



*He has transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son*

Photo: ceiling of Saint Peter's Basilica, the Vatican, Rome

**DOVE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Sunday, August 30, 2020**

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**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

Pastor Stephen Springer

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**PROLOGUE**

Kevin Seal, pipe organ

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Elegy (for April 7th, 1913)  
C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

*Today we continue our journey with Pastor Steve off of the standard lectionary with a worship service acknowledging the struggles of our Christian faithful brethren who have gone before us, and celebrating both their eventual triumph over such struggles and our place in their spiritual inheritance. Our organ music this morning features two such composers, both of whom were profoundly affected by outbreaks of disease that happened long before Covid-19. C. Hubert H. Parry was an English composer and teacher who was one of the most influential composers of his generation, teaching composers such as Vaughan Williams and Holst. He passed away in 1918, a victim of the Spanish flu pandemic. This piece, representative of his organ music, is an elegy he wrote for the funeral of an English Earl, which took place on April 7th, 1913. -- Kevin*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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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 sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**


**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Assisting minister




Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.


All




Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.




Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,




you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;




you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## **GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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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.**

Let us pray.

God our strength, give us the humility to trust in your loving care, and the patience to be faithful in seeking your way, that we may come to share in the inheritance of your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Exodus 6:2-9**

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*God sends Moses with a message to the Israelites, detailing his plan of deliverance. But at first, the Israelites do not believe Moses.*

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>2</sup>God also spoke to Moses and said to him: 'I am the LORD. <sup>3</sup>I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name "The LORD" I did not make myself known to them. <sup>4</sup>I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they resided as aliens. <sup>5</sup>I have also heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are holding as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. <sup>6</sup>Say therefore to the Israelites, "I am the LORD, and I will free you from the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgement. <sup>7</sup>I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has freed you from the burdens of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup>I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.'" <sup>9</sup>Moses told this to the Israelites; but they would not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and their cruel slavery.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY (ELW): Psalm 124

*The refrain is first introduced by the leader, then repeated by the assembly.*



We have es-caped like a bird from the snare of the fowl - er.

Psalm 124:7

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

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<sup>1</sup>If the Lord had not been | on our side,

let Isra- | el now say;

<sup>2</sup>**if the Lord had not been | on our side,**

**when enemies rose | up against us,**

<sup>3</sup>then would they have swallowed us | up alive

in their fierce | anger toward us;

<sup>4</sup>**then would the waters have | overwhelmed us**

**and the torrent gone | over us;**

<sup>5</sup>then would the | raging waters

have gone right | over us.

<sup>6</sup>**Blessed | be the Lord**

**who has not given us over to be a prey | for their teeth. REFRAIN**

<sup>7</sup>We have escaped like a bird from the snare | of the fowler;

the snare is broken, and we | have escaped.

<sup>8</sup>**Our help is in the name | of the Lord,**

**the maker of heav- | en and earth. REFRAIN**

## SECOND READING: Colossians 1:9-14

*The letter to the Colossians begins by reminding its hearers that they are part of God's kingdom, and are inheritors of God's protection and blessings.*

A reading from Colossians.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW #169



Cantor: *Go and make disciples of all nations, | says the Lord;\**  
*I am with you always, to the end | of the age. (Matt. 28:19, 20)*



## **GOSPEL: Matthew Luke 1:57-75**

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*The birth of John the Baptist represents the fulfillment of God's promises to ancient Israel in the coming of Jesus Christ.*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>57</sup>Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup>Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. <sup>59</sup>On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. <sup>60</sup>But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' <sup>61</sup>They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' <sup>62</sup>Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. <sup>63</sup>He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. <sup>64</sup>Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. <sup>65</sup>Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. <sup>66</sup>All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. <sup>67</sup>Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:  
<sup>68</sup> 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.  
<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a mighty savior for us  
in the house of his servant David,  
<sup>70</sup> as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,  
<sup>71</sup> that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.  
<sup>72</sup> Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,  
and has remembered his holy covenant,  
<sup>73</sup> the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,  
to grant us <sup>74</sup>that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,  
might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness  
before him all our days.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



<sup>32</sup>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— <sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight...

