

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost ~ AUGUST 16, 2020

WELCOME TO WELLSTREAM WORSHIP

We welcome you in the name of Christ to this digital form of worship. The Wellstream is a digital ministry that allows Muhlenberg Lutheran Church to **livestream our 11:00 am Sunday morning worship services** through our Social Media platforms. You are encouraged to join in all parts of worship, responding and worshipping as you would in person. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet so that you may follow along with the worship leaders. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken/sung by the whole congregation, wherever you are. We stand for portions of our worship service, and invite you to do this as it is comfortable. ***If you are watching this service LIVE, we encourage you to engage with other members of the community in the comments on either Facebook or YouTube—responding to prayers, offering prayer requests, or sharing the peace.***

We recognize that **Worship** and the formation of **Community** are central to living out our mission in the world. Worship is where we gather around the true Wellspring of God's Grace—the Word and Sacraments of Jesus Christ—in order that we might find renewal, and become a source of this same grace in our daily living. Worship, and the community we find there, is at the heart of who we are. However, in this season of Social Distancing in the midst of COVID-19, the best way to be community, is to not be *in* community. This service is not meant to replace face-to-face community, and digital worship cannot provide the sacramental nature of worship to those who engage online. However, this can be a powerful tool in this difficult season for connecting God's people when life gets in the way and *equipping all people to live out Christ's love.*

CONNECT WITH US LIVE AT 11:00 AM

To access the service LIVE, visit our [Facebook Page](#) or [YouTube Channel](#) at 11:00 am. Both are also accessible from the homepage of our website.

SUNDAYS AT MUHLENBERG VIA ZOOM

Join us for fellowship via Zoom each Sunday from 9:00-11:00 am. We'll use "Breakout Rooms" via Zoom to ensure that everyone has a space to participate in this time together! Sunday School classes open around 9:00 am, and all are welcome to join for classes or stay in "The Gathering Area" for conversation. Full group Coffee Hour begins at 10:30 am. If you'd like a private word with one of the Pastors, or would like a smaller room to catch up with a small group, we have private breakout rooms for that! You're welcome to join whenever you'd like! Join each week at this link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84731416878>.

GIVE ONLINE

While we aren't meeting in person, the work of the church has not ceased. Please don't forget your financial gifts to God's mission in this place. You may mail your check to the church (281 E. Market St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801) or give online at www.muhlenberglutheran.org/give.

BEST PRACTICES FOR 'ATTENDING' CHURCH ONLINE

- Get out of bed and get dressed—*it will put you in the right mindset to worship*
- Go through your normal Sunday routine—*minus the "hurry up we're running late" part*
- Gather your family together—*avoid distractions and make worship something for all*
- Project the feed on your largest screen—*it will feel more like you're "there"*
- Sing along loud and proud—*yes, it feels weird, but it feels weird for those leading worship in an empty room too!*
- Engage in the message—*let this hour be the beginning of a conversation with your friends and family, call and check in with others who "went to church"*

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

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God’s people to worship. In this first part of our worship, we share together honestly – our sins in confession, our joy in forgiveness.

WELCOME

CHILDREN’S TIME *Children are invited forward for a brief message with the pastor.*

PRELUDE

“Arm, Arm Ye Brave,” from “Judas Maccabeus” (G. F. Handel; arr. B. Fitzgerald)

Trombone & Piano

(We stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation turns and faces the baptismal font.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins, the ways we have unraveled God’s good creation.

God of deliverance,

you have asked us to be like Moses—

Standing up for your people, standing up for justice.

But too often we are like Pharaoh—

Holding onto power, or holding onto privilege.

God, you ask us to be like Aaron—

Who stood by his brother to unravel systems of oppression.

But too often we align with Pharaoh—

Saying “no” to change and unraveling your vision for justice and peace.

Forgive us for all the ways we stand on the wrong side of history.

Forgive us for the harm we do to your planet, and for the harm we do to your children.

Help us to be like Moses. Forgive us when we’re like Pharaoh.

Amen.

God, the Great Sewer—who weaves us together in community, collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging—is there when life unravels. God is there to stitch your wounds together—through forgiveness, grace, and mercy—to hold you in the palm of God’s hand, to tell you of love, and to invite you into a new journey. Receive forgiveness in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, and be restored into the rich tapestry of God’s beloved community.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar, reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence and love of God.

