

Creation

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

a community of the cross
called to confess hope in action

worshiping · serving · inviting · connecting · giving · growing

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 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.

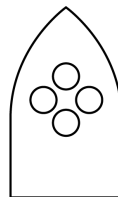
WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors	Kristen Capel, Steven Delzer
Liturgical Assistant	Marti Priest
Organist	Julie Urban
Instrumentalists	Kim Bretheim, cello; Laurie Stegner, violin
Vocalists	Kim Bretheim, Sue Danielson Bretheim, Julie Urban, Greg Winter
Lectors	Jessica Burmaster, Laura Bretheim
Children's Message	Laura Bretheim and Jan Myers

In our prayers this week: Casey Austad, Linda Austad, and 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

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Träumerei"

Schumann

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the beginning, the Spirit over the deep;
new life daily unfolding at God's call.

Darkness and light: Good.

Skies, lands, and seas: Good.

The earth and all that fills it—

plants and rocks, the finned, the feathered, the furry: Good.

At the last, humankind in God's image: Very good.

Yet we have failed to draw from that goodness
in care for God's creation.

**C: Forgive us, God, for the ways
we have exploited the earth and its creatures.**

L: We have misunderstood our calling
to be protectors of God's creation.

**C: Forgive us, God, for the ways
we have exploited the earth and its creatures.**

L: We long for new relationships with God's creation
that has been entrusted to us.

**C: Help us, God, to make a new community
with all that lives alongside us.**

L: May the merciful God who calls us
to tend earth and all its creatures,
deepen our knowledge of creation's interweaving,
so that our lives are shaped in wholeness and peace
with all living things; in Jesus' name

C: Amen

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For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.



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: Creator God, you made the goodness of the land,
and the diverse and beautiful plants that grow upon it.
We give you thanks for the rhythm of the seasons,
and for your gracious providing.
Bless farmers, gardeners, and all who till and care for the soil.
May we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

WORD

THE FIRST READING

Psalm 104:14-17

L: You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart.

The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has its home in the fir trees.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25-34

L: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.”

GOSPEL RESPONSE

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

VIDEO INTERLUDE

“Earth as the Original Cathedral”

Valters Paintner

SERMON

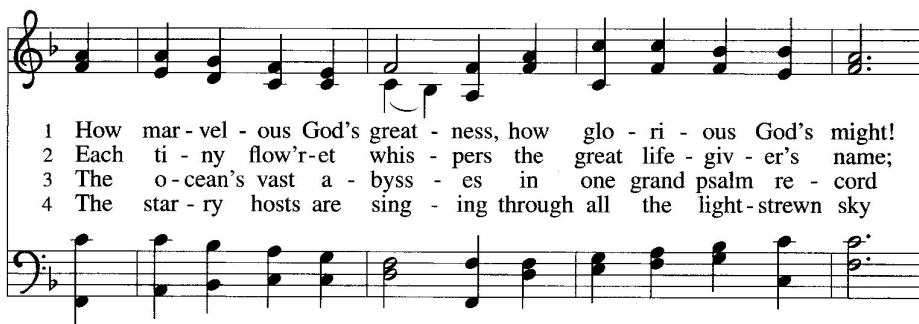
HYMN OF THE DAY 830 (st. 1-2)

“How Marvelous God’s Greatness”

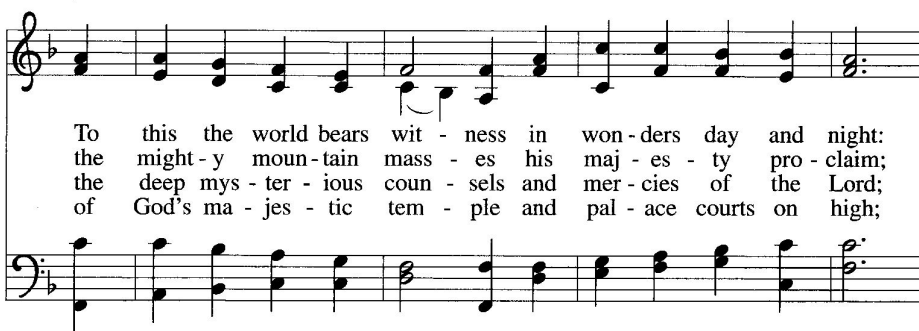
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How Marvelous God's Greatness

