

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

a community of the cross called to confess hope in action

worshiping \cdot serving \cdot inviting \cdot connecting \cdot giving \cdot growing

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020

5300 10th Avenue South $\,\cdot\,$ Minneapolis, MN 55417 $\,\cdot\,$ 612-825-6846 $\,\cdot\,$ 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

Pastors Kristen Capel, Steven Delzer

Pianist Julie Urban

Instrumentalist Carl Christopherson, piano

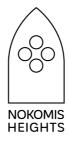
Vocalists Johan Christopherson, Carolyn Deters, Cindy Nelson, Tim Wicker

Lector Ruth, Julia, and Michael Murphy
Children's Message Pastor Steve Delzer and grandchildren

In our prayers this week: Casey Austad, Linda Austad, and Rich Gronner, the family of Cyrus Kingsberg; 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



Place of Worship. Space for Questions.

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

August 16, 2020 10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Allemande from French Suite No. Five in G Major" J.S. Bach

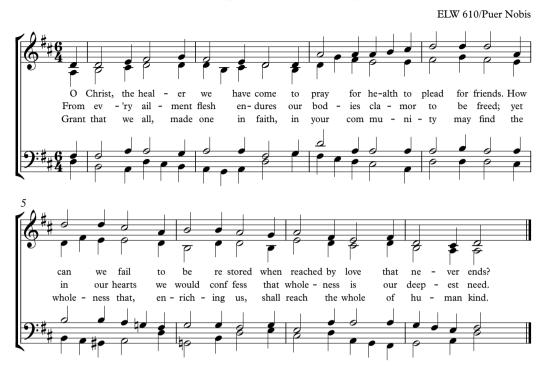
WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- L: God of all wonders, you have set us humans under the swirling stars and among the wild winds, hoping that—in your love—we will grow deep, sustaining roots.
- C: Though we are lost among our schedules and phones and emails and lists and we forget our roots.
- L: For the sake of living hopefully, remind us that your love has no end.
- C: We forget to be kind.
- L: For the sake of living joyfully, remind us to care for one another.
- C: We forget to be honest.
- L: For the sake of living peacefully, remind us that we are fragile.
- C: We forget to protect.
- L: For the sake of living faithfully, remind us that your creation is holy.
- C: We forget about breathing.
- L: For the sake of living powerfully, remind us of your peace.
- C: Forgive us, loving God.
- L: God of wonders, be with us. We rejoice in your forgiveness. Your love is all we need.
- C: Amen

OPENING HYMN 610 (st. 1-2, 4) **"O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come"** *See music on next page.*

610 O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come



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: We pray together:
- C: God of all hopefulness, fill our hearts with faith.
 Give us courage to believe in you
 and strength to believe in one another.
 For you are good, O God.
 Your steadfast love endures forever
 and your faithfulness extends to all generations.
 We rejoice, together, in you. Amen

WORD

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6-9

L: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

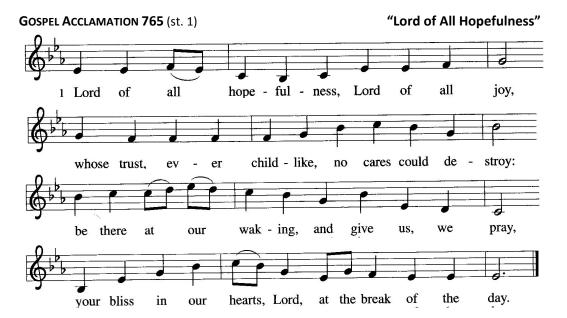
The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING Romans 15:13

L: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

- L: The Gospel according to Luke, the fifth chapter.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 5:17-26

L: One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you."

Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, "Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home." Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

GOSPEL RESPONSE

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sermon "Faith-FULL"

HYMN OF THE DAY 659See music on next page.

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"



Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Introduction

L: Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

L: God of all, in this world of so many uncertainties, we are weary of virus and untruths and hate. Let us remember to fall back into the truth of our faith. Remind us, in ways we can't miss, that everything we need resides in you. Give us the wisdom to create a space for you to reside within us, so that we can see through your eyes, so that others will see the God in us seeing the God in them. We want so badly to have control, but only in giving it over will we find the peace we need in these days. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, take us back to our childhood faith, the one unsoiled by the world and all its inequities, the faith we knew with small hands clasped then opened to reveal the people in the church with the steeple. Let our eyes and hearts of faith see the people again—all the people. Give us hearts to love and courage to stand up to the hate in little and big ways. Make us unafraid in our responses to injustice on our streets and in our neighborhoods, as we know you are always there beside us, carrying your sign of love.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, help us to lean on our faith and find the best answers to the decisions about sending our children to school in this time of pandemic. Whisper into the ears and hearts of decision makers, to always choose your children's wellbeing. Remind us that our decisions may not be the same as our neighbors' and we should hold each other up to journey through these perilous moments together. Help us seek out places to hear your voice and sense your presence. Let us be faithful, that no matter our choices, you will be there with us as we walk the paths we have chosen. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, we are grateful for all the organizations that exist to make this world better and show us the beauty of living in our faith. Today we pray for the continued ministry of Camp Wapo. Though they are unable to gather this year, bring your peace to them. Guide them to carry on their learnings from Camp Wapo from summers before and in this challenging summer, may they share the peace of the Lord in all ways possible.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, help us to remember that our faith in you doesn't mean life will never be without jagged turns, painful tumbles, and shrouded paths. It is our trust in you that carries us in those times, that calms and consoles us, that helps us see the world again in its entirety when the clouds have lifted.

Lord, in your mercy.

C: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, help us care for all as you care for us. Let the power of faith blanket those with broken bodies, broken hearts, and broken spirits. We reach out with care to those whose work has been shuttered during this pandemic, praying that they might put their trust in you. Let us walk with the dying and those who love them and be faithful sanctuary to the weary. We pray especially today for the family of Cyrus Kingsberg as they grieve his death, and for healing for Casey Austad, Linda Austad, and Rich Gronner. We also pray for our loved ones whom we name in the silence of our hearts at this time.

Pause for a moment of silence Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Conclusion

L: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 "Toccata" Johann Christian Bach

OFFERING PRAYER

L: God of all hopefulness,

every day you choose to abide with us and we are grateful.

Give us fresh and hopeful hearts, ready to respond to the world in need.

Give us courage to share all that we are and all that we have, offering our best gifts to you.

In your living name we pray.

C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING "May the Road Rise Up to Meet You" An Irish Blessing

SENDING

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

C: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN 656

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

See music on next page.

Moment of silence

POSTLUDE

"Gavotte from French Suite No. Five in G Major"

J.S. Bach

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Blest Be the Tie That Binds

