

LORDSTOWN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 30, 2023
9th Sunday after Pentecost
10:00AM



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Worship Bulletin
Sunday, July 30, 2023
Lordstown Lutheran Church

Rev. Dougherty—Pastor
Mrs. Margaret Thomas — Organist
Mrs. Lois Dorazio—Choir Director
Mrs. - Lector

We welcome you to worship with us this morning and we're glad you are here. May God bless our time together and may you feel renewed and refreshed as we celebrate God's unconditional love for the world. Thank you for joining us today and we hope you will return again soon.

Children's Sunday School meets on the 2nd & 4th Sundays during worship, and Children's Service project on the 5th Sunday during the School year. As a courtesy the congregation does not stand during worship unless instructed to do so.

Today's Worship Theme

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

Entering Into God's Presence

WELCOME

PRELUDE - A Quiet Time for Reflection

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure.

P: Amen

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of our neighbors.

L: Merciful God,

**P: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our
community. We have squandered your blessings. We have
hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and
grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Righteous God,

**P: we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be
honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have
spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us
your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers
boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you
are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

P: Amen

GATHERING HYMN Vs 1 & 4

Gather Us In

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
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
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,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
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.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
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
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat 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,
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
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.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

L: Let us pray together.

ALL: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

AMEN

Special Music

God's Word for Us Today

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12LECTOR

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 119:129-136 **LECTOR**

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)

129Your decrees are wonderful; therefore obey them with all my heart.

**130When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**

131I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

**132Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**

133Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

**134Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**

135Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

**136My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39 **LECTOR**

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

26The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

28We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. 30And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

31What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. 35Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;

we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

37No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

The Holy Gospel According to St. Mathew

Glory to you, O Lord

31[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;32it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

33He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

44"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

45"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; 48when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." 52And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

**Praise to you O Christ
Sermon**

Rev. Dougherty

HYMN OF THE DAY Vs 1 & 4

705

God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Together We Say What We Believe

APOSTLES CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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**



We Offer Our Prayers and Thanksgiving

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

At the end of each intercessory prayer the Pastor says:
"Hear us, O God." and the people respond
"Your mercy is great."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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**

OFFERING SONG

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God, above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
AMEN



*Offering Plates are Located by the doors to the Sanctuary or
You may mail your financial gifts to the church.*

Attn: Pat Hogan

5615 Palmyra Rd SW, Lordstown 44481

Going Forth to Serve

BLESSING

L: The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age.

AMEN

SENDING HYMN vs 1 & 3

Lead On, O King Eternal!

805

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Altar Flowers

Donated by an Anonymous Donor

To provide altar flowers for worship, please sign up on the poster in the church lobby. \$25 for one vase \$50 for two.



PRAYER LIST & PASTORAL CONCERNS

Please keep our loved ones in your prayers this week

Immediate & Ongoing Health Concerns: Lucas Paxson, Ron Hill, Phyllis Housel, Jean Housel, Ted Paxson, Leo Divencenzo, Tiffany Fellows, Destiny Givens, Anna Strickland, JoAnn Leopard, Joe Harrison, Molly and Family, Mary Sabol, Mark Molnar, Laura Paxson, Rachael Ann.

Compassion Child: Marc Yvans.

Active Duty Military: Julian Krusely, Jason Layfield, Kiana Gates

Scout Troop 20 and its leaders

Our Monthly Mission Outreach and The Children of Lordstown Elementary School

World Peace: Especially for those living in the region of Ukraine and Russia.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 330 399-7227 OR
EMAIL US AT LTOWNLUTHERAN@YAHOO.COM TO NOTIFY US OF FRIENDS OR
RELATIVES WHO NEED TO BE ADDED OR REMOVED FROM THE PRAYER LIST.

NEXT SUNDAY, Sunday, August 6, 2023
10th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21