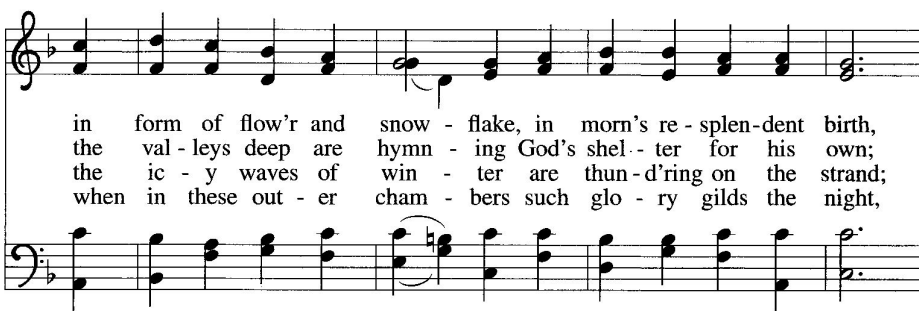
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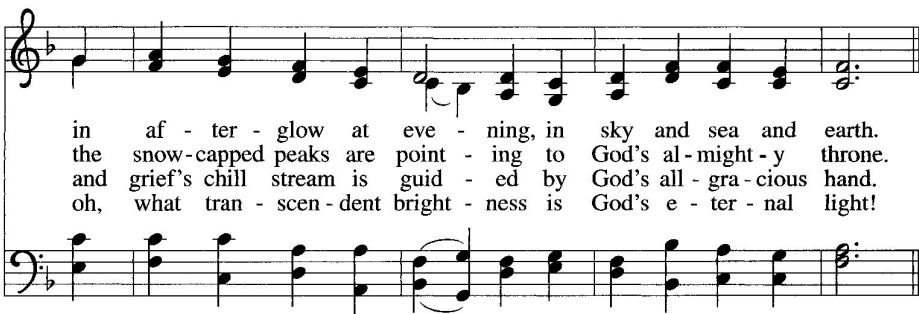
1 How mar - vel - ous God's great - ness, how glo - ri - ous God's might!
 2 Each ti - ny flow'r-et whis - pers the great life - giv - er's name;
 3 The o - cean's vast a - byss - es in one grand psalm re - cord
 4 The star - ry hosts are sing - ing through all the light-strewn sky



To this the world bears wit - ness in won - ders day and night:
 the might - y moun - tain mass - es his maj - es - ty pro - claim;
 the deep mys - ter - ious coun - sels and mer - cies of the Lord;
 of God's ma - jes - tic tem - ple and pal - ace courts on high;



in form of flow'r and snow - flake, in morn's re - splen - dent birth,
 the val - leys deep are hymn - ing God's shel - ter for his own;
 the ic - y waves of win - ter are thun - d'ring on the strand;
 when in these out - er cham - bers such glo - ry gilds the night,



in af - ter - glow at eve - ning, in sky and sea and earth.
 the snow-capped peaks are point - ing to God's al - might - y throne.
 and grief's chill stream is guid - ed by God's all - gra - cious hand.
 oh, what tran - scen - dent bright - ness is God's e - ter - nal light!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Introduction

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

A brief silence

L: Creator God, please help us see and protect your world from ourselves. Send insight and strength to the leaders of the world as we work to end the harmful effects of humans on this earth and recognize that climate change is real and the need for action is immediate. Open our eyes to the wonder and beauty of your creation and let it be inspiration during these pandemic times.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Creator God, take our feet to the paths of the woods and around the lakes and let the peace of you and the creation around us fall deep into our souls, soothing the ragged edges of life. As we consider the lilies and how they grow, make us observers of natural beauty, letting your creation teach us about your care. Let us emerge with clarity and energy to better protect that which nurtures us.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Creator God, you show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage governments to work with one another for the common good of our world. Soften hard hearts, and unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Creator God, we come to you in prayer and reverence for this world you created, where we live, love, laugh, cry and cradle each other in care. Today, we ask that you graciously send your healing love to Casey Austad, Linda Austad, Rich Gronner, and all of 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: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only 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

“Morning Has Broken”

McMichael

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Gracious God,
we give thanks for your bountiful and beautiful creation—
for flowers and trees and growing plants of all kinds,
for all the good things you continue to provide for us.
Don't let us take your gifts for granted or abuse them.
Instead, help us always to rely on you in faith.
Use us and what you have given us for your good purposes.
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

ANTHEM

“Look at the World”

Rutter

SENDING

L: Go in peace. Remember the poor. Care for the Earth.

C: Thanks be to God!

Moment of silence

POSTLUDE

“Allegro, ma dolce from Piano Trio in D Major (No. 24)”

Haydn

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