

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**August 8, 2021**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude

Welcome

\* God's Greeting

\* We Greet One Another

**Christ be with you.**

**And also with you!**

\* Call to Worship (Psalm 95:1-3)

*Come, let us sing to the Lord!*

**Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.**

*Let us come to him with thanksgiving.*

**Let us sing psalms of praise to him.**

*For the Lord is a great God,*

**A great king above all.**

\* Opening Song: "Sing to the King"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #474*

Sing to the King who is coming to reign, Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain,  
Life and salvation his empire shall bring and Joy to the nations when Jesus is King.

Come let us sing a song, a song declaring that we belong to Jesus; he is all we need.

Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

For his returning we watch and we pray; We will be ready the dawn of that day.

We'll join in singing with all the redeemed, 'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.

Come let us sing a song, a song declaring that we belong to Jesus; he is all we need.

Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

\* Opening Prayer

**WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

**We confess sometimes we are caught up in our own lives and know only our own wants.**

**We have forgotten that we are yours.**

**Our daily activities fall short of being a living testimony of your glory and grace.**

**We forget the promises you have made and stray from a life led by faith.**

**Help us to set aside our busy and strained lives to seek you. Draw us close.**

**Help us to remember your promises and make us witnesses to the world for you.**

God's Words of Assurance (Psalm 103:8-14)

*The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.*

Song of Response: "Create in Me a Clean Heart" *Sing! A New Creation #49*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and renew a right spirit within me.

Congregational Prayer

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Children's Message

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:31-35, 44-46

<sup>31</sup> He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. <sup>32</sup> Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

<sup>33</sup> He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

<sup>34</sup> Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. <sup>35</sup> So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

"I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world."

<sup>44</sup> "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

<sup>45</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. <sup>46</sup> When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Message: "Stories with Intent: Small Beginnings"

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayer of Application

\* Song of Response: "Seek Ye First" *Lift Up Your Hearts #899*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;  
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

## **WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "My Friends May You Grow in Grace" *Lift Up Your Hearts #938*

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.

\* Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

Children's Message: Deb Niehof

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend and Tara Tilstra