

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 30, 2020**



**GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF*  
*THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)*

*Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away.  
We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!*

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!  
Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service.*

***Our Congregation's Mission Statement:  
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE***

***The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran***

*Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior*

*Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us*

*Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ*

*Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage*

*Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully*

*Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts*

**[www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT](http://www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT)**

**Check out our GROWING website at [www.GoldHillLutheran.org](http://www.GoldHillLutheran.org)**

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**Today's Worship Leader**

**Worship Leader:**

**Pastor Marlow Carrels**

**Lector:**

**Heatherlynn Meeks**

**Music Leader:**

**Dorothy Schultz**

**Ushers:**

**Chris Ketchum, Jeanette Nielsen**

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Bolded texts are said in unison.

**Gathering**

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

**Invocation**

We gather in the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin  
to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

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**

**Announcements**

*Entrance Hymn: Blest Be the Tie That Binds ELW 656*

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear
- 4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign  
through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

**Greeting**

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.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**O God,  
we thank you for your Son,  
who chose the path of suffering  
for the sake of the world.  
Humble us by his example,  
point us to the path of obedience,  
and give us strength to follow your commands,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen**

## **Word**

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

### **Blessing of Lectors**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from you. Bless those who will read to us the scriptures. Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

### **First Reading:**

### **Jeremiah 15:15-21**

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name,

O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,

nor did I rejoice;

under the weight of your hand I sat alone,

for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing,

my wound incurable,

refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,

like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back,

and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,

you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,

not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people

a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,

but they shall not prevail over you,

for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you,  
says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8**

Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

**Test me, O Lord, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.**

For your steadfast love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.

**I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**Lord, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

**Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the

wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28**

*As the gospel is announced:*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

*As the gospel is concluded:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Marlow Carrels

***Hymn of the Day: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ELW 504***

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
a sword and shield victorious;  
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
and wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe  
has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might  
he arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be?  
The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land  
all threat'ning to devour us,  
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
they cannot overpow'r us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage;  
in battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgement must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide,  
no thanks to foes, who fear it;  
for God himself fights by our side  
with weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house,  
goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
though life be wrenched away,  
they cannot win the day.  
The kingdom's ours forever!

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**  
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**  
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended into hell. \***  
**On the third day he rose again.**  
**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again 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**

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*\*Or, He descended to the dead.*

## **The Prayers**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation,  
let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

*Each portion of the prayer concludes:*

**Hear our prayer.**

## **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **Meal**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **Offering Prayer**

God of goodness and growth,  
all creation is yours,  
and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.  
Water and word, wine and bread:  
these are signs of your abundant grace.  
Nourish us through these gifts,

that we might proclaim your steadfast love  
in our communities and in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Although our road has been stony going, you have given us the power to stand firm in the face of wickedness and to rejoice in triumph over death and the grave. And so, with the multitude from east and west, from north and south, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we lift our voices in the unending hymn:

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts to establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to receive our Redeemer who comes to us in his body and blood.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours,  
almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be 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**

## **Distribution of Communion**

### **Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of the welcome table,  
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness  
and have been united by your presence among us.  
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts  
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,  
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

**Amen**

*Silence for reflection.*

## **Sending**

### **Benediction**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus.  
God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen**

*Sending Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus ELW 742*

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear –  
all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!
  
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged –  
take it to the Lord in prayer  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness –  
take it to the Lord in prayer.
  
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge –  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**