

August 7, 2022
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth



Be patient. Don't rush it. Live the questions. Let this play out."

Rachel Held Evans, Wholehearted Faith, p. 117

GATHER

PRELUDE

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

ELW 697

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

ELW 857

Worship Leaders: 1st time

All: 2nd time

+CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

ONE: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

MANY: AMEN

ONE: 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.

MANY: AMEN

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

Silence for reflection

ONE: Gracious God,

MANY: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ONE: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthens you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

MANY: AMEN

WORD

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE: O Lord God,

MANY: "it seems too good to be true that God redeems all things, and yet this is the hope that has been written for us." Help us to lean into the goodness of this news at work in our lives. In Jesus's name we pray.

ALL: Amen.*

(*Quote from Rachel Held Evans, *Wholehearted Faith*, p. 125.)

SCRIPTURE

John 10: 11-18

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

ONE: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

MANY: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

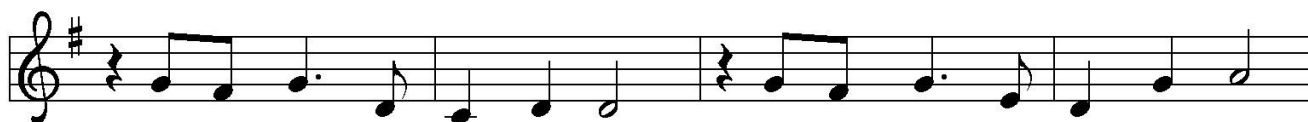
Rev. Paul Lutter



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

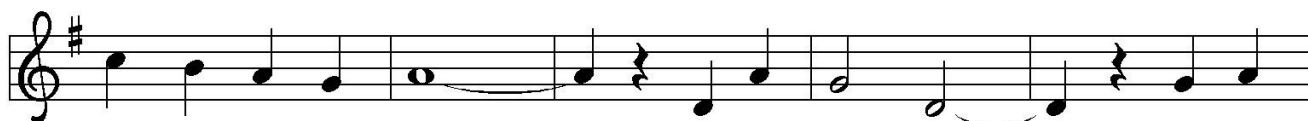


Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

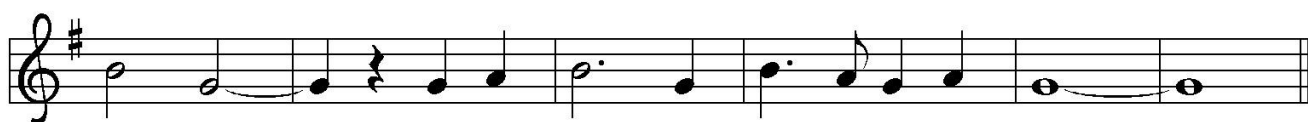
Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

ONE: With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the Triune God.

MANY: **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 Christ rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and 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

ONE: Let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

ONE: In John's gospel, you invite us to lean into the care and guidance of Jesus, whom you call our Good Shepherd. In the Psalms, you unspool this image of what it means that you've given a Shepherd to and for us: Our good shepherd "makes us lie down in green pastures." The Good Shepherd, "leads me beside still waters," and "restores my soul." The Shepherd, "leads me in right paths for his name's sake." And, thankfully, the Good Shepherd, "is with me," even when I walk through times that are difficult and uncertain. The Shepherd "prepares a table before me," even as my enemies stare at me. And the Shepherd "anoints my head with oil." All of this is so amazing. We give you thanks for these promises, yes. And we thank you for the ways you live them out in our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: So many things in our lives, and in our life together, seem overwhelming and uncertain. We are left with so many questions with so few answers. Life would be so much more clear and calm with answers. Yet, here we are with questions. And, here you are alongside us in Jesus, walking through the questions we face. Help us to "live the questions," as the late poet Rainer Maria Rilke offers us for nourishment for our daily lives. Help us to not so much overcome our questions, but metabolize them. Help us to lean into them, wrestle with them, and listen for the wisdom they have for us. Like Jacob at the Jabbok, help us to not let them go until they bless us. Lord, in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: So many who have graduated from high school are preparing for what comes next. Be with them, O gracious God. May they know the care and love of our Good Shepherd Jesus who attends them each and every day. And, O Good Shepherd, be near to parents, grandparents, siblings and friends who cheer what comes next for those whom they love. And still, O God, we know those who cheer may also silently grieve what has been because it will not be the same again. Attend to them too, O Good Shepherd. Wrap them in your arms of love. Lord, in your mercy,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: We pray today, O Good Shepherd, for the mission and ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. Help us to hear your voice calling us to follow when we feel a little lost and confused. Make a way where there seems no way -- and walk alongside us as the ways you have set out for us have been revealed. We thank you for your love and guidance. We thank you for the ways you walk alongside us, no matter what. We pray as well, O God, for those who are ill, hospitalized, or otherwise in need of your care. We offer their names to you in a moment of silence....God, restore your healing and hope to us all. Lord, in your mercy, **MANY: hear our prayer.**

