



Sunday, September 3, 2017
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

“The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering, yet finds in God’s words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn’t grasp Jesus’ words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.”

Peace be to you

We are glad you're with us this morning.

As we gather for worship you may have some questions on your mind like “how should I be feeling?” or “where should I sit?” Have no fear because some of us have been here a long time and some are brand new. We gather this morning as we are. Maybe you had a sleepless night or a long week. No matter what please know that YOU are welcome here. You can be you but our Hope at New Hope is that you come away refreshed, uplifted and touched by God in some way. Thanks for being here.

As we gather...

We are part of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are Saint and Sinner, Christian, we are children of God, we are husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, grandparents and so much more. The lens that we look through the scriptures with is called Lutheran. There's much more to it than that but we trust, through the Holy Spirit, in the big word that starts with G, Grace! JESUS LOVES YOU!

We love to pray. In fact one of the ways we pray is through a prayer station that has candles and a place to write your prayers if you choose. Its located on the right side wall next to the door that goes outside. Simply take a candle and light it from another candle that's lit, if there are no candles lit there are matches available. Write down your prayer or person to pray for and that will be included during the prayers of intercession in worship.

Restrooms are located throughout the building. The first is the second door on your right as you enter through the main doors, this is also the location of a baby changing station and is unisex. The other two are located in the long hallway, just across from the main doors.

Questions about children: Children are always welcome in worship. However for your convenience there is a cry room located in the long hallway, first door on your left. If your child needs to be taken out for a few moments please feel free, you won't disturb worship. We simply ask you bring your child back into worship as soon as you feel is it appropriate. We want nothing more than for your child, and you, to have a positive and meaningful experience while at New Hope.

Kallistos Ware writes “It is not the task of Christianity to provide easy answers to every question, but to make us progressively aware of a mystery. God is not so much the object of our knowledge as the cause of our wonder.”

Gather-Word-Meal-Send: Join with us in the mystery...

AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

PRELUDE

P. Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Please stand as you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P. Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us,
the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C. **Amen.**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P. Source of all life,

C. **we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.**

We fear that we are not good enough.

**We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.**

Forgive us. Stir us.

**Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right,**

act for what is just,

and seek the healing of your whole creation.

Amen.

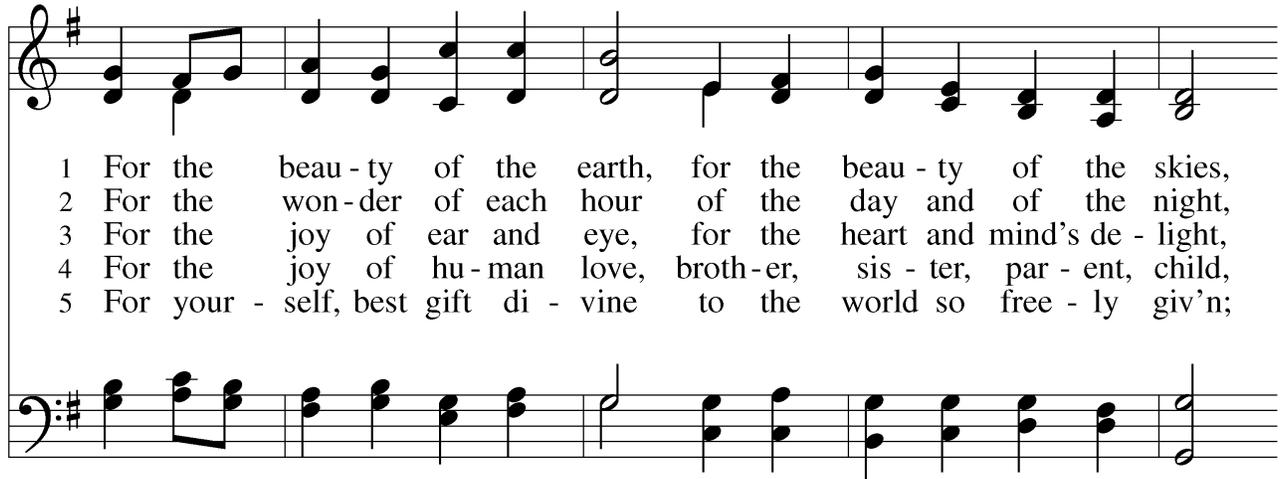
P. God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ☩ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C. **Amen.**

