

Pentecost 16, Year B
September 8, 2024
Pastor Kim Swenson



God's work. Our hands.



Join us for a day of service!

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING

Worship Volunteers
Assisting Minister: Doug Hanson
Reader: Linda Wery
Altar Guild: Pat Petzel
Communion Assistant: Linda Wery
Ushers: Kathy Long & Linda Grunewald
Video Tech: Cindy Michalski

Welcome



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

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Music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Call to Worship

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is eager to forgive
and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

Holy and merciful God,
**we confess that we have failed to honor you
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.
We have walked heavily on your earth,
overused and wasted its resources,
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,
holding future generations hostage to our greed.
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and
intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts,
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
And to empower our lives in the world.
Our sins are forgiven,
† God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new,
in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Leader All

1 Come, O God of all the earth: come to us, O
 2 Come, O God of wind and flame: fill the earth with
 3 Come, O God of flash - ing light: twin - kling star and
 4 Come, O God of snow and rain: show - er down up -
 5 Come, O Jus - tice, come, O Peace: come and shape our

Leader

Righ - teous One; come, and bring our love to birth:
 righ - teous - ness; teach us all to sing your name:
 burn - ing sun; God of day and God of night:
 on the earth; come, O God of joy and pain:
 hearts a - new; come and make op - pres - sion cease:

All

in the glo - ry of your Son.
 may our lives your love con - fess.
 in your light we all are one.
 God of sor - row, God of mirth.
 bring us all to life in you.

Refrain

Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who

loves you! Raise your joy - ful cries!

Dance to the life a - round you!

Text: Marty Haugen
 Music: SING OUT, Marty Haugen

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Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray, Holy One, **you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

WORD

Psalm 125 (read responsively by verse)

¹Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**²As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people,
from this time on and forevermore.**

³For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
so that the righteous might not stretch out
their hands to do wrong.

**⁴Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts.**

⁵But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways
the LORD will lead away with evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel!

Gospel Acclamation

ACS Setting 1088



Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le-lu - jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah,



hal - le-lu-jah. Hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah, hal - le-lu-jah!

Text: Traditional

Music: SYRIAN HALLELUJAH, Syrian traditional

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the

demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**


Sermon

Hymn of the Day

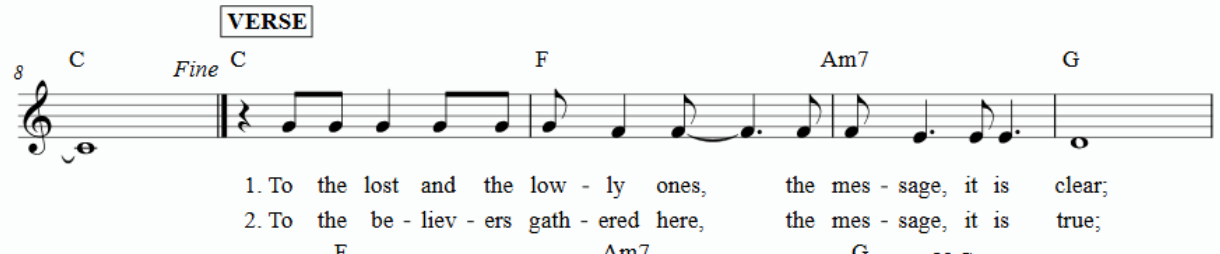
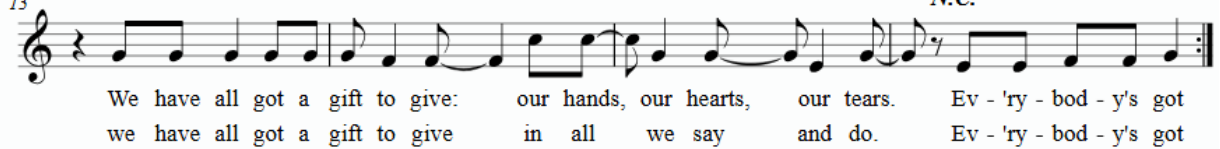
Everybody's Got Something to Offer

Words and Music by
Larry Olson

CHORUS



VERSE

CCLI Song # 1453143

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Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of the People

Trusting God at work in and among us, we raise our hearts and voices in prayer for the needs of the world.

