

# Creation

## **Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church**

a community of the cross

called to confess hope in action

worshiping · serving · inviting · connecting · giving · growing

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020**

5300 10th Avenue South · Minneapolis, MN 55417 · 612-825-6846 · [nokomisheights.org](http://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**

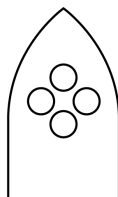
Pastors	Kristen Capel, Steven Delzer
Guitarists	Annika Coyle, Mark Lofthus, Dan Magnuson
Vocalists	Annika Coyle, Mark Lofthus, Dan Magnuson
Lectors	Patricia and Patrick Day
Children's Message	Dan Magnuson

**In our prayers this week:** Barbara Anderson, Casey Austad, Linda Austad, and Rich Gronner, Jeremy Phillips; Mission Partners: Trinity and St. Peder's Lutheran churches, CES (Community Emergency Service), and Wapo Bible Camp

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

**[www.nokomisheights.org](http://www.nokomisheights.org)**



**NOKOMIS  
HEIGHTS**

Place of Worship. Space for Questions.

# NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

10:00 A.M.

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## GATHERING

GATHERING SONG

“Morning Has Broken”

ELW 556

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

L: God of all ages,

**C: You have chosen us as your own,  
yet we so often live as if it were not so.  
We succumb to things that are not good for us.  
We believe we know better than you.  
We refuse to put our trust in your promises.  
Sweep away our foolishness and bring us back  
into a trusting relationship with the one  
who has lovingly created us  
and longs to be our strength and life.**

L: Dear people, hear the joyful words that God has forgiven us!  
Our misdeeds and folly are forgotten; grace and mercy abound.  
Let us give thanks that we have a compassionate creator!

**C: Amen.**

OPENING SONG

“God of Wonders”

Byrd, Hindalong

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: Merciful God,  
you created people not as subjects to rule,  
but as partners in tending and enjoying this bountiful earth.  
Help us release our shame and guilt over what we have done wrong,  
accepting instead your mercy and forgiveness  
offered through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## WORD

### THE READING

**Genesis 2:4-7, 15-17: 3:1-8**

L: In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL**

L: The Gospel according to Luke, the eleventh chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 11:4**

L: And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.

**GOSPEL RESPONSE**

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

“The 3 Rs”

Johnson

**VIDEO INTERLUDE**

“Earth as the Original Icon”

Valters Paintner

**SERMON**

**SERMON SONG**

“Beautiful Things”

Gungor

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Introduction*

L: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence*

L: Thanks to you, God, as we gather together today for the first time in many months. We have missed the power of fellowship that comes with worship and we are grateful to share our faith in sight of one other and hear our voices together in praise.

God of compassion,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: Loving creator, you have given us this great garden of earth to till and keep. May we resist the temptation to exploit and misuse it out of greed or possessiveness, choosing instead to cultivate its beauty and share its fruits equitably and justly. God of compassion,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: Gun shots ring out everyday in our cities, chaotically ending lives, upending families, and filling hearts with fear and hopelessness. Let us clearly hear the voices of those murdered, the survivors of bullets, the families who must learn to trust a world

where a gun fired can mark their lives into the time before and the time after. Let us hear the gentle voices of the young, who speak of a parent gone from their sight, no longer present to hear their prayers and laughter or hold their hands. Let us hear the broken sobs of the mothers and fathers who have lost a child, no matter how old. Let us hear clearly the voices of the communities shattered and crossed with fear and anger. Help our leaders to hear these voices too, to hear with compassion, empathy and action. We know you walk with us, God, even in the darkest moments. Please pull all of us close to you so we can all hear your whispers and bring our talents and energy to ending this disease of humanity.

God of compassion,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: So many people are burdened with shame over events long past. Help us all to release what no longer serves us and be open to your renewing love. Send your healing to all who need it, especially Barbara Anderson, Casey Austad, Linda Austad, Rich Gronner, and Jeremy Phillips. We also pray in the silence of our hearts for our loved ones near and far who are suffering in any way.

*Pause for a moment of silence*

God of compassion,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Conclusion*

L: Receive these prayers and all those we offer in silence, for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen**

#### SHARING THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

#### MEAL

**OFFERING**

“This Is the Day”

Garrett

#### OFFERING PRAYER

L: You have freely given everything to us, O Lord.  
Teach us to be good stewards of all your gifts,  
and accept these offerings we now present as tokens of our gratitude  
and reflections of your generosity to all people, for the sake of Christ.

**C: Amen**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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**

### COMMUNION MEDITATION

“Create in Me”

Green

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**L:** God of the welcome table,  
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness  
and have been united by your presence among us.  
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts  
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,  
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.  
**C: Amen**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

**L:** May the God of all creation bless you and keep you.  
May the God of all people bless your dedication to care for the poor.  
May the God whose glory fills the world  
bless your commitment to serve the Earth.  
**C: Amen**

### CLOSING SONG

“Amazing Grace, Alleluia”

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