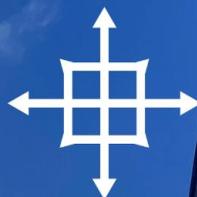


4th Sunday after Pentecost
July 3, 2022

**Travels, Trips,
and Journeys**

A Service of Word and Song for Summer



MUHLENBERG
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost ~ July 3, 2022

WELCOME

We welcome you in the name of Christ. **We love welcoming guests/visitors** and encourage you to complete one of the blue cards in the pew rack and place it in the offering basket, or **scan this QR Code** with your smart phone to complete the visitor card digitally. We have a gift for you at our Welcome Desk – please stop by after worship. You are invited to join in all parts of worship. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet. All who desire to receive Holy Communion are welcome at the table. If you do not wish to receive, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing! For instructions on how to receive the bread and wine, see the Communion section later in this booklet. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken by the whole congregation. We stand for portions of our worship service. **Please feel free to remain seated, if you prefer.**



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, wearing a mask was one of the most fundamental signs of love we shared with our community to protect one another. As COVID rates have declined, the CDC has developed new guidelines. When both Harrisonburg City and Rockingham County are “green” or “yellow,” based on CDC guidelines/metrics, **masks will be optional but welcome**. If either the city or county is “orange,” we will go back to mandatory masking.

OUR WORSHIP

Our worship is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church – gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God’s constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Narrative Lectionary (a four-year cycle of scripture readings in biblical order), we are connected through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time. *For details, see “About Our Worship” on the last page.*

Worship will be live-streamed at 11:00 am. Digital ministry is an essential part of our community with the Wellstream service at 11:00 am allowing those at home to worship alongside our gathered community for a service of Holy Communion. The cameras will be primarily focused on our worship leaders and offer some wide-angle views of the sanctuary. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, contact Pastor Alex or Communication Minister Christian Perritt (perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org).

OTHER NOTES

- **Amplification devices** for the hearing impaired are available from ushers or at the Welcome Desk.
- A **restroom** is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (additional restrooms downstairs).

MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD’S GRACE

Open ✝ *Authentic* ✝ *Relational* ✝ *Serving*

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Pastor Alex Zuber

281 E. Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 434-3496
www.muhlenberglutheran.org

TRAVELS, TRIPS, AND JOURNEYS: A SERVICE OF WORD AND SONG FOR SUMMER

Summer often brings vacations, travels, and opportunities to step out of the busyness of our daily lives. We visit with family and friends, encounter new places and adventures, and enjoy rest and relaxation. And even if we stay home, we can have unexpected journeys through new experiences.

Scripture tells us of many travelers and journeys. Abraham set off with a promise and little else. The Israelites began their forty-year trek with excitement but soon complained and grumbled when the way became difficult. Mary and Joseph had little control over their destination or departure date. The magi rerouted their trip after visiting Herod. Jesus and his disciples wandered through towns and countryside. Paul ventured out with zeal and purpose, finding welcome in some places and hostility in others.

This service progresses through the stages of many journeys: Plans and Preparations, Setting Out, On the Road, When the Way Becomes Hard, and Joyful Homecomings. Whatever our travels of life, God remains our steadfast guide and companion.

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG ~ #618 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

GREETING

The God who created space and time, journeyed with us in human form, and travels with us still, be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our beginning and our end, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us when we travel. Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our heavenly home, where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ and the life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PSALMODY ~ Psalm 139: 1-12 (*read responsively*)

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

²**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

³You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴**Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**

⁵You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

⁷Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

⁹If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

¹⁰**even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"

¹²**even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PLANS AND PREPARATIONS

READING ~ Ephesians 6:10-17

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness,

against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence for prayer and meditation.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER

What should we pack as we begin our journey?

What should we bring along?

The word of God to illumine our path.

The light of Christ to show us the way.

The gifts of the Spirit to share with those we meet.

