

Dear members and friends of MCLC,

I send you love and greetings from Pastor Dan, Sue, Richard, Roberta, Kaye, Joanna and me— your MCLC staff. We are holding all of you in prayer as we adjust to a new way being for an unknown time. A parishioner with whom I spoke on the phone summed it up well. She said that what we are experiencing probably is something none of us had imagined or planned for in our minds. We are required to adjust to being apart physically. How hard this is for us to do! Even this week of social distancing feels long to me.

**After prayerful consideration, your staff and leadership have decided to suspend all worship services, church events, and outside building use groups until further notice.**

Now more than ever, we need each other. As Christians, we believe that we CAN be together in spirit even when we are not together physically. Christ himself said, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” (Matt. 18:20) He also said, “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:20) Paul reminds us, “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.” (I Cor. 12:27). During this difficult time, we can know that we are not alone and trust in Christ’s presence and His strength.

We are thankful for the technology that allows us to stay connected as best we can. Your church staff has been working hard this past week to **bring you Sunday worship over the internet or by phone**, for however many Sundays we need to observe social distancing.

We also have added other “virtual” opportunities throughout the week to keep us connected to one another. You will see a snapshot of those offerings in the bulletin you receive today. Look for more information on our website ([www.minnehahacomunion.org](http://www.minnehahacomunion.org)) or in the upcoming Illuminator.

With the bulletin you receive today, we invite you to follow along as you connect with the service online or over the phone. In this way, we still can “gather” virtually.

I also want to give you an update on Pastor Dan’s and my plan to complete our time here at MCLC on June 7<sup>th</sup>. **Given the current COVID 19 crisis, Pastor Dan and I will plan to remain and serve among you until we are able to come together again, in person, as a community. If social distancing lasts longer than June 7<sup>th</sup>, we will stay.** We want to be here for you during this time and offer our support. We care deeply for you and pray not only for your physical well-being, but also for your emotional and spiritual well-being. ***With God’s help, we WILL get through this together.***

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Sally

# Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church

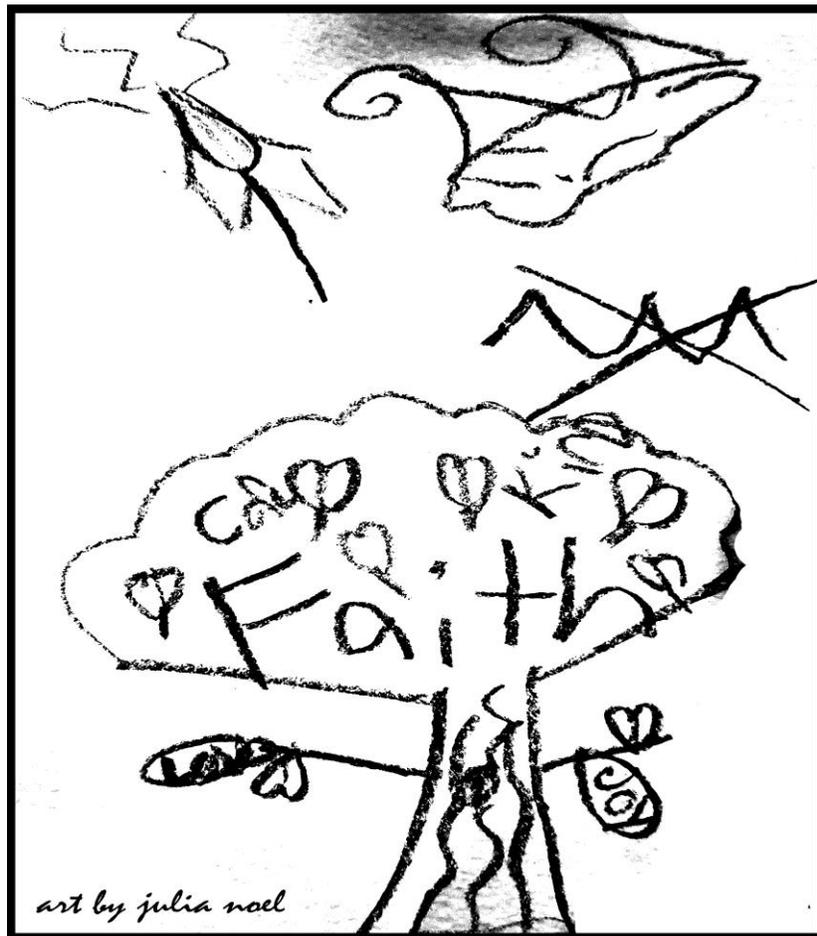
*"Building Relationships with Christ and Each Other"*