Praise to the Lord *Louez l'Eternel*



1 Lou - ez l'E - ter - nel, ser - vi - teurs de
2 Qui est comme no - tre Dieu, dans les cieux, sur la
1 Praise to the Lord, all of you, God's
2 There is none like our God in the heav'ns or on



Dieu. Bé - ni soit son nom, main - te - nant,
ter - re, qui ex - al - te les pauvres au rang des grands
ser - vants. Bless - ed be the name of our God
earth, who lifts the poor from the dust, seat - ing them



à ja - mais. Du le - ver du so - leil,
de son peu - ple, qui ma - ni - feste mi - sé - ri - corde?
now and ev - er. From the ris - ing of the sun,
with the might-y, who stoops to raise the weak and low:

Refrain



bé - ni soit son nom! Lou - é soit Dieu, l'E - ter - nel!
may the Lord be praised, praise to the name of the Lord!

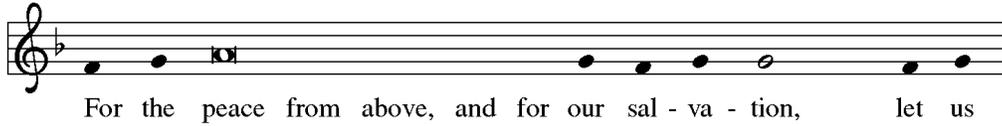
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

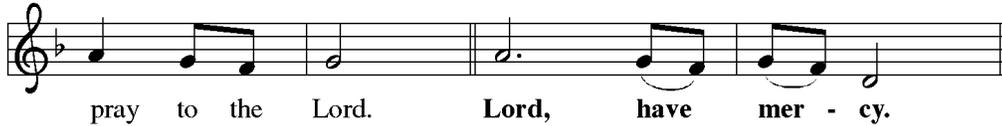
KYRIE



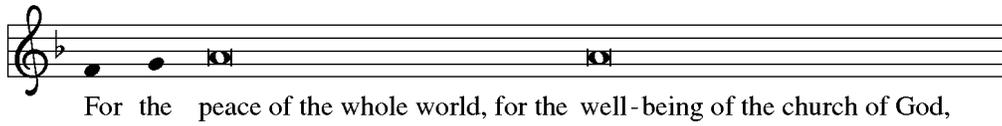
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal-va-tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



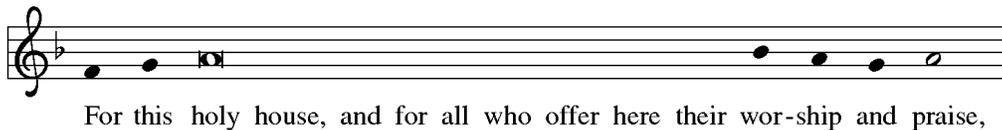
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.



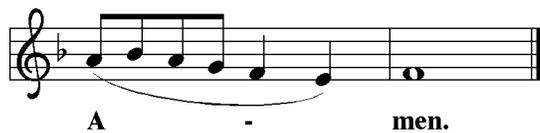
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(We sit)

WORD

The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity's roots in Jewish synagogue worship.

FIRST READING ~ Exodus 5:1-2; 7:8-23

¹Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness.'" ²But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and I will not let Israel go."

Chapter 7

⁸The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, ⁹When Pharaoh says to you, 'Perform a wonder,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh, and it will become a snake.' ¹⁰So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did as the LORD had commanded; Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. ¹¹Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers; and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same by their secret arts. ¹²Each one threw down his staff, and they became snakes; but Aaron's staff swallowed up theirs. ¹³Still Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said. ¹⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go. ¹⁵Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water; stand by at the river bank to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that was turned into a snake. ¹⁶Say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you to say, "Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness." But until now you have not listened. ¹⁷Thus says the LORD, "By this you shall know that I am the LORD." See, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall be turned to blood. ¹⁸The fish in the river shall die, the river itself shall stink, and the Egyptians shall be unable to drink water from the Nile.'" ¹⁹The LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt — over its rivers, its canals, and its ponds, and all its pools of water — so that they may become blood; and there shall be blood throughout the whole land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.'" ²⁰Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and of his officials he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the river, and all the water in the river was turned into blood, ²¹and the fish in the river died. The river stank so that the Egyptians could not drink its water, and there was blood throughout the whole land of Egypt. ²²But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts; so Pharaoh's heart remained hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said. ²³Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not take even this to heart.

