

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, July 17, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

OPENING MEDLEY:

“O Lord Jesus Christ, Redeemer”

**O Lord Jesus Christ, Redeemer, We extol Your precious name;
Yesterday, today, forever—Your great love remains the same!
Long before the world’s foundation You as LORD, the great I AM,
Planned to bear the cross and save us, As God’s sacrificial Lamb.**

You are worthy, ever reigning As the risen King of kings!

**“Blessing, honor, glory, power . . .” All creation ever sings!
Gladly now we join that chorus, Awed by what our ransom cost,
Praising You, our great Good Shepherd, Who would seek and save the lost.**

**You are Alpha and Omega, First and last, the start and end,
One who was, who is, and will be, Yet You deign to be our friend!
Living Water, Your great mercy Is a boundless reservoir,
So that all whose souls are thirsty Drink of You and thirst no more.**

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“Love in Christ” – Blue Hymnal #376

**Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving. May his will in us be done.**

**Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ’s humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring, Reaching out in charity.**

**Love in Christ abides forever, Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven, Shall endure until life’s end.**

(“Love in Christ”, text by Dorothy Schulz, music by Ralph Schulz, copyright 1980 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014582.)

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

BREAKING DOWN THE WALLS:

L: For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,

C: **There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;**

L: As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

C: Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

ALL: Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

L: His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,

C: **And in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.**

L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

C: **You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

ALL: **Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

L: In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

C: **And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: We just said a lot about who Jesus is and what He does. And what He does, He does perfectly. We also just heard a lot about His plan for us. And we have been far from perfect. Let's take those sins and give them to our Savior.

C: **Lord Jesus, you are holy. You are perfect in all you do. You have privileged us to be your followers. And we have failed. Forgive us, Jesus. Assure us of your grace. Assure us that we are forgiven and loved. Allow us to see ourselves in your eyes and see others the same way. By the power of your strong name, Amen.**

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: "O Jesus, King, Most Wonderful" – Blue Hymnal #274

O Jesus, king most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!

O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:

**When once you visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,
Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.**

**O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:**

**May ev'ry heart confess your name, Forever you adore,
And, seeking you, itself inflame To seek you more and more!**

**Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love you alone
And ever in our lives express The image of your own!**

("O Jesus, King Most Wonderful", setting copyright 1982 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: O God who tears down walls, fill us with your Spirit today. Take away all that stands between us and you. Draw us to yourself and use us to tear down the walls that separate us from each other. In the name of Jesus who demolishes hate and builds love, Amen.

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 23:1-6

"Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the LORD. "I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the LORD. "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 2:11-22

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)—remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter six.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take more than half a year's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?" "How many

loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five—and two fish." Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.
 C: Praise to You, O Christ!

**THEME MEDLEY:
 "He Is Our Peace"**

He is our peace who has bro-ken down ev-'ry wall, He is our
 peace, He is our peace. He is our peace.
 Cast all your cares on Him, — for He cares — for you,
 He is our peace, He is our peace. Cast all your peace.

("He Is Our Peace", by Kandela Groves, copyright 1975 Marantha! Music, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

"Let the Walls Fall Down"

CHORUS

E A B E/B B
 Let the walls fall down,
 3 E A B E/B B
 let the walls, fall down,
 5 E A B E/B B
 let the walls fall down;
 7 C#m A E/B B E *Fine*
 By His love let the walls fall down.

VERSE

10 B C#m A B C#m

1. One by one, we're drawn to - geth - er, One by one, to
 2. In His love, no walls be - tween us, In His love, a

13 A E B G#7/B# C#m A

Je - sus' side. One in Him, we'll live for - ev - er,
 com - mon ground. Kneel - ing at the cross of Je - sus

16 E A E A E/G# B E/B B *D.C. al Fine*

stran - gers He has rec - on - ciled.
 all our pride comes tum - bl'ing down.

("Let the Walls Fall Down" by Batstone/Barbour/Barbour, copyright 1993 Maranatha Praise, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

MESSAGE: "Demolition Day" – Pastor Bill Hugo

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Living Stones"

VERSE

1. Je - sus Christ is our Cor - ner-stone. He's the Rock;
 2. Each of us is a liv - ing stone, pre-cious stones.
 3. Je - sus, You are our Cor - ner-stone. You're the Rock;
 4. Each of us is a liv - ing stone. We're a - live -

— He's the sol - id foun - da - tion.
 — in the build - ing of Je - sus.
 — You're the sol - id foun - da - tion.
 — in the love of Je - sus.

We are build-ing on Je - sus a - lone, build-ing up —
 In this house we don't stand all a - lone; we are one. —
 We are build-ing on Your love a - lone. Build us up —
 We are trust-ting in Je - sus a - lone; we are His. —

— as the peo - ple of God. —
 — We're the peo - ple of God. —
 — as the peo - ple of God. —
 — We're the peo - ple of God. —

2.4.

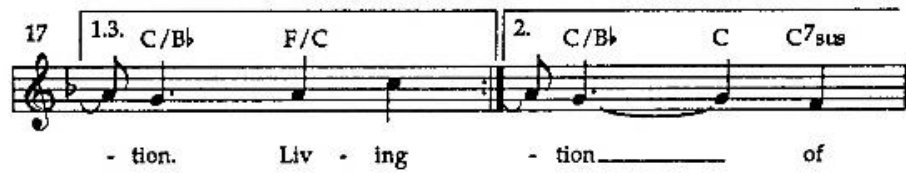
— Liv - ing stones, we are liv -

- ing, liv - ing stones. Built on Christ, —

— liv - ing stones, ho - ly peo -

- ple of God, build-ing on the firm foun - da -

17 1.3. C/B \flat F/C 2. C/B \flat C C7sus



- tion. Liv - ing - tion _____ of

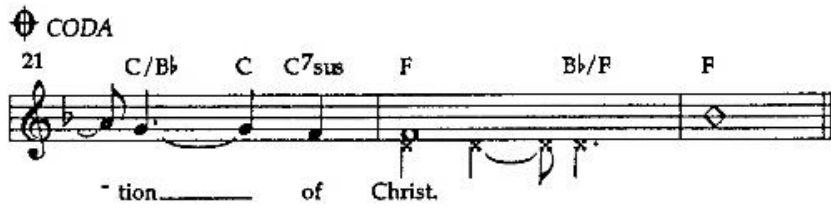
19 F B \flat /F F B \flat /F F *D.S. al CODA* $\text{\$}$



Christ.

$\text{\$}$ CODA

21 C/B \flat C C7sus F B \flat /F F



- tion _____ of Christ.

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Lay Minister: Jim Geslin