

# LORDSTOWN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Sunday, July 9, 2023*  
*6th Sunday after Pentecost*  
*10:00AM*



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**Worship Bulletin  
Sunday, July 9, 2023  
Lordstown Lutheran Church**

Rev. Dougherty—Pastor  
Mrs. Margaret Thomas — Organist  
Mrs. Lois Dorazio—Choir Director  
Mrs. Dolly Lutz- 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**

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

**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 hon-  
est. 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 & 5

## Jesus Shall Reign

434

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -  
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.  
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

## **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:** You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **AMEN**

## ***Special Music***

### **God's Word for Us Today**

#### **First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12 LECTOR**

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## Psalm: Psalm 145:8-14

LECTOR

*The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)*

8The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**9Lord, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works.**

10All your works shall praise you, O Lord,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

**11They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,**

12that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures  
throughout all ages. You, Lord, are faithful in all your words,  
and loving in all your works.**

14The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

## Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a LECTOR

*Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

15I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. 17But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. 19For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

21So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 23but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25aThanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

The Holy Gospel According to St. Mathew  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] 16“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

17‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

18For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; 19the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

25At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

28“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

**Praise to you O Christ**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Dougherty**



# HYMN OF THE DAY Vs 1 & 3

608

## Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*  
watch - ing for you and for me. "Come home, come home!  
mer - cies for you and for me? Come home, come home!  
par - don for you and for me.

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"



# **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

*Bless Thou the Gifts*

Bless Thou the gifts our hands have brought;  
Bless Thou the work our hearts have planned;  
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought; The rest,  
O God, is in Thy hand.

## 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.



*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

697

## Just a Closer Walk with Thee



*Refrain* Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;  
1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;  
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?  
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.  
I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*  
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*  
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*



### 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 Leepard, Joe Harrison, Molly and Family, Mary Sabol, Mark Molnar

**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, July 16, 2023**  
**5th Sunday after Pentecost**

**First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13**

**Psalm: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13**

**Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11**

**Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**