer concerns list in the newsletter )*  Barney Lilly, Georgia Doering, Arlene Freetly, Woody Nelson, Gladys Arends, Dennis Doering, Calvin Carls

**Welcome:** We welcome all visitors to KLC this morning. We extend to you an invitation to join us this morning for coffee fellowship in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service.

**This Week . . . July 25, 2022 – 31, 2022**

**Monday, July 25 – Saturday, July 30, 2022**

Pastor Michael – Continuing Education – Pastor Joyce Capp on call pastoral care.

**Monday, July 25, 2022**

8:30 – 4:00 Church office closed

9:15 – 5:30 WELCA Bus Trip

**Tuesday, July 26, 2022**

8:30 am Pack food bags for Summer School students

**Next Sunday, July 31, 2022**: **Eight Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am Kerkhoven Community Worship Service at Lion’s Shelter at Pillsbury Park

**Upcoming Dates to Note**

**Thursday, August 4 – Monday, August 8, 2022**

Ann on vacation, KLC office closed

**Thursday, August 18 – Wednesday, August 31, 1022**

Pastor Michael on vacation. Pastor Joyce Capp will provide on call Pastoral Care and will be leading our worship services during his absence.

**Cow Pie Bingo:** Cow Pie Bingo tickets are now being sold from some KLC members, members of the KLC Executive Board and Church Council, Kris Wagner, Loretta Falk, and Tom Baker. They will also be available for sale in the church office. This event takes place on Saturday, July 30, 2022, 5:00 – 6:00 pm in Pillsbury Park during the Kerkhoven Town and Country Days. 400 tickets are being sold for $20 per ticket. Grand prize is $1,000 cash and there are 8 2nd place winners. Must not be present to win. Must be 18 or older.

**Contemplating Stewardship: The Persistent Steward**

*“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.” -Luke 11:9-10*Persistence has a place in the world of good stewardship. Here Jesus addresses the value of persistence. Those who practice the disciple of persistence are rewarded. Is it because *they* were relentless? Is it because *they* wouldn’t take no for an answer? No, not at all. Rather, because they put the practice of persistently reaching out to God at the heart of everything they do, when they receive (as we all do in God’s time), they know exactly *who* to thank – and there is the bedrock of good stewarding: recognizing that all thanks, all appreciation, all gratitude belongs to God.

**WELCA Bus Trip**: Tomorrow the bus leaves at 9:15 from KLC for the WELCA bus trip to St. Cloud, and will return to KLC about 5:30 pm. Please check the WELCA bulletin board for the itinerary and the sign up sheet.

**Community Worship Service:** There will not be a Sunday worship service at KLC next Sunday, July 31. KLC members are encouraged to attend the Kerkhoven Community Worship service at the Lion’s shelter at Pillsbury Park. Offerings designated to KLC either through envelope or check will come to our church. Non-designated offerings will go to the KMS Ministerial.

**Pastoral Care This Week:** Pastor Michael will be gone this next week for continuing education. In his absence Pastor Joyce Capp will be on-call for pastoral care needs. Please call the church or Pastor Joyce at 507-276-5543 if you have a need. Ann will not be in the office of Monday, but will have regular office hours from 8:30 – 4:00 pm Tuesday – Thursday. If you have any items or announcements that you would like to have put into the newsletter please get them to the office by Tuesday noon, July 26.