<sup>1</sup>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

(Hebrews 11:32-34; 12:1)

***Renewal of Strength  
With Eagles' Wings in Times of Crisis***

**Part 2: "Your Powerful Inheritance"**

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -  
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is

fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our

chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with

souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,  
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
 many may come to hear your Word,  
 who here this promise is bringing:  
 "I know my own, my own know me;  
 you, not the world, my face shall see;  
 my peace I leave with you. Amen."

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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*After each petition: "Lord in your mercy," the assembly responds **"Hear our prayer."***

With the whole family of God, let us pray for the church, the world and one another.

Holy Lord, the church is your treasured possession. Make it a witness to your grace which sustains it through trial and tribulation. Let it be known as a generous, compassionate, thoughtful and hopeful voice in troubled times as it waits to be gathered together once more. May songs of praise and thanksgiving soon ring from its walls.

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

We at Dove of Peace are each a part of the body of Christ. Help us grow in knowledge and understanding as we seek spiritual wisdom. Give us the patience we need, and do not allow a broken spirit to keep us from listening for your will in our lives. If we are fearful or doubting, renew our courage by the sound of your footsteps by our side. Remind us to be ever grateful, for you rescue us from the powers of darkness.

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

Dear God, your people are confronted by many afflictions. It seems that we are being swallowed up by an unrelenting global pandemic; by racial tension and violence; by political partisanship. There are disastrous storms, fires, floods and droughts disrupting lives and destroying all that people hold dear. We long for escape, and pray for restoration. Bring order and peace back into our lives and our society.

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

Almighty God, we lift before you all who govern the nations of the world. We pray they would exercise their authority in a spirit of wisdom, justice and service to their people, that wars may cease and people may live in safety and peace.

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

Loving God, attend all who are in need. We pray especially for the ill, the hungry, the lonely and despairing. We pray for the lost, and those who have no one to pray for them. We pray for our friends, our neighbors, and our loved ones. As you see and understand their need, bring the fullness of your healing to their situations.

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

O Lord, we join the saints of all time in marching toward Zion, the beautiful city of God, where we will rejoice as we claim our inheritance in fairer worlds on high. In this time and place we again recall the prayer that Jesus taught us:

## MEDITATION / THE LORD'S PRAYER

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*The Lord's Prayer*  
Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)

Eric Holtan, baritone  
Kevin Seal, pipe organ

*An organist for silent films, Albert Hay Malotte eventually began composing music for films, including several Disney full-length pictures and a number of their short animated "Silly Symphonies." Malotte isn't widely known for nor prolific in classical composition, but his setting of the Lord's Prayer became a much-loved classic. Versions of it sung by numerous pop, country and classical stars have made it a mainstay in both the church and the popular culture.*

## **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.  
There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free,  
there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.  
And if you belong to Christ,  
then you are Abraham's offspring,  
heirs according to the promise. [Galatians 3:27-29]

Claim your inheritance.

Almighty God, Father, Son  $\text{✠}$ , and Holy Spirit  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.  
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,  
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

The musical score is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a four-part harmony (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a harmony line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963  
Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

Chaconne in F Minor, P. 43  
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*Before the outbreaks of respiratory illness that have defined most epidemics of the 20th and 21st centuries, the infectious disease most closely associated with mass deaths was undoubtedly the bubonic plague. While the plague is most well known for the wide-scale outbreaks during Medieval times, isolated outbreaks continued for hundreds of years following the pandemic of the mid 1300s. Johann Pachelbel was a major German Baroque composer, and was highly influential on the young J. S. Bach. In 1681, he married Barbara Gabler, and they had a son. Tragically, in 1683, both Barbara and their young son died in an outbreak of the bubonic plague in Erfurt, Germany. This chaconne is one of Pachelbel's most significant organ works. A chaconne is a set of variations over a repeating bass line, and Pachelbel is highly inventive in creating a wide variety of compositional motives and textures over a simple descending bass line. -- Kevin*

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**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

Cantor: Eric Holtan  
Intercessor: Dianne Huston  
Lector: Chris Alexander