The reading concludes:

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

(We stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ~ Mark 8:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to ... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. ¹⁵And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out — beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod." ¹⁶They said to one another, "It is because we have no bread." ¹⁷And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember? ¹⁹When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" They said to him, "Twelve." ²⁰And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect? And they said to him, "Seven." ²¹Then he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

After the reading:

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

(We sit)

SERMON

Pastor Alex Zuber

Silence for reflection follows.

(We stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ Bring Peace to Earth Again

~see next page~

Bring Peace to Earth Again



1 Where ar - mies scourge the coun - try - side, and peo - ple flee in fear,
2 Where an - ger fes - ters in the heart, and strikes with cru - el hand;
3 Where homes are torn by bit - ter strife, and love dis - solves in blame;
4 O God, whose heart com - pas - sion - ate bears ev - 'ry hu - man pain,



where si - rens scream through flam - ing nights, and death is ev - er near:
where vio - lence stalks the trou - bled streets, and ter - ror haunts the land:
where walls you meant for shel - t'ring care hide deeds of hurt and shame:
re - deem this vio - lent, wound - ing world till gen - tle - ness shall reign.



O God of mer - cy, hear our prayer: bring peace to earth a - gain!

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

After each petition:

. . . Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

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? Share it live or email it to info@muhlenberglutheran.org.

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.”

(We sit)

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for the saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need.

OFFERING ~ Panis Angelicus (“O Lord Most Holy” C. Franck, 1822-1890; arr. C. Scott, 1926)

Vocal Solo

English Translation:

Oh Lord most holy; O loving Father, Thee would we be praising always
Help us to know Thee, know Thee and love Thee,
Father, Father, grant us Thy truth and grace
Father, Father guide and defend us.
Rule Thou our wilful hearts, keep Thee our wand’ring thought
In all our sorrows, let us find our rest in Thee
And in temptation’s hour save through Thy mighty pow’r
Thine aid, O send us, hear us in mercy.
Show us Thy favor, so shall we live and sing praise to Thee.

(We stand)

OFFERING SONG ~ Take My Life, That I May Be we sing verse 4 only

~see next page~

Take My Life, That I May Be *Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad*

Refrain/Estrillo

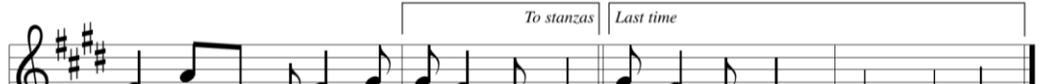


To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To stanzas Last time



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estrillo



pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

OFFERING PRAYER

Giver of every good thing, **we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be woven into a garment of love. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

God of unending surprises, this life is a tapestry of moments woven together, and we long to be weavers of love. Today we gather and pray that you would unravel our bias. Unravel our assumptions. Unravel whatever it is that keeps us from you. And as you do, clear space in our hearts for your Word. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.**

SENDING

Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.

SENDING HYMN ~ Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord *Hymn will be sung through once, then all may sing a second time.*

The congregation turns and faces the cross reminding us that we follow Christ into the world and our daily lives.

~see next page~

Hymn will be sung through once, then all may sing a second time.

Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord

Grant peace, we pray, in mer - cy, Lord; peace in our time, oh, send us!

For there is none on earth but you, none oth - er to de - fend us.

You on - ly, Lord, can fight for us. A - men.

BLESSING

May the God of loose ends and knotted hearts,
hem us in before and behind,
weave us together in hope and praise,
unravel our doubt,
sew faith into our hearts,
and draw us together in hope and faith.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

We have been renewed at the Wellspring of God's grace!
Now, go in peace!

We go to be: Open + Authentic + Relational + Serving
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Voluntary No. 2 (A. Clarke)

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

LAY ASSISTING MINISTER ~ Gloria Goeres

LECTOR ~ Todd Hedinger

MUSICIANS ~ Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister
Robert Curry, Trombone Solo
Cynthia Page, Cantor
Jacqui Knappenberger, Vocal Solo

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Printed music for today's service is from the ELW and OneLicense.net and reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701538.
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license # A-701538,
CCLI license # 20104877, St. James Press license #15220, and Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License: SAS014720.

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: 1 Cor. 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.