

Sunday Devotion for Martin Luther Church

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 16, 2020

A warm welcome to watch this devotion and related videos at
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIjEQnirqCMNkBV-QqzxJxaPYlzxWkjbn>

Introduction

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A. GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

P: Each one of us here is different.

A: **We are unique individuals.**

P: We come from various backgrounds.

A: **We come with differing needs and dreams.**

P: Yet the one who created us calls us to worship in unity.

A: **Praise be to God who blesses our diversity and our unity. Amen.**

Gathering Song: We Come to You for Healing, Lord ELW 617 (*See next page*)

Greeting

P: The grace of our Saviour Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, **your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

B. WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Psalm 67

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

We Come to You for Healing, Lord



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

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**²Let your way be known upon earth,
 your saving health among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
 let all the peoples praise you.

**⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
 for you judge the peoples with equity
 and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
 let all the peoples praise you.

**⁶The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.
Amen.

Gospel Acclamation ELW 172

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

P: The Holy Gospel as revealed in Paul's letter to the church in Rome.

A: **Glory to you O' Lord.**

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

P: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon by Vicar Adam McComb

Hymn of the Day: Healer of our Every Ill ELW 612



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
- 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
- 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen

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Affirmation of Faith

We believe **it is a matter of faith to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves.**

We believe it is a matter of faith to recognize equally and love all members of God's human family whatever their race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental capacity.

We believe God's creation is good, beautiful, sacred and therefore to condemn any portion of God's creation is to condemn a portion of God. This is sin.

We believe Jesus Christ came to us to free all people from sin and to make disciples—people willing to live Christ’s discipline of love and justice for all.

We believe the Holy Spirit is that power within us that gives us courage and stamina to face the truth and to live it, even to die for it, as Jesus died.

We believe in the resurrection, the victory over death, the truth that is life for all in Jesus’ name. Glory be to God, the One in Three: Creator, Saviour, and Holy Power of Love. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God, you gather the church to be part of your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside his people, help your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might reject. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant your grace to all your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by garbage, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air all creatures need to live. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. We continue to offer prayers for the people in Lebanon as they recover from disaster and face questions of leadership. Bless them and us and make your face shine upon all. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and town, and for those who need your healing. Today we lift up Jeff, Geri, Jens, Waltraud, Horst and the McGowan family, especially Betty, Anni, Betty, Tony, and Anne D. We also pray for the Lutheran Church in Peru who mourn the death of their Bishop, Adita Torres. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who have celebrated their birthdays this week, especially: Isabella, Bruno, Klara, and Alexandra. Bless them in the year ahead as they continue their journey of life and faith. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregations of Redeemer and Martin Luther Church grace to find our life refreshed in you. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us for mission in your name. Guide our many ministries in our challenges and in our joys, especially our refugee committee who celebrate the arrival of the Barsoum family to Canada this week. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints, join us also with them on the great day of your salvation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

P: For your Word of life, O God,

A: **we give you thanks and praise.**

The Lord`s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed by thy name

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

And the power, and the glory,

Forever and ever.

Amen.

C. SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Sending Song: Go, My Children, With My Blessing ELW 543 *(See next page)*

Dismissal

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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Announcements

In light of COVID-19, **all meetings and worship services are taking place virtually.**

- Sunday [Video Worship Services](#): Live-streamed at 10:00 am on Zoom (link sent by office) and [Facebook](#) at Redeemer Lutheran Church; recording shared on our [YouTube Channel](#). Please subscribe and comment.
- German [Radio Devotions](#) on our website and Sundays at 9.30 am on CHLO Radio AM 530
- [Virtual Sunday Coffee Hour](#) on Zoom following our livestreamed video services (same link as for Sunday service)
- [Sunday School lessons](#) (April-June) on our website
- [Virtual Coffee Shop Talk](#), Mondays 7:00-9:00 pm on Zoom led by Vicar Silke Fahl. Email vicarfahl@martinluther.ca to sign up.
- [Virtual Prayer Circle](#), Wednesdays 5:30-6:00 pm through Zoom led by Solveig Christina Voss; we also have a Prayer Request Wall in the Church Foyer
To request a prayer or join our prayer circle, email prayers@martinluther.ca.
- [A Summer with Romans](#):
 - ◊ Sermon Series until August 30
 - ◊ Bible Study on Sunday's sermon text: Wednesdays until August 26. A 30-minute weekly discussion of Paul's letter to the Romans. Two opportunities: Roman Coffee at 8:30 am and Roman Lunch at 12:15 pm. Email vicarsmith@martinluther.ca to sign up.
- [Give Peas a Chance](#)- A grow some, give some movement hosted by Martin Luther and Redeemer Lutheran with donated seeds.
- [Masks for Good](#) - A project to ensure that everyone who wants to protect themselves from the virus has access to masks. Everyone who wants to get involved can find an activity that suits them. Contact Vicar Adam McComb if you'd like to volunteer, vicarmccomb@martinluther.ca
- [Corona-Care Calls](#)- Volunteers are continuing to call you with more information and to understand your needs. Let us know if you'd like to join the call team!
- Please phone or email the church office:
 - ◊ if we can help you in any way or to give feedback on what we're offering
 - ◊ if you'd like to volunteer by reading during Sunday services
 - ◊ to support our church and [donate](#). Best ways are PAR or send cheque to church office.

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*Member of Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) &
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