



LORD OF LIFE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*CELEBRATING AND SHARING
A NEW BEGINNING
IN GOD'S GRACE ALONE!*

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OUTDOOR WORSHIP – SEPTEMBER 6, 2020



LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
“MAKING GOD FIRST THROUGH HOPE, GROWTH & TOGETHERNESS”

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.-16200 Dodd Lane, Lakeville, MN 55044-(952)-953-4484
Pastor Jamie Thompson Email: info@lordoflifemn.org Website: www.lordoflifemn.org

“CELEBRATING A NEW BEGINNING IN THE GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST!”



The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Outdoor Worship

September 6, 2020

Opening Song in Faith & Grace “Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are, to worship.
Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

One day ev’ry tongue will confess You are God,
One day ev’ry knee will bow.
Still, the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are, to worship.
Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

Litany Trusting God’s Faithfulness In a New Beginning, based on Psalm 66

Pastor: Friends, today we celebrate and give thanks for a new beginning; it does not take much to begin anew in God’s grace, so we come, just as we are, for now is the time to worship, in the name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: People of God: Let us come just as we are, before our God, and take a moment of silence to confess our sins and those times we fail to realize, it does not take much to lead us astray, away from God’s grace and faithfulness. (*silence for reflection*) Friends in Christ, trust the new beginning in the grace of these words: Jesus saves, Jesus forgives you all your sins. When we say “O Lord I pray, save my life,” the Lord is gracious and merciful. Jesus has come, The Spirit is here, and we forever share, just a closer walk with thee!

Prayer of the Day

All: Loving God, today we thank you, and we praise your name. By your Spirit, show us once again, it does not take much grace, pure grace, to renew us, and to share a renewed and closer walk with thee. As we celebrate today, another new beginning in the hope and power you daily make known to us, let us boldly believe anew, and share with others, your faithfulness is so much more than we ever imagined. In Jesus’ amazing name, we pray. Amen.

Hearing The Word of God

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

(all read bold print)

*Jesus taught them saying, “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. But 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. If 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. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. **Again, 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. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.**” (NRSV)*

“Jesus Loves Me” & Children’s Sermon

Sermon “A New Beginning Really Does Not Take Much!”

Pastor Jamie Thompson

Song of Faith & Grace Anew “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

ref: **Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
Daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

vs. 1 **I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I’ll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. (*refrain*)**

vs. 2 **Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. (*refrain*)**

Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Sharing Our Needs and Joys with God in Prayer

Pastor: ...as we pray to you, Jesus,

All: Give us a new beginning in your power and hope and grace.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you see we need, grant to us we pray, for into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

We Receive the Gifts of Life from God in Holy Communion

The Words of Institution

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.**

Strengthened to Live Today, and All Our Days, In The Grace of Christ

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, as you trust each new beginning in the grace of Jesus Christ. In the name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us go in the peace of Christ, celebrating the love of God, blessed to be God's people and God's Church, together serving The Lord of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Going Anew in Light & Grace "America the Beautiful"

vs. 1 **O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties, Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

vs. 4 **O beautiful for patriot dream, That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood, From sea to shining sea.**

Songs During Holy Communion "God Bless America"

Berlin

**God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide her
Through the night with the light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, my home, sweet home.
God bless America, my home, sweet home!**

"Good, Good Father"

Tomlin

vs. 1 **I've heard a thousand stories Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper Of love in the dead of night
You tell me that You're pleased And that I'm never alone**

ref: **You're a Good, Good Father; It's who You are,
It's who You are, It's who You are
And I'm loved by You. It's who I am,
It's who I am, It's who I am.**

vs. 2 **I've seen many searching for answers Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers Only You provide
Because You know just what we need Before we say a word (refrain twice)**

bridge **You are perfect in all of Your ways, You are perfect in all of Your ways**
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us (*repeat bridge*)

vs. 3 **Love so undeniable I can hardly speak**
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still, As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still Into love, love, love (*refrain twice*)

Join us next Sunday, Celebration Sunday, September 13, for outdoor worship!
The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost, "A New Beginning Oh, You Think So?"

Celebration Sunday Worship to include: Blessing of the Backpacks & Bikes,
a Children's Message and Sermon from Pastor Jamie!
Worship to be 30 minutes, and to conclude with Holy Communion!
Blessing of the Backpacks & Bikes will be shared on September 20
if outdoor worship is cancelled next Sunday, September 13.

Join us as we plan to continue to share worship outdoors,
through Sunday, September 27, Sundays, 9:30 a.m., weather permitting!
We are finalizing plans to be ready to worship indoors beginning Sunday, October 4!
We are seeking volunteers to assist with greeting, ushering, serving communion,
live streaming, AV ministry, set up, clean up, worship leaders, and more!

