

**August 2, 2020**  
**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**GATHERING**

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

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE:** *Voluntary (William Walond)*

**MEDITATION**

**Scripture**

*by Tor Kristian Berg*

The words sat there  
Familiar yet strange  
As if they stared back at me  
With a squint and a nod

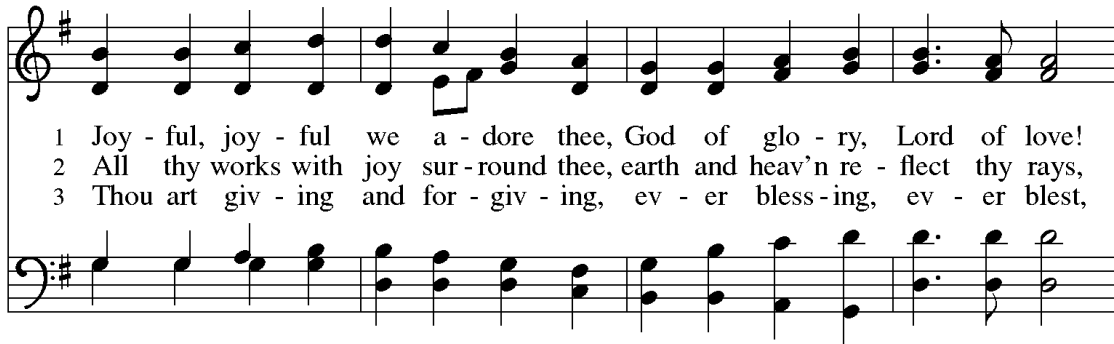
They are common words  
Just like these  
That mark a page and tell  
A story familiar yet strange

I should know this story  
Old women told it to me long ago  
With voices of wonder and awe  
As if I should know it too

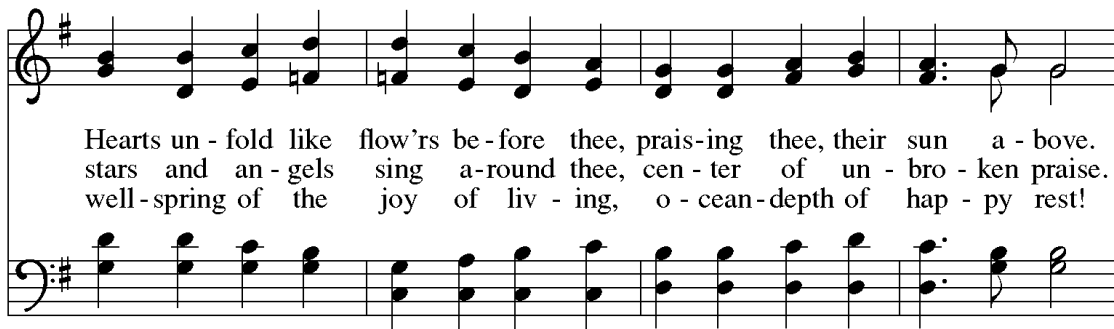
Many find it strange to have  
So many words marked on pages  
Telling the story of an unseen God  
Who failed

And died  
And rose  
And loved  
And loved  
Strange yet familiar

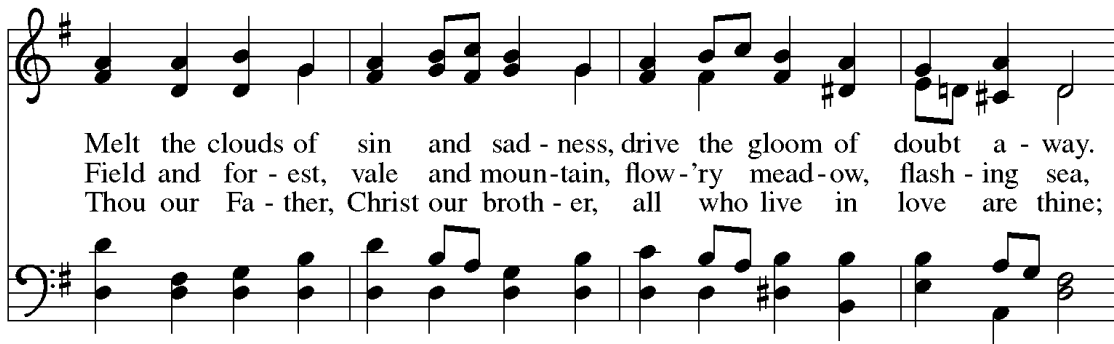
## GATHERING SONG: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (ELW 836)