The love of God to be our compass and guide.

Let us pray. God of our salvation,

you are the source of all our beginnings.

As we plan for our journeys,

strengthen us through your word.

Orient our lives toward Christ,

the bright Morning Star.

Send your Holy Spirit as our companion along the way.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HYMN ~ #514 O Word of God Incarnate

SETTING OUT

READING ~ Genesis 12:1-9

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence for prayer and meditation.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER

God called to Abraham:

"Go! Set out! And I will bless you."

God calls to us:

"Come! Feel the water on your head!

Hear the promise of new life.

Spread my word through all the world."

Let us pray. God of beginnings,

you called Abraham and Sarah,

leading them to unknown places.

In the waters of baptism, you claim us

and send us out as your children.
Wash us with your grace
and shower us with your Spirit,
so that we journey into the world
overflowing with your love.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM ~ *Spirit, Open My Heart* (text: R. Duck; Music: Irish melody)

8:30 Celebration Singers

11:00 Sanctuary Choir

ON THE ROAD

READING ~ Mark 1:35-39

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence for prayer and meditation.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER

On the Galilean road, Jesus stopped to reflect and pray.

We, too, long for rest and a balm for our souls.

Seeing those in need, Jesus healed, taught, and fed.

**We are called to live as servants,
loving our neighbors as ourselves**

Holding the children close, Jesus blessed them;

for to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs.

On the road to Bethlehem, the true light came into the world.

**And the Word became flesh and lived among us
and we have seen his glory.**

Let us pray. God of incarnation,
**you entered our world as a tiny baby
and you journey with us
through each stage of our lives.
Be with our children and youth
who are growing in your love.
Guide us all as the years and decades pass.
Send us in the light of your grace and truth.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

HYMN ~ #636 *How Small Our Span of Life*

WHEN THE WAY BECOMES HARD

READING ~ 1 Kings 19:1-8

¹Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. ⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." ⁶He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. ⁷The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." ⁸He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence for prayer and meditation.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER

We sit like Elijah alone in the wilderness.

“It is enough, O Lord.”

The troubles of life overwhelm our spirits.

“It is enough, O Lord.”

The way seems too dark; the valleys, too deep.

“It is enough, O Lord.”

God rescues us from despair and grants us strength.

“You are beloved, my precious child.”

Let us pray. God of our sorrows,

when we grieve a loved one, face an illness, or lose a job,

the road seems long, lonely, and treacherous.

Comfort us in our despair,

guide us through the wilderness,

and enfold us in your loving embrace.

Grant your mercy and peace.

to all those in need this day.

In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

HYMN ~ #624 *Jesus, Still Lead On*

JOYFUL HOMECOMINGS

READING ~ Philippians 3:12—4:1

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are

set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A brief silence for prayer and meditation.

DIALOGUE AND PRAYER

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.”

We believe in God, we believe in Christ.

“I go to prepare a dwelling place for you.”

You are the way, the truth, and the life.

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.”

Lord, we abide in your love.

“You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus, lead us in the path of your peace.

Let us pray. God of resurrection,

neither death nor life will separate us from your love.

Walk with us when our journeys lead toward home.

Strengthen us to follow the way of the cross

and bring us at last

into the joy of your heavenly kingdom.

In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

HYMN ~ #697 *Just A Closer Walk with Thee*

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith:

**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 INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

O God, we give you thanks for those who have traveled the path of faith: for Abraham and Sarah, who trusted in your promise; for Mary and Joseph, who acted according to your word; for Paul, who spread the good news of Christ. Lead us also in your way, your truth, and your life. God of the journey,
hear our prayer.

Watch over all who travel. Grant rest and joy for their spirits. Be with bus drivers, flight attendants, pilots, road crews, and all who strive to make our travels safe and our homecomings joyful. God of the journey,
hear our prayer.

You sent your Son into the messiness of our world. Smooth the pathways between people and nations, that together we will move toward your justice and peace. God of the journey,
hear our prayer.

