



HOLY COMMUNION

at the break of day

Sunday

August 18, 2019 † 8:30 am

Interpreting the signs of the time:

Jesus brings fire on earth

Exploring the promise of God for all

The bonfire of Christ burns brightly with love

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today, in the assembly, we are surrounded by “so great a cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in the holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

We Gather to Begin the Day Anew in Baptism

GATHERING MUSIC

Allegretto from the Sonata in G

Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach

At the sound of the bell please turn to face the worship leaders at the font.

GATHERING AROUND THE FONT

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presider begins.

P We begin the day anew in baptism

in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A Amen.

GATHERING PSALM

Psalm 82

Arise, O God, and rule the earth. (82:8)

P God stands to charge the divine council assembled, giving judgement in the midst of the gods.

A “How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?”

P “Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy.”

A Rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.

P Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, and all of you children of the most high;

A Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.’”

P Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.

A Give praise to the Father Almighty; to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord; to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts; both now and forever. Amen.

P Strength of the weak, (ELW psalm prayer)
defender of the needy, rescuer of the poor, gracious God,
deliver us from the power of wickedness, that we may rejoice in your justice now and forever; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

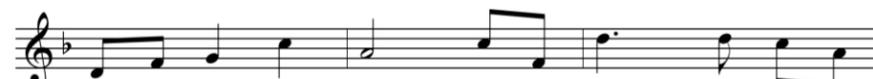
A Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“A Song of Wisdom”



1. Wis - dom freed a ho - ly peo - ple, blame - less,
2. Giv - ing them re - ward of la - bors, led the
3. Through the Red Sea safe - ly brought them, led a -
4. For sal - va - tion, Lord, the right - eous praise your



from op - pres - sors' sword, and with - stood with signs and
saints a - long her way, she was blaze of stars in
long the wat - ers steep, but their en - e - mies she
name with one ac - cord: song-filled tongues of new - born



won - ders, ru - lers dread, to serve the Lord. —
dark - ness and a shel - ter through the day. —
swal - lowed, ov - er - whelmed them in the deep. —
peo - ple ut - tered Wis - dom's might - y word; —

after stanza 4 only:



Song-filled tongues of new-born peo-ple ut-tered Wis-dom's might-y word.

Words: Patricia B. Clark, 1994
(paraphrase of Wisdom 10:15-21)
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Tune: Jacobson, © Mark Sedio, 1996

We Listen to God’s Word

GREETING

The presider continues with words of welcome.

FIRST READING

see Scripture insert

God’s word is like fire

Jeremiah 23:23–29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God’s judgment, he suffers rejection. Today’s reading speaks of the mistaken notion that God only sees what is happening in the temple. Rather, Jeremiah points out, God’s distance allows for a panoramic view of all the universe, including the lies and deceptions of the false prophets.

Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

see Scripture insert

The faith of the Hebrew people

Hebrews 11:29–12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with a long list of biblical heroes whose exemplary faith enabled them to face the trials of life. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

Word of God, word of life.

A Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

see Scripture insert

The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:

(Celtic Alleluia #174)



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



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

Interpreting the signs of the time: Jesus brings fire on earth Luke 12:49–56

Today’s gospel contains harsh words concerning the purifying and potentially divisive effects of God’s call. People who follow the way of Christ often encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

before the reading:

after the reading:

P The holy gospel according to

The gospel of the Lord.

A Glory to you, O Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

(hymn) 713

“O God of Every Nation”

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Hear us, O God,

A your mercy is great.

Prayer of the Day concludes these prayers.

P O God, judge eternal,

you love justice and hate oppression,

and you call us to share your zeal for truth.

Hear our prayers. Give us courage to take our stand

with all victims of bloodshed and greed,

and, following your servants and prophets,

to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,

your Son, Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray.

A Amen.

We Feast Around the Table of the Lord

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

A And also with you.

The assembly is invited to share God’s peace with one another.

OFFERING

When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord’s Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel.

