

# LORDSTOWN LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Sunday, September 4, 2023*  
*15th Sunday after Pentecost*  
*10:00AM*



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**Worship Bulletin**  
**Sunday, September 10, 2023**  
**Lordstown Lutheran Church**

Rev. Dougherty—Pastor  
Mrs. Barb Paxson — Organist  
Mrs. Lois Dorazio—Choir Director  
Mrs. Erica Thomas Boyle & Preston Thomas - Lectors

*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**

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

**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 God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**P: Amen**

**L:** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**L:** Steadfast and faithful God,

**P: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

**L:** Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare.

**In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.**

**In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.**

**P: Amen**

# GATHERING HYMN All Verses

CREATION

## 731

## Earth and All Stars!



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!  
2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!  
3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!  
4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!  
5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!  
Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!  
Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!  
Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

## **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: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**AMEN**

## *Special Music*

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

#### **First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11 LECTOR**

*God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.*

7So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. 9But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

10Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" 11Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

## Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40

LECTOR

*I desire the path of your commandments. (Ps. 119:35)*

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,  
and I shall keep it to the end.

**34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;  
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

**36 Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**

37 Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

**38 Fulfill your promise to your servant,  
which is for those who fear you.**

39 Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are  
good.

**40 Behold, I long for your commandments;  
by your righteousness enliven me.**

## Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

LECTOR

*The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.*

8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

11 Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; 12 the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; 13 let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

## **Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

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

**[Jesus said to the disciples:] 15“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. 16But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. 18Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”**

**Praise to you O Christ**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Dougherty**

# HYMN OF THE DAY All Verses

359

## Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.





# **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:  
"Merciful God," and the people respond  
"receive our prayer."

## 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 of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names,  
and the Spirit who lives in you,  
bless you now and forever.

**AMEN**

# SENDING HYMN

# All Verses

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing

543

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

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 Divincenzo, Tiffany Fellows, Destiny Givens, Anna Strickland, JoAnn Leepard, 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, September 17, 2023**  
**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

**First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21**  
**Psalm: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13**  
**Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12**  
**Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**