4101 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

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[www.minnehahacommunion.org](http://www.minnehahacommunion.org)



*Sunday, March 22, 2020*

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

A special welcome to all visitors, it is an honor to worship with you.  
Please sign a visitor's card found in your pew and place in the offering plate or hand it to  
an usher.

# *Welcome to Worship at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church!*

## **Worship Information**

Welcome to our new way of “being community” for worship! While our preference would be to be together in person, in these unique times we are grateful we can at least be together virtually, as we always are in spirit.

This is a new venture for us, so please be patient as we learn the ins and outs of technology. If you would like your own copy of the Lutheran Book of Worship to follow along – and sing along! – please know there are copies for you to take located in the Little Library in front of the church. As always, weekly scripture texts can be found in the Illuminator or on the website.

**Hymns and liturgies** for the service today are included in the bulletin. The congregation reads aloud anything in bold print following the “C”.

**For the sharing of the peace**, we invite you to verbally greet those who are also listening/viewing the service, and/or text someone you know with a greeting of peace.

**For the offering**, you may either use that time to submit online, address an envelope for mailing, or simply remain in prayer until the singing of the offertory hymn.

## **Children Welcome!**

Children remain an essential and welcome part of our community. You will note that the Children’s Message is still in the service. We are also inviting children to create artwork for the cover for the bulletin. Please send or email your drawings to the church – Mom or Dad can help you with that.

# ***BRINGING GOD'S HOPE, HEALING AND WHOLENESS THROUGH WORSHIP***

## **CENTERING**

*In our busy, fractured life, there may be little time to think, to gather ourselves, to consider what is important. This is an intentional time to find a place of calm and to prepare through silent prayer and contemplation. Even in a small amount of time, we can reconnect with ourselves and with God.*

PRELUDE    *“Two Settings of the 23rd Psalm”*    Larry Shackley and John Carter  
(These two well-known tunes are known as “Brother James’ Air”  
and “Resignation.”)

## CHIMES

PRELUDE    *“Sweet Hour of Prayer”*

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **GATHERING TOGETHER**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Here we let go of our disappointments and failures of the week, trusting in God’s ability to ‘remember our sins no more’ so our present will not be clouded by our past and our future will be open to possibility.*

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**C: Amen.**

L: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

L: Receive good news: God turns to you in love. “I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.

**C: Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

## GATHERING HYMN "Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer"



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on



pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es,



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

*Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. composite, alt. Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932. Text, music, arr. public domain.*

## GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

**C: Bend your ear to our prayers, O Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## DWELLING IN THE WORD

*Hearing God's love and guidance by listening to the Word, we find meaning in our experiences so we can move forward with faith and confidence.*

### FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord's chosen successor to Saul.*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup>He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." <sup>7</sup>But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." <sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one."

<sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

L: Word of God, word of life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 23

*You anoint my head with oil. (Ps. 23:5)*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord | is my shepherd;  
I shall not | be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my | soul, O Lord,  
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the | Lord forever.**

PSALM REFLECTION    *“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*    John Ness Beck

### SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

*Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.*

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—

<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out

what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but

instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do

secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that

becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

L: Word of God, word of life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

L: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 9th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Sally Ankerfelt

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

*Singing together reminds us that we all have a place in the choir; we all are important to the Body of Christ in our own, unique way. Christ’s body in this world is enhanced through our collective voices.*



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant  
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.  
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
 thine unction grace bestoweth;  
 and, oh, what transport of delight  
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,  
 thy goodness faileth never.  
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
 within thy house forever.

*Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877. Tune: Irish. Text and tune public domain.*

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES CREED

**C: We are not alone, we live in God’s world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our life and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

## **PRAISING TOGETHER**

*Together we lift up our joys and concerns. By doing so, we grow as a God-formed community and we are reminded that we are not alone.*

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Merciful Shepherd, in the stillness of our souls we listen for your voice. Quiet our anxious hearts with the knowledge that you are near us, keeping watch over your flock, sustaining us with your never-ending love. Comfort us in our valleys, that we may go forth with confidence into each new day ahead. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Merciful Shepherd, bring peace to all peoples and nations. Anoint leaders who seek goodness, righteousness, and truth on behalf of all. Frustrate the efforts of any who would seek to cause divisiveness or terror, exploitation or harm. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Merciful Shepherd, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek you in prayer this day. We commend to you any in need, especially Bobbie Kuhlman; Norman Arlandson; Marlene Bolin; Verna McCarty; Al Loyva and Marge; Joyce Lovejoy; Shaersti (niece of Roxanne Dunlop); Carol (friend of Roxanne Dunlop); Doug Houge; André; Rob Winslow; Sara (daughter of Ruth Ellen Kimball); Norma (mother of Ruth Ellen Kimball); Megan Skalsky; and those we name in our hearts... Sustain those who work for the good of all, including health care workers, emergency responders, and all who work to care for our communities. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Merciful Shepherd, we remember all those who are impacted by the current pandemic. Grant wisdom, strength, and compassion to merchants, businesses, educators, local and national government officials, and all whose lives are upended by food or economic insecurity. Help us to be creative and loving in reaching out to others with your message of hope and healing. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: Merciful Shepherd, you call out to those who are asleep and awaken them to new life with you. We give thanks for your saints. Join us together with them as your children in this world and the next. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

L: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

OFFERING *“The God of Love My Shepherd Is”* Eric Thiman

### OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a  
right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from  
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: L: Let us pray.

**C: O Lord our God, you have commanded the light to shine out of darkness, and you have again brought us to your house of prayer to praise your goodness and ask for your gifts. Accept now in your endless mercy the sacrifice of our worship and thanksgiving, and grant us those requests which will be wholesome for us. Make us to be children of the light and of the day and heirs of your everlasting inheritance. Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of your mercies, your whole Church, all who join with us in prayer, all our sisters and brothers wherever they may be in your vast kingdom who stand in need of your help and comfort. Pour out upon them the riches of your mercy, so that we, redeemed in soul and body and steadfast in faith, may ever praise your wonderful and holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and always through all ages of ages. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

## SENDING US OUT IN SERVICE

*After hearing the Word, praying and praising God as a community, we are sent out strengthened and healed, knowing that our work is not in vain and encouraged to share God's love to our family, friends, neighbors and community.*

## BENEDICTION

L: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✠ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*“Rise Up, O Saints of God!”*



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;  
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;  
3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;  
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;  
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

*Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936. Text © 1978 Dr. Norman O. Forness, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used with permission, OneLicense #A-715410. Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893. Music public domain.*

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, set free to serve.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

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PASTORS: Dan and Sally Ankerfelt  
PARISH NURSE/DEACON: Sue Arens  
INTERN: Kaye Mills  
SEMINARY STUDENT: Joanna Kathol  
ORGANIST: Richard Duncan  
SECRETARY: Roberta Edstrom  
ATTENDANCE March 15: 42

**Long-Term Prayer Requests:** Allen Eckman; Linda Erickson (sister of Vicky Anderson and daughter of Dave and Ruby Anderson); Jean Lougee; Leroy Foslien; Alyssa LaFountain; Jon Borodine; Rosemary Borodine; Carol Fisher; Brian Fisher; Michelle Halvorson; Karen Houge; Pete Cattrell; Jill M. (foster sister of Carole Olson); Shaunette Simmons (Aunt of Jalisa Davis); Michelle Mathis (aunt of Jalisa Davis); Julius Simmons (father of Jalisa Davis); Dennis Oberg; Cory Kahl (grandson of Bob Marshall); Amy M.; LC in Hong Kong; Yannick (friend of Roxanne Dunlop); Sidney Patnoe Hagelberger; Jamee Hagelberger

### THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sunday, March 22	9:45 AM MCLC Worship (call-in/Zoom)
Monday, March 23	11:00AM MCLC Staff Meeting
Tuesday, March 24	2:00 PM Tuesdays at Two (call-in)
Wednesday, March 25	10:30 AM Lenten Worship (call-in service)
Thursday, March 26	12:00 PM Zoom Meeting with Pastors
Friday, March 27	
Saturday, March 28	
Sunday, March 29	9:45AM MCLC Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Lenten Schedule – please note our online offerings*

During this Lent season we will have many different ways of participating in reflection and connection. All of the worship opportunities, and the locations for our Sent for Lent are available in the Illuminator, on our website, and on an info sheet for you take home with you and put on your fridge. These info sheets are available in the entrance of the church. Here are the descriptions of some of the events we are doing:

**Praying in Color** – Hello, Minnehaha Communion! I pray you are doing well and staying healthy. Due to the Corona Virus, the Praying in Color Bible Study that was scheduled for April 5th, 6th and 7th will no longer be taking place. However, because prayer is so important and central to our lives--especially during this time-- in the coming weeks the Praying in Color Bible Study will be posted on the church website and/or mailed to your home. The Bible study will offer you a variety of ways you can engage in and experiment with prayer and we hope it will be meaningful to you until we can meet in person again.

**Weaving** - Immersed in the rich stories of Jesus' ministry, our Lenten weaving will offer a tangible symbol of these themes. Throughout Lent, fabric strips symbolizing various themes of the weekly texts will be added to the weaving. You are invited to watch (virtually) as the tapestry grows. If you took a strip home and wish it added to the weaving, slip it into the drop box/mail slot at the door of MCLC and we will see that it is added!

### **Week 4, March 22 – 28**

This week's texts include Psalm 23, a favorite of many. As you read again the descriptions of green pastures, still waters, and the valley of the shadow of death, what speaks to you? John tells us of the man born blind, who washed in the pool of Siloam (more water!) and had his sight restored. How does the movement from darkness to light speak to you?

### *Special Guest*

A special thank you to Lisa Habeck for her musical contributions to our service this morning. Lisa will be with us again next week, as well as on Palm Sunday.

### *Family Game Day at Church – Saturday, March 28, 1:00-4:00 pm*

**POSTPONED** - Any questions, call Bobbie Kuhlman, 612-724-3952.

### **Something New!**

Join us virtually on Tuesday afternoons for *Tuesdays at Two*, a musical offering from Richard Duncan featuring familiar and well-loved hymns played on our glorious organ and grand piano at MCLC - which you can hear from the comfort of your own home! The hour will feature hymns, a bit of background on the pieces, and an opportunity to request hymns as well. Be warned - we may ask you why the hymn is special to you! Working with phone - and perhaps video - technology, you will be able to hear Richard and the other guests, building on the sense of community we are trying to maintain. All you need to do is **call 1/605-475-3235, enter the access code 639776#** at 2:00 pm on Tuesdays, "announce" yourself (Hi, it's me!) and enjoy a musical interlude in these chaotic times. Video information will be shared as it becomes available. We *will* get through this - and music is a tremendous tool to help!

### **First Talk about Last Things - POSTPONED**

Session 3 of First Talk about Last Things, *In Sure and Certain Hope*, will be postponed until a future date. Since a prime value of the sessions are the discussions, it seems prudent to wait until such interaction does not put anyone at risk! In the meantime, if you should need information on end of life resources or funeral planning, please let Sue Arens know and she can email you the forms and can chat over the phone. Wishing you all peace and calm in these anxious times!

### **Easter Flowers**

We will have the flowers on display during our first in-person service when we are able to do that. We will be listing the names in honor of and in memory of in the May Illuminator and also an upcoming bulletin. If you still want to order flowers, the deadline is Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. You can call the church office at 612/722-9527 and we will fill a form out for you. The option of donation to the Minnehaha Food Shelf in lieu of flowers is also available.

### **You Are Invited to a Conversation about upcoming pastoral vacancy, Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> - POSTPONED**

### **Donate to MCLC from Your Smart Phone**

Minnehaha Communion offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image shown here using your phone's QR code reader or go to [www.minnehahacommunion.org](http://www.minnehahacommunion.org) and click on "Give" in the upper right hand corner.