For your work in the church, we give thanks. Plant and tend relationships among faith communities, both ecumenical and interfaith, that in faithful listening, speech, and action, our hands work to bear fruit for the sake of all in need. God of grace, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

For your work in creation, we give thanks. Sustain peoples and places affected by climate change, ecological devastation and natural disasters. Prosper the work of creation-care ministries locally and globally, that with our minds and hearts opened, our hands work to lovingly care for the earth. God of life, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

For your work among the nations, we give thanks. Direct leaders in paths of honest service, that both their words and actions are carried out on behalf of those whom they serve. God of righteousness, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

For your work in places of need, we give thanks. Sustain all who are wearied by unemployment or lack of adequate food or housing, that we advocate for relief and just policy. Bring healing to all who are sick through the skillful hands and compassionate hearts of physicians, nurses, therapists and caregivers. God of restoration, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

For your work in our neighborhoods, towns and cities, we give thanks. Guide our common life together so that children, youth and adults of all ages flourish. Teach us to listen attentively to our neighbors, that any new endeavors consider those who may be left out or underserved. God of wisdom, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

For your work in this worshiping community, we give thanks. Bless the service project of this day and throughout the year. Foster deeper connections among those who serve and a spirit of accompaniment as we work alongside those in our community. Strengthen our faith, that we trust God moving in and among us. God of love, we pray, **hear us when we call.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

For your work among those who came before us, we give thanks. We remember those who have died and are held forever in your loving hands. Hold us in your presence now and always. God of heaven and earth, **hear us when we call.**

Receive these and all our prayers, gracious God. We pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Peace

Peace with yourself.

Peace with Creation.

Peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God,

Source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,

Help us to serve one another and all in need,

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God. From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image, and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders. Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity, your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption. Though we poison and destroy your good Creation, you continue to offer us your abundance. In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus, transforming death into life.

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation, as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

Let All Things Now Living

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to
God the creator triumphantly raise,
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the
Depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and re-
joicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise
Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving: "To
God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

Merciful God, fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

We will say the Lord's prayer as a call and response.

Our Father in heaven

You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans

Hallowed be your name

By the care we take of your Creation

Your kingdom come

All that you see is good

Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven

Your will to till and care

Give us this day our daily bread

That all may have enough to live life in fullness

Forgive us our sins

Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern
for other species and for future generations

As we forgive those who sin against us

By reconciliation with justice and peace.

Save us from the time of trial

The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation

And deliver us from evil

The evil of destroying your gift of creation

For yours is the kingdom

Yours, Lord, not ours

The power and the glory

In the cross and resurrection

Forever and ever

You are the beginning and you are the end. **Amen.**



1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store:
2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
3 Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray, Loving God,

we give you thanks

for restoring us in your image

and nourishing us with spiritual food

in the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

Now send us forth

a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;

that we may proclaim your love to the world

and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
That reflect God's glory in creation.

God all mighty,
God most merciful
✠ bless you, keep you
And give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Go to the World

ACS 991



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
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Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God.**

Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 9/3/24	\$ 5,845.10
Monthly Budget Expenses:.....	\$18,743.00
YTD Receipts through 8/31/24.....	\$ 158,547.00
Yearly Budget.....	\$ 224,917.00

The Bethel Weekly

Fellowship Hour: Please, if you are able to help on a future date in September, sign up in the hallway.

God's Work, Our Hands: Is today. We will be blessing items collected for Kennedy Elementary School's Teacher's Closet.

Pastor Kim: Will be at a conference September 12-14th. For Pastoral emergencies, please contact Pastor Jen Fite at 920-737-8202.

Brat Barn: Our final brat barn of the season is Saturday, September 14th from 9:00am – 6:00pm at the Suamico Festival. Encourage your friends and family to come for a tasty brat or 2! Volunteers are needed. Please see the sign-up sheet in the hallway.

Salvation Army Senior Meal: Is Monday, September 16th. Please see sign-up sheet in the hallway.

Last, Last Sunday Supper: Is September 29th at Rustique Pizzeria located at 13201 Velp Ave. in Suamico. We will be meeting at 5:00pm.

FMSC Opportunities: The mobile pack is coming up October 7-10. Please check out the bulletin board for registration materials and upcoming events. In addition, the Angel Board is ready if you want to become an "Angel" for Feed My Starving Children. Take an envelope/s with the denomination of your choice and place in the offering plate.

Handbags for Hope: In conjunction with the Resurrection Food Pantry, we are asking all the ladies to bring in any unwanted purses. Donations are also needed of travel size hygiene items such as toothbrushes, shampoo, lip balm, etc. to fill the purses prior to distribution. Suggestions can be found on the front of the bin in the lounge.

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Several parts of liturgy edited from <https://newcreationliturgies.org/seasonofcreation/>