

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

a community of the cross

called to confess hope in action

worshiping · serving · inviting · connecting · giving · growing

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2020

5300 10th Avenue South · Minneapolis, MN 55417 · 612-825-6846 · nokomisheights.org
a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Nokomis Heights is a Reconciling In Christ (RIC) Congregation. We believe the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally, without regard to cultural or ethnic background; race; sexual orientation; gender identity; physical or mental abilities; socio-economic, marital, or family status; gender; or age. We welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, their partners and their families into full participation in the life and ministry of this congregation.

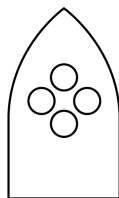
WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor	Marla Rotman
Children's Message	Elisabeth Pletcher
Organist	Julie Urban
Instrumentalist	Marit Aaseng, viola; Kim Bretheim, cello; Laura Bretheim, violin
Lector	Thomas Nelson
Vocalists	Kim Bretheim, Laura Bretheim, Sue Danielson Bretheim, Marit Aaseng

In our prayers this week: the family of Steffen Levine (Dee Levine's grandson), Casey Austad, Linda Austad, Rich Gronner; Mission Partners: Trinity and St. Peder's Lutheran churches, CES (Community Emergency Service), and Wapo Bible Camp

**Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. for worship
Find us online on Facebook and YouTube**

www.nokomisheights.org



**NOKOMIS
HEIGHTS**

Place of Worship. Space for Questions.

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 28, 2020

10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

McMichael

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: We are grateful for the gift of our lives and the gift of other people in our lives.

C: Each of us is created with dignity and worth.

L: We are called to love one another and to do nothing to others that we would find hateful to ourselves.

C: We honor the many ways that people live and love.

L: Our common life is enriched when lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender teens can live and learn without fear in their schools, homes, and communities.

C: True justice flourishes when all people can live with authenticity and integrity.

L: We repent of our silence in the face of cruelty in our schools and communities. Our silence leads to death.

C: We weep at this senseless loss of life.

L: We suffer when LGBTQIA persons are oppressed, excluded, and shamed by religious people who overlook the fundamental call to justice in our scriptures.

C: Love does not exclude. We are all worthy.

L: May we work to build a world where all people, no matter their perceived differences, are celebrated and loved.

C: We celebrate sexual and gender diversity as a blessing that enriches us all.

OPENING HYMN 453

See music on next page

“Baptized and Set Free”

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.

Baptized and Set Free

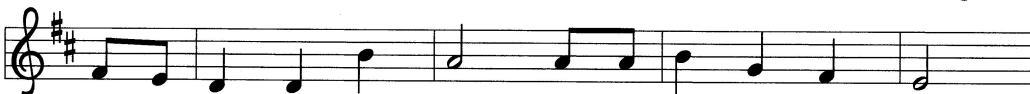
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1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: We pray together:

C: Creator God, we marvel in awe of the expansiveness of your creation. Your margins of diversity are boundless, and for that, we thank you. Each of our beloved LGBTQIA, brown, black, and indigenous siblings are beautifully and wonderfully made, all in your image. Teach us to love people, just as they are, and embrace their identity fully, as you have embraced us. Amen

WORD

THE READING

Acts 10:9-23

L: About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there.

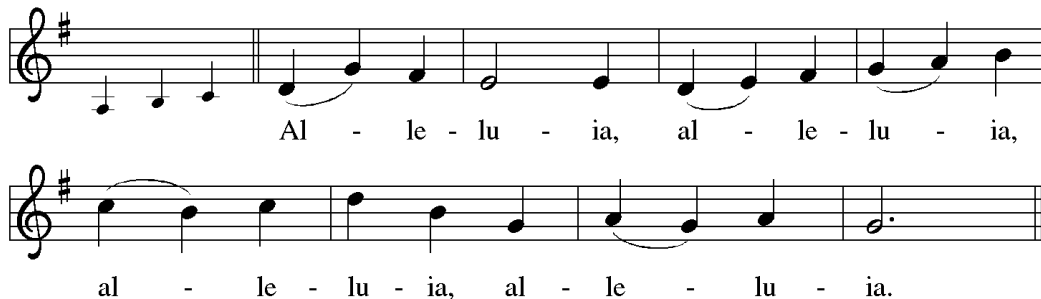
While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look, three men are searching for you. Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them." So Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?" They answered, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

L: The Gospel according to Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

L: Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

GOSPEL RESPONSE

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 641

See music on next page

"All Are Welcome"

All Are Welcome

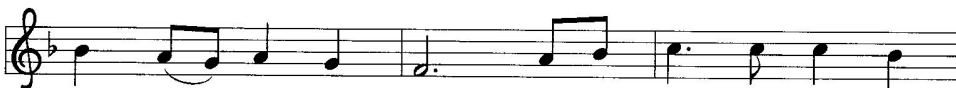
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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Introduction

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

A brief silence

L: God, our friend, you told our ancestors that the rainbow was a sign of your blessing and protection, especially after times of despair. We gather today, remembering all who have worked to make your church a place of invitation and welcome, without regard to cultural or ethnic background; race; sexual orientation; gender identity; physical or mental abilities; socio-economic, marital, or family status; gender; or age. Let us continue to extend the welcome.
Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We gather today, remembering those who have fought for LGBTQ equality under the law and in practice in the United States. Because of them, all are safe to gather here in public and to live in freedom. Let us not take those hard-fought freedoms for granted.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We gather today, remembering those for whom these freedoms are not yet realized. We pray for those who live under the threat of fear of intimidation, oppression, and violence by their neighbors or by the state. Let us always work for justice, lifting up those whose voices are unheard.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We gather today, remembering that your call to love our neighbors challenges even us. We are mindful that for some, welcome and celebration in families and faith communities is occasional or elusive. We gather, grateful that your church is a symbol of your all-inclusive love. Let that love flow through us.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Conclusion

L: This morning we raise our own rainbow. May it serve as a sign of hope, a sign of our commitment to justice, inclusion, and welcome, and of your love made real in us through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

SHARING THE PEACE

**L: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.**

OFFERING

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

McMichael

OFFERTORY RESPONSE 686 (st. 1)

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Merciful God,
you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.
Open our hands to receive you.
Open our hearts to embrace you.
Open our lives to live in you.
We pray this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

L: 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.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN 720

See music on next page

“We Are Called”

SENDING

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Moment of silence

POSTLUDE

“How Firm a Foundation”

McMichael

We Are Called

720



- 1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
- 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
- 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

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