

**June 21, 2020**  
**3rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**GATHERING**

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

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE:**

**CENTERING REFLECTION:**

**Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander: A mystical vision**

*Thomas Merton*

In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut,  
at the center of the shopping district,  
I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization  
that I loved all these people.

That they were mine and I there's.  
That we could not be alien to one another,  
even though we were total strangers.

It was like waking from a dream of separateness,  
of spurious self-isolation, in a special world.

This sense of liberation from an illusory difference  
was such a relief and such a joy to me  
that I almost laughed out loud.

I have the immense joy of being man,  
a member of a race in which  
God himself became incarnate,  
as if the sorrows and stupidities of the human condition  
could overwhelm me now that I realize what we all are.

And if only everybody could realize this,  
but it cannot be explained.

There is no way of telling people  
that they are all are walking around shinning like the sun.

Then it was as if I suddenly saw the secret beauty of their hearts,  
the depths of their hearts, where neither sin,  
nor desire, nor self-knowledge  
can reach the core of their reality;  
the person that each one is in God's eyes.

If only they could all could see themselves as they really are.  
If only we could see each other that way all the time.

There would be  
no more war,  
no more hatred,  
no more cruelty,  
no more greed.

But this cannot be seen,  
only believed and understood  
by a peculiar gift.

## GATHERING SONG: *Gather Us In* (ELW 532)



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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## GREETING/OPENING PRAYER - *Kaaren Hatlen*

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.**

Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Beautiful Savior* (ELW 838)



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

## **WORD**

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

### **THE WORD: Philippians 2:12-18 - Knut Aagaard**

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you-- and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

Word of God,  
word of life.

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD: *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677)**

**The Batstone Sisters**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON: Roger Steinke**

## **SERMON**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Loving God, you look upon us as your children. Help us honor you by our good works that help our neighbor live more freely; free from fear, free from hunger, free from oppression, free from loneliness, free from all that keeps us from loving your way. In Jesus name we pray.

**Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *Light Dawns on a Weary World* (ELW 726)



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



*Refrain*  
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951  
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## AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - *The Bastins*

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - *The Bowers***

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

Expansive God, you bring diverse voices together to form your church. Open our hearts and unstop our ears to learn from one another, that differences might not overshadow our baptismal unity. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Providing God, your creation shows us that life comes from death. Renew the places where our land, air, and waterways have been ill for too long: help the people in Burkina Faso from floods, the people of El Salvador from Cyclone Cristobal, and drive us to clean our oceans. Direct the work of all who care for birds and their habitats. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Protecting God, sustain and keep safe all who work to defend others across the world. Revive and strengthen organizations, like Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Refugee Services, dedicated to caring for refugees and migrants while their homelands struggle for peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you promise to be with all who are persecuted for your sake. Guide all who speak your word of justice and console any who are tormented or targeted for being who they are. We honor Juneteenth a day when our country set the slave free. Help us understand this deep, unhealed scare so we can heal. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate God, you are with us and we are never alone. Bless all fathers and father figures who strive to love and nurture as you do. Comfort all who long to be fathers and all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Reigning God, you bless us with guides and caretakers in the faith. As we give thanks for those who have died, increase our care for one another until we walk with them in newness of life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **OFFERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING ANTHEM:** *Allemande From Sonata for Flute in A Minor (JS Bach)*  
*Patty Weston, Flute*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER - Nicole Thomas**

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG: *Canticle of the Turning* (ELW 723)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.



## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE: *Star of the County Down*

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