ONE: Into your hands, our Good Shepherd, we offer all for whom we pray, trusting your love and mercy attends us all the days of our lives. In your name we pray.

MANY: Amen.

+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you always.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with those around you.

MEAL

OFFERING

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ELW 752

All: sing 3 times

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

ONE: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

MANY: Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

ONE: The Lord be with you.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

MANY: We lift them to the Lord.

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

MANY: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

ONE: Invited into the abundant life of faith, let us pray together,

MANY: 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

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION MUSIC

One Bread, One Body

With One Voice 710

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bles-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



Refrain

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

COMMUNION BLESSING

SEND

+BENEDICTION

ONE: Let us pray together the Prayer of Good Courage. O God,

MANY: you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

+SENDING SONG

We Are Marching in the Light of God

ELW 866

+DISMISSAL

ONE: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

MANY: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

We Are Marching in the Light of God

African Spiritual

Serving today:

Preacher

Organist & Pianist

Singers

Instrumentalists

Greeter

Usher

Lector

Offering Counters

Zoom & Livestream Coordinators

Rev. Paul Lutter

Anne Phillips

Jan Mostrom, Sylvi Leppa, Nancy Peterson,

Matt Peterson, Nick Bonow, David Jopke

Matt Peterson, Peter Leppa, Joni Sutton

Monte and Evie Anderson

Gary Gangstee

Lisa Lukis

Roger Birnbaum and David Forsberg

Steve Johnson, Peter Leppa, Scott Rusten,

Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland

Acknowledgements:

The confession and forgiveness is adapted from several versions in the ELW, used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SBL14294.

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Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, 1946

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Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, JOHN FOLEY, SJ, b.1939

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF August 7, 2022

TODAY

9am worship with Holy Communion

Families are encouraged to have their children in worship, but the nursery is available if needed. It will be open but not staffed; please plan to supervise your own children inside.

Mark your calendar!

**All Council, Committee and Volunteer Meeting
Tuesday, August 9, 6:30 pm at Peace.**

Join us on our Journey Together!

Mark your calendar for future Journey Together Events:

- Wednesday, August 31, 6 pm: Five-a-Day to Grow God's Way
- Wednesday, September 28, 6pm: Four More for Growth Galore

Events will continue the last Wednesday of the month through the 2022-2023 year. If you'd like to help volunteer for this event, contact Jenny at jjklutter@gmail.com.

As you may know, Pastor Paul is a writer and has just had one of his essays published in *The Christian Century*.

The Christian Century is a progressive, ecumenical magazine based in Chicago. Committed to thinking critically and living faithfully, the *Century* explores what it means to believe and live out the Christian faith in our time." His article ***In the shadow of uncertainty, fear and hope look similar*** can be found by searching the title or his name at: **www.christiancentury.org**

The summer preaching series is based on the book Wholehearted Faith.

For this series we are reading Rachel Held Evans' book, ***Wholehearted Faith***. What she shows through her writing – and her life – is what it means to recover a sense of wholeheartedness, and what it looks like. This book is powerful and gracious, and allows us to hear an invitation into wholeheartedness, once again.

Please join us this summer for this journey back into wholeheartedness. The book is available on Amazon or your favorite bookstore. Pastor Paul has a couple of copies in his office if you are interested.