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

## GREETING/PRAYER OF THE DAY - *Lloyd Condra*

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.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Oh, Love, How Deep*



1. Oh, love how deep, how broad, how high, be— yond all  
4. For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his  
5. For us by wick— ed— ness be— trayed for us, in  
6. For us he rose from death a— gain; for us he  
7. All glo- ry to our Lord and God for love so



thought and fan— ta— sy, that God, the Son of  
dai— ly works he wrought, by words and signs and  
crown of thorns ar— rayed he bore the shame—ful  
went on high to reign; for us he sent his  
deep, so high, so broad the Tri— ni— ty whom



God, should take our mor—tal form for mor—tals' sake!  
ac— tions thus still seeking not him— self, but us.  
cross and death; for us he gave his dy— ing breath.  
Spi— rit here to guide, to streng—then, and to cheer.  
we a— dore for— ever and for— ev— er— more.

## WORD

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

**THE WORD:** Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7 - Jackie Schnarre

My beloved speaks and says to me:

"Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away;  
for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away.

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.

Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.

If one offered for love  
all the wealth of one's house,  
it would be utterly scorned.

Word of God,  
word of life.

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD:** *In Christ Alone*  
*June Condra, Piano/Soloist*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** Roger Steinke

**SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY: *God of the Sparrow* (ELW 740)



1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the swirl - ing  
 2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the trum - pet  
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the emp - ty  
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the prod - i -



stars How does the crea - ture say Awe  
 blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe  
 grave How does the crea - ture say Grace  
 gal How does the crea - ture say Care



How does the crea - ture say Praise  
 How does the crea - ture cry Save  
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks  
 How does the crea - ture say Life

5 God of the neighbor  
 God of the foe  
 God of the pruning hook  
 How does the creature say Love  
 How does the creature say Peace

6 God of the ages  
 God near at hand  
 God of the loving heart  
 How do your children say Joy  
 How do your children say Home

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 Music: ROEDER, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
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## THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM: *Sahale Baudette*

### PRESENTATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Sahale, one with us in the body of Christ, who is making public affirmation of her baptism. She is presented here because she desires to make public affirmation of her baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called her to yourself, enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished her in the community of faith. Uphold Sahale in the gifts and promises of baptism,

and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*I renounce them.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

### **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support this sibling and pray for her in her life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in Sahale the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

Let us rejoice with Sahale in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - *Carsten and Joyce Thode***

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

You take resources that appear to be meager, bless them, and there is enough. May your church trust that what you bless and ask us to share with the world is abundantly sufficient. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your bountiful creation offers sustenance and life for all creatures. Protect this abundance for the well-being of all. Reverse the damage we have caused your creation. Replenish ground water supplies, provide needed rains in places of drought, and protect forests from wildfires. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You offer yourself to all the nations and peoples of the earth, inviting everyone to abundant life. Bring the prophetic vision to fullness, that all nations will run to you and that nations who do not know you will find their joy in you. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Hear the anguish of tender hearts who cry to you in suffering and satisfy their deepest needs. Bring wholeness and healing to those who suffer in body, heart, soul, and mind. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You offer freely the fullness of salvation. Give First Lutheran Church such a welcoming heart, that our words and actions may extend your free and abundant hospitality to all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You gather your saints as one, united in the body of Jesus. Bring us with all your saints to the heavenly banquet. We remember with love and thanksgiving the saints we have known. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **OFFERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING ANTHEM:** *Forever (Chris Tomlin)*  
*Cheryl Miller, Flute*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Clean water from our taps and the word we read from the Bible, the drink and food placed on our tables: 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 - Roger Wolter**

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: *Blessing, Honor, and Glory* (ELW 433)



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry to the Lamb.



Ho - ly, righ - teous, wor - thy is the Lamb.



Death could not hold him down, for he is ris - en!



Seat - ed up - on the throne, he is the Lamb of God!



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry to the Lamb.



Ho - ly, righ - teous, wor - thy is the Lamb.



Death could not hold him down, for he is ris - en!



Seat - ed up - on the throne, he is the Lamb of God!



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry to the Lamb. Ho - ly,



righ - teous, wor - thy is the Lamb of God.

Text: Geoff Bullock and David Reidy  
Music: Geoff Bullock and David Reidy

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BLESSING, HONOR, AND GLORY

118

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE:** *Joyful, Joyful, Joyful (L. Dengler)*

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