



***Hope Lutheran Church
Home Worship
October 17, 2021 — Pentecost 21***

*We acknowledge our presence on the traditional territory
of the Snuneymuxw First Nation*

Welcome & Announcements

Thanksgiving at the Font

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn #732 Borning Cry

<https://youtu.be/PqOFmE6r2OI>

**I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.**

**When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.**

**In the Middle Ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.**

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The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Sovereign god, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Corner

First Reading – Isaiah 53:4-12

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Hebrews 5:1-10

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Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as it is said also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel – Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.' When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of

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all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.’

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Mark 10:35-45

I remember getting ready to go on a trip with some friends. The driver’s car had nice front seats, but the back was cramped. We all left the house in a hurry and one of my friends shouted “*Dibs on the front seat!*” while the rest of us groaned.

Having “*dibs*” comes from a childhood game that many of you probably played at one time or another. The game originated in the 1700s using small stones and a ball. The ball would be bounced and players took turns trying to grab the correct number of stones before it came down again. This game *Dibstones* later became known as “*Jacks*.” Having “*dibs*” was about being the first to win.

In the Gospel two disciples were trying to grab what they could before they lost the opportunity. They wanted “*dibs*.” However their plan was frustrated. Why not just be a servant instead of trying to be first?

Calling dibs

Jesus was moving toward Jerusalem... a place of trouble. There were encounters with women, men and children, seeking acceptance, forgiveness and grace. The disciples watched it all. Jesus talked about his suffering, crucifixion, death and rising at the end of the road. Followers were growing fearful, some moved slowly, and then there was James and John.

In most groups, a few have leadership skills, others pair up, and some work quietly in the background. James and John were called into situations (often with Peter)

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probably to develop natural leadership skills. It was easy for them to be at the head of the line because others would give way.

They sidled up to Jesus and asked for a favour. They wanted “dibs” on choice seats. However, they got more information than they bargained for when he answered, “*Sorry, can’t do that.*” Our prayers sometimes get such a response.

They claimed to be ready to drink the cup of suffering, and be baptized (or swamped) with the trouble coming for Jesus. He said, “*Yes you will get your share.*” Some years later, James was put to death by Herod Agrippa; and while on the cross, Jesus assigned John as caregiver for his mom Mary. Their original request was outside Jesus’ job description. What they really needed was to slow down and find God in the moment, even in pain, rather than get ahead of themselves. When Jesus was on the cross, everything slowed to a standstill. It was not until the disciples regrouped after Good Friday that they found their hope again.

Called together

Troubles always find us. They hurt us and we isolate ourselves, or we come together to sort things out. Strength and support are located by coming together.

It’s like the illustration of the pencils. One is easily broken, but a bundle is very strong.

James and John tried to step apart and appeal for preferential treatment. If they thought they were better or more deserving than the rest, Jesus didn’t buy into it. The others took offence. Hard feelings would take a toll, so he called everyone together.

I learned important things about community from Indigenous friends over the years: like experiencing the power of the circle where everyone is on an equal footing. The deep regard for women and their life giving role in community was displayed, as well as respect for the elderly and their quiet wisdom. Easy laughter always generated bright eyes and hearts. I learned that thriving follows mutual caring.

When we feel support we can manage. If we demand for ourselves, others are easily hurt and the world goes sour. “*Be there for each other, be servants, and create the world you want to live in,*” Jesus tells his friends.

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Called as servants

Having privilege doesn't help. Our identity is found by being servants. As the media shows us daily, we live in a world that wants more, and runs over the weak. Servants are rare and precious. They are light in a dark place. They lift people from the trash heap. They raise the dead. They ransom people from fear. On the cross, Jesus served us with unexpected hope. We are the servants.

We will have cups of suffering and may be swamped with troubles in life, but we are at our best: a community of care that works things out. We offer our gifts. Some of us are loud, strong and big as life; some are quiet and notice the little things. We stand together for what is right. We celebrate moments. We mourn losses.

Servants are the people of God. We have each other. We follow Christ. Our request is: ***How may we be of service?*** Our confidence is: ***We love because Christ first loved us.***

In this troubled world, may God give us hearts strong enough to greet each day and each person in it. We don't have to push for first *dibs* on anything. As servants we create the world we want to live in, one person at a time.

Amen.

Hymn #659 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

<https://youtu.be/MYpH3y4608E>

1. Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav-'lers on the road;

We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;

I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

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**5. Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

A Blessing of Delegates to the BC Synod Convention

LEADER: *Glenn Harvey, Lisbeth Scott, Terry Richardson* you have been chosen to be delegates at the BC Synod Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, “*Journey. Together: Liminal Space.*” We join with you and with the whole church in the confession of our faith.

The 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 to the dead. 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.

LEADER: You are sent as our delegates to this convention. Will you seek the guidance of God as you join others in making decisions for our synod? Will you bear the reconciliation of Christ as you work with others to determine the will of God for the future of our synod?

DELEGATES: *Yes, I pray that God will help and direct me.*

LEADER: People of God, will you support this delegate in prayer? Will you pray for our BC Synod in Convention?