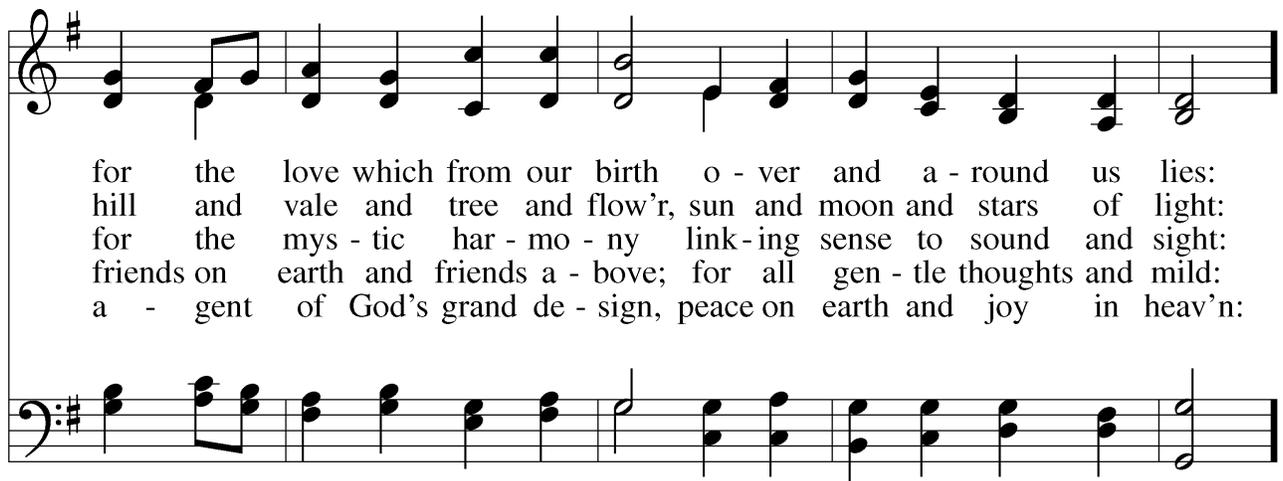
GATHERING HYMN

(sing verses 1-4 only)

For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For your - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly giv'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
a - gent of God's grand de - sign, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Refrain



Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

GREETING

P. 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise to You, O God of Mercy



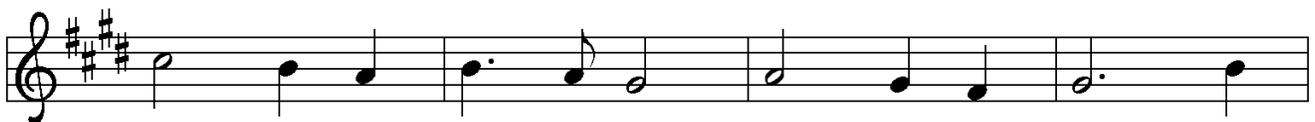
1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



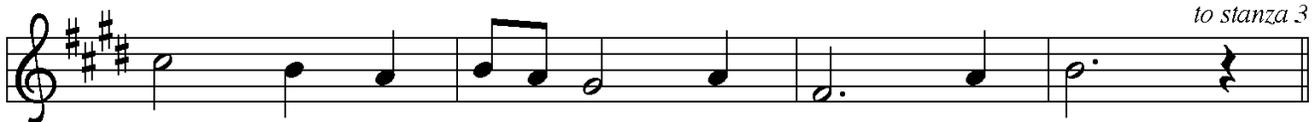
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

⊕ Coda



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. Let us pray,

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.

C. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

WORD

We Hear God's Story

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

R. A reading from Jeremiah, the 15th chapter.

¹⁵O 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.

¹⁶Your 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.

¹⁷I 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.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

(Continued on next page)

¹⁹Therefore 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.

²⁰And 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.

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

R. The word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM : Psalm 26:1-8

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

²**Test me, O | LORD, and try me;**
examine my heart | and my mind.

³For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴**I have not sat | with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with | the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,**
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

⁷singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell**
and the place where your glo- | ry abides.

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

R. A reading from Romans the 12th chapter.

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

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "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." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

R. The word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

- P. The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.
C. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

²¹From 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. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But 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.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

²⁶For 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?

²⁷“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. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

- P. The Gospel of our Lord.
C. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON Reverend LeRoy Reitz

HYMN OF THE DAY
(Please stand as you are able)

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God,
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

WE CONNECT TO GOD'S STORY

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**P. Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all
of God's creation.**

After each petition,

P. Lord, in your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

**P. Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting
the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.**

C. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C. And also with you.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

Offertory

(Please stand, as you are able)

We Are an Offering

We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

P. Let us pray.

C. **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.**

(Please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSINGS

Those desiring an individual blessing please come forward. There need not be a special occasion for a blessing. However, those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or preparing to travel are encouraged to come forward. Those struggling with life issues, are encouraged to come forward.

(After the Blessings Have Been Completed, Please Stand, as you are able)

SEND

We Are Sent to Tell God's Story

BENEDICTION

- P. God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:
Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
- C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Jesus, Still Lead On

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Worship has ended; let the service begin!”

We look forward to seeing you again.

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Pastor Brandon Cian

Jean Krum, Musician

People of New Hope, Ministers

Connect with us

New Hope: www.newhopespringmills.org

Allegheny Synod website: <http://www.alleghenysynod.org/>

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America www.elca.org

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We are a part of ...



Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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