

# Sunday Devotion for Martin Luther Church

12th Sunday after Pentecost, August 23, 2020

**A warm welcome to watch this devotion and related videos at**  
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIjEQnirqCMOZaorilPeYZT5gFJjyebM2>

## Introduction

*Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.*

## A. GATHERING

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

### Prelude

### Words of Welcome & Announcements

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

**Gathering Song: I Come With Joy ELW 482 1, 4, 5** (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

**O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## B. WORD

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

### Psalm 138

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup>**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

<sup>4</sup>**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

# I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
 that great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
 perceiving the haughty from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
 you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
 your right hand shall save me.

**<sup>8</sup>You will make good your purpose for me;  
 O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;  
 do not abandon the works of your hands. 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 12:1-8

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

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

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

P: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon by Vicar Jordan Smith

**Hymn of the Day: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW 588** *(See next page)*

### Prayers of Intercession

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

## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;  
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.  
 Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

### Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: **And also with you.**

### Thanksgiving for the Word

P: 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**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending Song: Lord You Give the Great Commission ELW 579 1, 2, 5**  
*(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.**

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## Lord, You Give the Great Commission



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and  
2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -  
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
4 Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the  
all that you so free - ly give. May your care and  
may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:  
mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:

### *Refrain*



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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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