Friends, today as always, all who proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, are welcome to
God's table of grace as we share Holy Communion. Communion will be brought to you
following the closing song, as we share pre-packaged single servings of communion, including
a wafer and grape juice. Carefully pull back the first tab to expose the host, the body of Christ,
given for you; then pull back the second tab to expose the blood of Christ, shed for you!
Please ask for assistance or clarification as you are served!

For those sharing their generosity today, we thank you for your faithful giving!
Offering is collected in small apple baskets by parking lot volunteers as you exit the parking lot.
For those who wish to volunteer to serve on future Sundays, please see the Signup Genius links
in the LINK, and on our Facebook page. Thank you for giving in this blessed way!

For those who are not able to join us for worship, you are invited to receive drive-through
communion, available Sundays, 10:15-10:30 a.m. at the front curb near the church entrance.
Watch your email and our Facebook page for updates regarding our outdoor services.

We hope having the service provided for you in this way, will touch you, comfort you,
reassure you, and grace you in some way! If you believe others you know would be blessed in
any way to receive this bulletin and the sermon notes that follow, please forward this to them.

In this time of social distancing, please trust that we are committed to doing everything possible to slow the spread of the coronavirus, and yet, please also trust that we are equally committed to keeping us socially and spiritually connected!

On behalf of the Kingdom of God, thank you for the ways you make God and neighbor first!

A most holy and blessed Sunday to each of you and your loved ones!

From everyone on every level of leadership and service, please know during these days, days filled with new opportunities, possibilities, information to process and evaluate, and yet, still so many questions, we continue to pray for you and to give thanks to God for each of you! Please contact Pastor Jamie if he can serve you in any way: jamie.thompson@lordoflifemn.org

We pray The Holy Spirit breathes anew on us to be God's people and to be God's Church, as together we make known and we trust anew

God's gifts of hope, peace, justice, clarity, calm, and comfort forever break forth in new ways for you and your loved ones, today, and as we share every gentle breeze of God's grace!

Acknowledgments for today's service include: Litany Trusting God's Faithfulness In a New Beginning – written based on Psalm 66. "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) and With One Voice Hymnal Supplement © 1995 Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis & Board of Publication, Lutheran Church In America, Philadelphia; and Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 by Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN. Used with permission. "Prayer of The Day," "Lord's Prayer," "Post-Communion Blessing, Prayer, & Benediction," based on the LBW. "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship" © 1998 Vineyard Songs CCLI #2430948 "America the Beautiful" © 1956 Fred Bock Music Company CCLI #1881629 "God Bless America" © 1938, 1939 Irving Berlin "Good, Good Father" © 2014 Capitol CMG Paragon CCLI# 7036612 All rights reserved. All songs used with permission. CCLI License #1380826 & OneLicense #A-724016.

“A NEW BEGINNING REALLY DOES NOT TAKE MUCH!”
SEPTEMBER 6, 2020 – OUTDOOR WORSHIP
THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
EZEKIEL 33:7-11; ROMANS 13:8-14; MATTHEW 18:15-20
Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.

Do you ever think what you could do, if you had just a little bit more? If you had just a little more energy, a little more time, a little more money, a little more faith, a little more power, a little more support? What could you do then? When it comes to your spiritual journey, what do you have enough of and what do you need more of? Today, as we study the text from Matthew, we are reminded, ‘if two of you agree about anything..., where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them.’ In this scripture, we see it does not take many of us to come together, to know Jesus is with us. We see, too, it does not take much for Jesus to make his power known to us. Just think, even if Jesus does not have much to work with or many of us to follow and to believe in him, we are still enough, because ‘for God all things are possible.’ Trust a new beginning in God’s grace today does not take much, for God is at work, and God can perform incredible miracles. Celebrate the new beginning in this simple truth: God takes what he has, who we are, and God makes it so much more!

1. A new beginning in God’s grace, does not really take that much!
"Again, 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. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them." Matt. 18:19-20
 - A. It really does not take much grace to grow anew in Christ! Matthew 18:19
 - B. It really does not take much grace to lead us in community and a new way to care for others in Christ! Romans 13:9
 - C. It really does not take much grace to realize a new beginning in the forgiveness of Christ! Ezekiel 33:11; Matthew 18:15-18
 - D. It really does not take much grace to know a new beginning in the strength of Christ, the power of Christ, the hope of Christ! Romans 13:12,14; Romans 8:31-39
 - E. It really does not take much grace to trust in a new way Christ is here in our midst, to believe anew we are saved in Christ, to remember, The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit are with us always! Romans 13:11; Matthew 18:20

2. We all would like more and more of everything in life. We sometimes even wonder what we could do or would do if we had more – more energy, more time, more money, more faith and more hope. As we search for more and more hope and faith, let us celebrate and trust a new beginning in Jesus Christ! Thanks be to God, all of this, really does not take much of God’s grace! Romans 13:11; Matthew 18:20