CONGREGATION: **We will.**

The congregation extends their hands in blessing.

LEADER: *Glenn, Lisbeth, Terry,* we bless you as you go forth in the name of God to serve us and all the people of God in the work of our Synod Convention. May the light of Christ shine in you. May the Spirit of Christ guide you. May God bless you in your presence on *Zoom* during that time, the work of convention, and in your return from the gathering.

CONGREGATION: **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

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Remembering that your power is part of our daily journey, we pray for the life of the church, the world, and people who are hungry and needy.

A moment of silence

God of the incarnation of Christ, you named our senses good and blessed. In our tasting and touching, our smelling, hearing, and seeing, make us alive to the mystery of life. Inspire our daily attention to finding you and your power all around us in the ordinary and in the extraordinary. *You have promised to be with us always,* **SEND US LOVE, SEND US POWER, SEND US GRACE.**

God of holy imagination, you imagined the lights of the heavens and the textures of earth. You breathed delight into the power of the wind and painted the canvass of all creatures of earth, sea, and sky. Renew us in wisdom, for you are the midwife of all our holy beginnings. *You have promised to be with us always,* **SEND US LOVE, SEND US POWER, SEND US GRACE.**

You are always on the side of fairness and justice. Insinuate your values into our courtrooms, prisons, and in neighbourhoods. Guide those who manage great wealth to do so with integrity and generosity. *You have promised to be with us always,* **SEND US LOVE, SEND US POWER, SEND US GRACE.**

You know what exists deep within us--our truths and our falsehoods. You sit with us as we experience the heights and depths of human life. Lead us deeper and deeper into that inner universe where we commune with your wisdom and make it our own. *You have promised to be with us always,* **SEND US LOVE, SEND US POWER, SEND US GRACE.**

We pray for our partnership with the *Anglican Church of Canada* and other faith groups as we join hands around the world to help others. We pray for congregations of the BC Synod: *First Lutheran* in Vancouver and **Pastor Rebekah Swanson** and *Lutheran Campus Ministry* across Canada. *You have promised to be with us always,* **SEND US LOVE, SEND US POWER, SEND US GRACE.**

Help us to see among ourselves those who are hungry, who hurt, who have too much trial and too little blessing in their lives. Call out to us that we may recognize you within and among the hopeless and hurting ones--for you have made us one body in Christ. Hear our petitions for those whose names we say aloud or silently in our hearts...

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Annie; Barb; David; Doug Annable; Natalie Bowles; Ron Cantelon; Chantel & family; Haley; Jessica & family; Jordan & family; Mary & family; Louise; June H; Kira; Virginie Flacco; Chris Geberdt; Anne Glassford; Gary Granke; Kevin H; Doug Hainsworth; Dick Kelm & family; Louise Leahy & her large family; Carole & Clyde Ortner; Pat; Renata; Doris Schultz; Marie & Mike Strothotte; Sharon & Charlie; Tania Strauss; Janice; Zack...

*You have promised to be with us always, **SEND US LOVE, SEND US POWER, SEND US GRACE.***

We pray in the name of Christ: the Life that creates life, the Life that saves life, and the Life that loves life. **AMEN.**

The Peace [*unmute*]

The peace of Christ is with you always!

And also with you!

*(We greet each other gently with a wave, a smile,
or some other gesture of peace)*

The Meal

The Lord is 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, our duty and our joy, that we should at this time and at your table in our homes give you thanks and praise... separated and yet together....

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread (*raise the 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 (*raise 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.”**

And so, we turn our hearts to you...

Lord's Prayer song (*link line below*)

[Mixcord](#)

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**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Hallowed be your name, Hallelujah.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth
as in heaven, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**Give us today our daily bread, give us today our bread,
Give us our bread today, Hallelujah.
Forgive our sins as we forgive
Forgive our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**Save us from the time of trial, save us from the trial.
Deliver us from evil, Hallelujah.
For the kingdom and the power are yours,
The kingdom and the power are yours,
the glory now and ever, Hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah. Amen.**

Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

(If you are with someone else, say these words as you offer communion...)

Bread: “Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, given for you.”

Cup: “Take and drink, this is the blood of Christ, shed for you.”

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn: Before the Throne of God Above

<https://youtu.be/fAJyGZlbeTg>

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**1. Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**2. When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.**

**3. Behold Him there! The risen Lamb, My perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Saviour and my God,
With Christ my Saviour and my God.**

Go in peace! Remember the poor!
Thanks be to God!

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Worship Assistants Today

Hymnologist: (musician selecting hymns): *Cheryl Satre*

Reader: *Shirley Forwell*

Leader for Blessing of Delegates: *Pastor Carol Dennison*

Prayers: *Lisbeth Scott*

Zoom Hosts: *Gail Smith; John Musgreave (Back up); Sue Grant & Garth Wedemire; Glen Harvey; Steven Musgreave; Gerry Owen; Curt Satre;(Co-hosts).*

Readings for Sunday, October 24 - Pentecost 22
Jeremiah 31:7-9; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52