You walk with us on all the paths of life. Be with those facing hardship this day: the grieving, the poor, the lost, the sick (*especially*). Hold them in the palm of your hand. God of the journey,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Have a prayer concern to share? Forms are available in the back cover of each hymnal.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

“Peace be with you.”

OFFERING ~ *Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray*

8:30 Celebration Singers

11:00 Sanctuary Choir

OFFERING SONG ~ #756 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* verse 4

**O Trinity of love and pow’r,
All trav’lers guard in danger’s hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe’er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and sea.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore

In the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG ~ #545 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.

Thanks be to God.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

LAY ASSISTING	8:30 ~ Mary Elizabeth Skinner
MINISTERS	11:00 ~ Kim Fawley
LECTORS	8:30 ~ Kathy Thompson, Larry Blade 11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong, Alan Hiner
USHERS	8:30 ~ Karen Thomsen, Bart Long 11:00 ~ Judy Wilfong, Jeff Williams
SOUND	8:30 ~ Liam Wightman
TECHS	11:00 ~ Todd Hedinger
MUSICIANS	Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister Members of Celebration Singers (8:30); & Sanctuary Choir (11:00)

After worship, you're invited to greet each other in the Gathering Area and outside. Please maintain physical distance and be mindful of others' wishes for space.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Permission to print/podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license # A-701538, CCLI license # 20104877, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License: SAS014720, and St James Press, license #15220.

REMINDERS AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY

- **Please leave this worship booklet in the basket at the sanctuary entrance for the next service (or recycling).**
- **We encourage you to take *The Chimes* home with you.**

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP...

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: + All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins, but no one should feel compelled. Both our confession of sin and God's promise of mercy are rooted in our baptism. We come before God recalling our brokenness, but even more God's great grace.

GATHERING HYMN: We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship and this hymn sets the tone for the day.

KYRIE: The Kyrie is an ancient piece of service liturgy that may date back to the second century. Kyrie Eleison is Greek for "Lord have mercy" and is in reference to both New and Old Testament scriptures which use the same words and pattern.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: The Prayer of the Day collects the themes from today's scripture readings.

READINGS AND PSALM: Liturgy, from the Greek, means "the work of the people." Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than just spectators. The scripture readings follow a three-year cycle, called a lectionary. We are connected with other Christians all over the world, in many denominations, reading the same texts. The Psalms were the original Hymns in Holy Scripture, used by God's people for personal and corporate devotion. They continue to be prayed, sung and read by God's people all over the world as a rich and honest expression of faith. We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

HYMN OF THE DAY: This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

NICENE & APOSTLES' CREEDS: The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4th century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true. The use of the non-capitalized word "catholic" means simply worldwide or universal.

PRAYERS: We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at his/ her invitation you may add others aloud or silently in your heart.

PEACE: Much more than a pleasant greeting — we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

OFFERING: Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

OFFERING SONG: This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

GREAT THANKSGIVING & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: The Great Thanksgiving is an ancient part of the worship that proclaims our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal. The "Holy, Holy, Holy" echoes the heavenly chorus in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus enters Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility. Some will make the sign of the cross at the announcement of God's presence: "Blessed is He..."

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: Eucharist is the Greek word for thanks. These are the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture: 1Cor. 11:23-26, Matt. 26:26-29, Luke 22:15-20.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

COMMUNION: The "last supper" was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion. He invited them to share this meal in the future to remember him and he promised to be present in a mysterious, but very real sense. All who desire to participate are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Feel free to remain seated if you prefer.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the world.

BLESSING: In this blessing we are reminded we bear God's name as we depart to live out our baptism, serving our neighbor and spreading the gospel. It reaffirms our mission and reminds us that if we are to be a Wellspring of Grace, we need to be renewed first through Water, Word, and Meal—the means of grace God has given to us.