

PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost



ANNOUNCEMENTS

God loves you all the time
And all the time God loves you.

HYMN

O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW 772



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

OPENING DIALOGUE

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.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: for the peace from above, and for our salvation, for the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, for this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?"

¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel of Matthew beginning in the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"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. ¹⁶But 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. ¹⁷If 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. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, 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. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE MESSAGE

APOSTLES' 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 into hell.

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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community (*especially*). Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches.

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution (*especially*).

Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all.

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those

yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*).

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our

Amen.

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

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

Mothering God,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

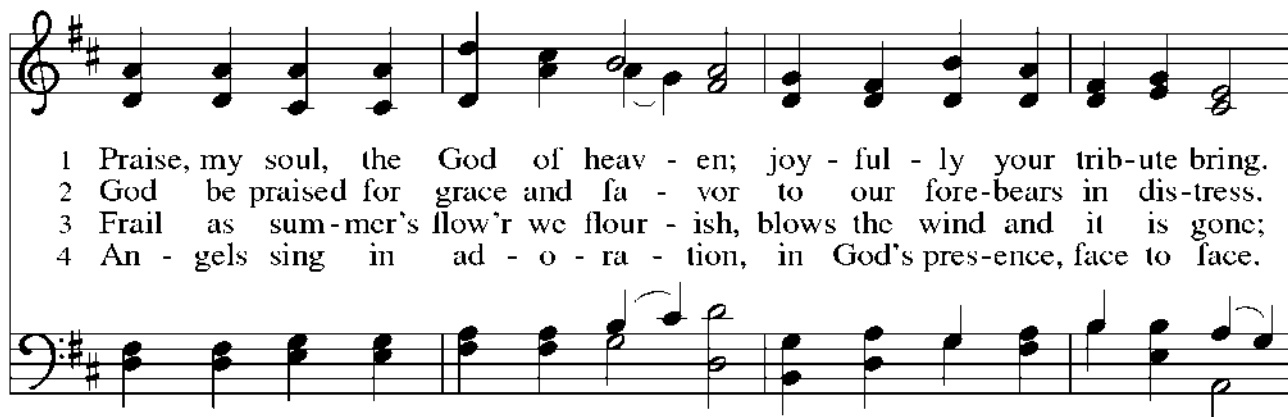
Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

