

Time After Pentecost
8 September 2024

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Zoom by Telephone Dial 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #

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**+ HOLY COMMUNION – SETTING THREE +**

**ORGAN PRELUDE** “Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice”  
(#594) arr. J.P. Sweelinck

**GATHERING**

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**OPENING**

**BLESSING FOR ALL MINISTRIES**

**P** Gracious and loving God, we gather this morning in Your presence, grateful for the many ministries through which You work in our church. We ask for your blessing upon each ministry that your children engage with, that they may continue to serve as instruments of your grace and love.

**P** Almighty God, thank You for the gift of ministry and for the many ways You call us to serve.

**C Bless our ministries, O Lord, and fill them with Your Spirit.**

**P** May your ministries be a beacon of hope and a source of strength for all who seek Your presence.

**C Empower us to serve with joy and compassion.**

P Guide our leaders and volunteers, giving them wisdom and patience as they carry out your work.

**C Strengthen them with Your love and grace.**

P We pray that all those who are touched by your ministries may feel Your love and be drawn closer to You.

**C May Your light shine through us, bringing peace and healing to all.**

P As we go forth, may we be ever mindful of Your call to serve and to love one another.

**C Bless us, O Lord, that we may be a blessing to others. Amen.**

CATECHETIC MOMENT Proclamation #1

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pg. 94

GATHERING HYMN Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now **No. 527**

GREETING/ KYRIE

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HYMN OF PRAISE Glory to God

Pg. 139

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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P We pray. Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

**Isaiah 35:4-7a**

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 146** *Sung as* Praise the Almighty!

**No. 877**

**SECOND LESSON James 2:1-10, 14-17**

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Please stand as you are able.*

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**THE HOLY GOSPEL** **Mark 7:24-37** **C Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

**SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

No. 886

## APOSTLES CREED

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## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Please stand as you are able.*

The response to “*Lord, in your mercy,*” is “**hear our prayer.**”

A Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s beloved creation.

*A brief silence.*

A Gracious God, you call your church to proclaim the love of Christ to a needy world. Embolden us to be your risen body by welcoming strangers and serving our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Creative God, small sprouts and tall trees proclaim your majesty. Give us clear eyes to see nature’s beauty and wise minds to protect our home, this earth, from misuse and harm. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Sovereign God, you draw order from chaos. Watch over the nations of the world. Bless citizens and leaders who strive toward the beloved community for which you long. Let there be peace in all places and nations that are experiencing the horror of war. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Loving God, you give us all that we need. When your children suffer from hunger, poverty, loneliness, persecution, injury, or illness, send generous helpers and companions. We pray especially for Bruce Beamer, Anna Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Christine Cuch, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Norma Gummo, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, Sam Skogen, those we name aloud ... and those we carry in our hearts, Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A Welcoming God, you set a table for us. Embolden this congregation to seek new ways of inviting others to the feast of all creation Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A For those who serve in the holy catholic Church:

- for the National Church Council, and national committee members
- for all Area council members and Highwood's council members
- for our Synod Campus Ministries and especially for Rev. Andrea Wilhelm, Chaplain at University of Alberta, Augustana Campus
- those who serve as interim ministers, and for parishes who await pastoral leadership
- for St. Paul Lutheran, Rolly View, and Bethel Lutheran, Ryley
- for Divine Redeemer Congregation, Bucaramanga, Colombia
- for the pastors and people of the Lutheran Church in Tanzania
- the pastors and people of the Salvation Army of Canada and the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches

For all these, Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A You bless us with throngs of saints who witness to your compassion. With gratitude, we recall the lives and deeds of those who proclaim lovingkindness to a needy world. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping, Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. **C Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

Pg. 143

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

**C And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

*Please be seated. Setting of the table. Collection of Offerings*

**OFFERTORY**

“Light Dawns on a Weary World” (#726) William Rowan

**OFFERING PRAYER** General 2

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**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (I)**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (Version II)

Pg. 145

**THE FRACTION**

P We, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf and one cup.

**C Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Receive them in remembrance that Christ died for you.

**LAMB OF GOD**

Pg. 146

**THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Please be seated. Assistants and those in need commune first.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

**No. 620**

O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True

**No. 675**

**TABLE BLESSING** *Please stand as you are able.*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** General 2

Pg. 65

*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

**BENEDICTION**

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**SENDING HYMN** God, Whose Almighty Word

**No. 673**

**DISMISSAL**

Pg. 146

P Go in peace...

**C Thanks be to God!**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** *Toccata* in C J.P. Sweelinck

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WELCOME to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today's servants or speak with the pastor.

WE THANK TODAY'S SERVANTS

Usher:	Edward Smith
Lector:	Edward Smith
Assistant:	Pat Fedkenheuer
Altar Guild:	Our Volunteer
Refreshments:	Helga Weissenberger, Joly Mathew
Zoom Host:	Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Last week	1 September	Budget 2024
Current	\$3,529	\$2,911
Benevolence	\$ 0	
Building Fund	\$ 20	
Other	\$ 75	
Attendance	53	

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today	8 Sep	11:45 PM	Fellowship and Refreshments
		2:00 PM	CFMA Worship
Monday	9 Sep	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Tuesday	10 Sep	1:00 PM	HLW Bible Study
		6:30 PM	Never Alone Peer Support
Wednesday	11 Sep	9:30 AM	12 Step Program
		7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Friday	13 Sep	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Saturday	14 Sep	9:00 AM	House of Hope Worship

Sunday 15 Sep 10:30 AM Welcome Back Sunday
Communion Service

HIGHWOOD LADIES' BIBLE STUDY – Please mark your calendar for the first Bible Study starting on Tuesday 10 September at 1:00 PM downstairs. We are starting a new study (Growing Older and Wiser). We invite all ladies to bring a friend and join us for a couple of hours. Rides can be arranged with Pat, Clarice, or Helga.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for the September issue of the Highwood Highlights is Tuesday 10 September. We will publish a mid-month issue. Please email items of interest to secretaryhlc@outlook.com.

WELCOME BACK BBQ LUNCHEON - All are welcome to join us on 15 September for a great meal after the service. Sign-up downstairs and indicate how many people are attending.

HIGHWOOD SERVICE CHOIR – will begin again on Sunday, 15 September at 9:30 AM. We only practice on Sunday mornings and sing a variety of music for our services. All are welcome to join. If you have any questions, please talk to Rick Vander Woude or any other choir member.

HOTSHOTS LUNCH AND MOVIE on Tuesday, 17 Sept at 10:00 AM. Movie: “Walk the Line” All are welcome to bring a friend. Sign-up downstairs.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 50:4-9a
James 3:1-12

Psalms 116:1-9
Mark 8:27-38