Rondo from the Sonata in G

Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach

Offertory Prayer

- A** Let us pray together.
A God of all creation,
you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.
You have set this feast before us.
Open our hands to receive it.
Open our hearts to embrace it.
Open our lives to live it.
We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
A And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
A We lift them to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
A It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1975)

- A** 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.

Communion

*All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God.
Communion at this service is served standing at stations. Please follow the
directions of the ushers.
Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request. The benefits of the
sacrament are fully present in either the bread or the wine, should health reasons
prevent you from receiving one of them.
Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

Fantasy on the tune 'Slane'

Libby Larsen

silence for reflection concludes the Communion

Prayer after Communion

- A** Let us pray.
Gracious provider,
you nourish us with holy food and drink,
and you open us up to the needs of others.
Refresh us with your Spirit,
that our words and deeds may proclaim
your creative and life-giving Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

- A** Amen.

We Are Sent to Be God's Hands in the World

BLESSING

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
A Thanks be to God.

God almighty, God most powerful,
bless you, keep you, and grant you peace;
in the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

- A** Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Lead On, O King Eternal!"

*(hymn) 805
stanza 2 in harmony*

DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord.
A Thanks be to God.

The carillon sends the assembly into mission.

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

Jacques Lemmens

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Note about opening hymn "A Song of Wisdom"

Author Patricia Clark based her hymn text on Wisdom 10:15-21. (The book of Wisdom is one of the fourteen books that make up the Apocrypha.) The text picks up several images that relate to today's appointed readings. The tune is named for Diane Jacobson, Professor Emerita of Luther Seminary, who is a specialist regarding Wisdom literature.



WELCOME

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image. • We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all. • Central Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshipping with us today. We invite guests to complete the "Welcome to Central" card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email info@centralmpls.org.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. The nursery may be found near the welcome desk. Nursery staff are provided on Sunday mornings.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

Friends of Central...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join our network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.

Electronic Giving Opportunities: Online at www.centralmpls.org click on **Give Today**; or text 73256, enter code word *centralmpls* (lower case), and a numerical amount. Press send and fill in the details. All contributions from members and guests will appear in a contribution statement. WIFI is available as *Central Lutheran* (password *guestclc*). If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. The ministries and mission of Central Lutheran are supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



**Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS**

Exploring the promise of God for all
333 South 12th St, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-4416 | centralmpls.org



SERVING TODAY

Pastor Melissa Pohlman, *presiding*

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe, *preaching*

Brad Boogren, *assisting minister*

Steven Langmo, *reader*

Shanti Austvold, *crucifer*

Deacon Mark Sedio, *organist/pianist*

Hanna Peterson, *flute*

Mark Kieffer, Marc Wilson, *sound operators*

Bill Masche, Bruce Bergeson-Meekins,

Dave West, Richard Stegall, *sacristans*

Larry Angeles, *lead usher for August*

Phyllis & Bob Whitney, Allison Eger,

Barb Zalusky, *greeters & hosts*

Pastor D. Foy Christopherson, *liturgy director*

Please join us in the great room for fellowship following worship.

This service is being streamed live on the internet at www.centralmpls.org

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by the Haines Family in celebration of the wedding of Zoey and Jon Erik Haines on August 17. If you wish to donate flowers contact Judy Korogi 10 days in advance at 612-788-1288.

Saturday, August 17, 2019

Sunday, August 18, 2019

Lectionary/Ordinary 20 C | Proper 15 C

Sunday between August 14 and 20

Interpreting the signs of the time:

Jesus brings fire on earth

FIRST READING *God's word is like fire* Jeremiah 23:23–29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading speaks of the mistaken notion that God only sees what is happening in the temple. Rather, Jeremiah points out, God's distance allows for a panoramic view of all the universe, including the lies and deceptions of the false prophets.

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back — those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *The faith of the Hebrew people* Hebrews 11:29—12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with a long list of biblical heroes whose exemplary faith enabled them to face the trials of life. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses" we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets — ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented — ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 12:49–56

Interpreting the signs of the time: Jesus brings fire on earth
Today's gospel contains harsh words concerning the purifying and potentially divisive effects of God's call. People who follow the way of Christ often encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus says: "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

*father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."*

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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