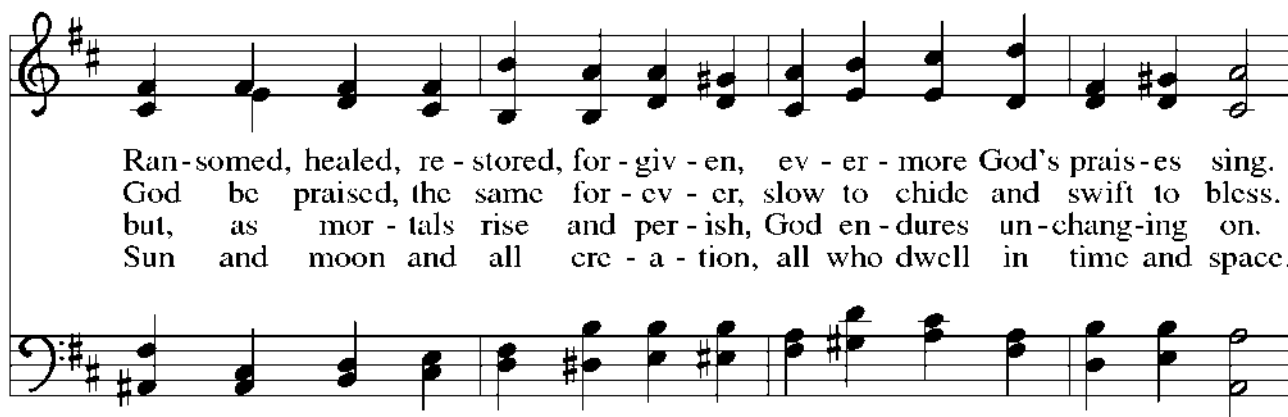
HYMN

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

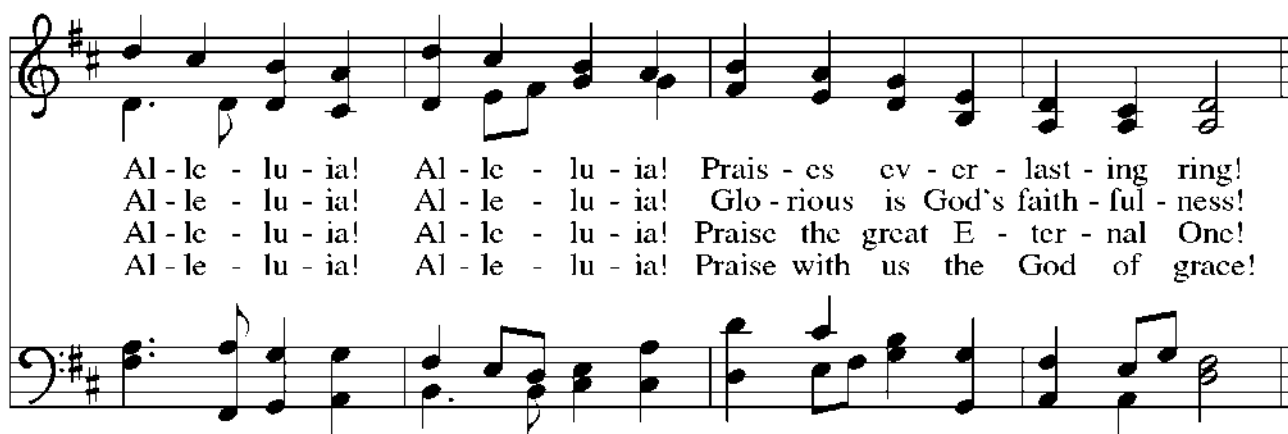
ELW 864



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

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Artwork by Katie Zunino based on gospel lesson

Prayers of the Faithful for week of September 6, 2020

TODAY we pray for:

The King family -welcome baby Olivia Grace born August 24 to Justin and Ashley
Thanksgiving for Helen & family recovery from COVID-19
Chris, Denise, Clare Benz and Lynda Martinez
Pat Corrigan—mother of Diane Teig
Beth, Maddie and Josh Kelly on arrival of daughter Isabelle.
For all those in our hearts and minds today.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Alexis (Ford) Ward & family
Barbara Lynn Grabher; daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke
Kyle, diagnosed with Coronavirus.
Bill Smith; step-father of Rebecca Koreck
Vera Wagenfuhr
For Leslie, friend of Diane Teig.
For Jack Baskow
For Claudia and Geof Bromfield who are dealing with health issues.
MacKenzi Simons (14yr old with Coronavirus)
Connie and family
Scott Wycoff
The Fenner family
John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur
Mike Goyda
Lis Verbeck
Lois Snyder
David & Angie Wasgatt, Lou Ellen Machin, Evelyn Pettit,
Dick Johnson, John Deaton, Joan Sandstorm, Delores Sipe, Doug Price, John Maurer, Bob Waller,
Bill & Barbie Monaghan, Kent Hardel, Gretchen Platz, Ellen Hall, Nanci Hunsinger, Betty Magoon, Claire
Schoening, Moira & Ed, Tyler, Eloise, Rich, Nancy & Mike Schuster, Bill Howerin, Marcia Burton, Gina Clay
For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl
For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Barbara Melosh
For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones
For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference;
For the congregation of Hope Lutheran, New Castle as they prepare for their new pastor.
For all pastors and church leaders as they care.
For our country, the United States and leaders and citizens.
For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the Covid19 virus.

To request or change prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481) or email the office@gmail.com.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tara Magoon, Pastor
Rev. David Wasgatt, Pastor Emeritus
Jordan Irazabal, Director of Music
Susan Wells Allen, Office Manager
Louis Jones, Custodian