

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST

Sunday, May 30, 2021





## LITANY

Let us not rush to the language of healing, before understanding the fullness of the injury and the depth of the wound.

Let us not offer false equivalencies, thereby diminishing the particular pain being felt in a particular circumstance in a particular historical moment.

Let us not speak of reconciliation without speaking of reparations and restoration, or how we can repair the breach and how we can restore the loss.

Let us not rush past the loss of this mother's child, this father's child... someone's beloved son.

Let us not value a false peace over a righteous justice.

Let us not be afraid to sit with the ugliness, the messiness, and the pain that is life in community together.

Let us not offer clichés to the grieving, those whose hearts are being torn asunder.

Instead...

Let us mourn black and brown men and women killed extra-judicially.

Let us weep at a criminal justice system, which is neither blind nor just.

Let us call for the mourning men and the wailing women, those willing to rend their garments of privilege and ease, and sit in the ashes of this nation's original sin.

Let us be silent when we don't know what to say.

Let us be humble and listen to the pain, rage, and grief pouring from the lips of our neighbors and friends.

Let us decrease, so that our siblings who live on the underside of history may increase.

Let us listen to the shattering glass and let us smell the purifying fires, for it is the language of the unheard.

**Show me my own complicity in injustice.**

**Convict me for my indifference.**

**Forgive me when I have remained silent.**

**Equip me with a zeal for righteousness.**

**Never let me grow accustomed or acclimated to unrighteousness.**

**Amen.**

# WORD

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Brian J. Evans

## GOSPEL READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## POEM, LOVE LIKE FIRE

Joe Davis, Imani Waters, Tre Dunbar



## GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## SONG OF THE DAY

You Know My Name

### Verse 1

You know my name (x4)

And oh how you walk with me

And oh how you talk with me

And oh how you tell me

That I am your own

### Bridge

No fire can burn me

No battle can turn me

No mountain can stop me

[You hold my hand]

Now I'm walking in Your victory

'Cause Your power is within me

No giant can defeat me

[You hold my hand]

You Know my name, Tasha  
Cobbs Leonard CCLI  
#7099371

## SERMON

Presiding Elder Stacey Smith

Jesus' Plan

## INTERCESSORY RESPONSE

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying

ELW 752

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

*Beginning,  
instrumental, end:  
Lord Listen to Your  
Children Praying.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*We invite everyone into a time of prayer, to mourn, to lament, and to dare to dream what God might be doing in our neighborhoods and in our world.*

Written by Bishop  
Michael Curry

O God, you made us in your own image, redeemed us through Christ Jesus, and knit us together by the Spirit of power and love. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth. God in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

O Jesus, you bear the pain of all who suffer. On this, the first anniversary of George Floyd's death, we pray for all who mourn and for all who carry the deep pain of racial injustice and violence. Comfort the grieving and the anguishing. Assure us that we do not walk alone through the valley of the shadow of death, but that your light is shining; your presence is real. God in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

O God, help us to see with new eyes the injustices within church and society. Call us to have a loving heart that respects and uplifts the humanity and dignity of every person; open our ears to listen to and learn from the experiences of people of color. Open our mouths to speak up and about injustices. Join us with others to work for racial equity for all people. God in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of all, help us to place our hands in your hands and in the hands of each other, that we may walk together and work together until our nightmares are ended and your dream for us and all your creation is realized on earth as it is in event.\* We pray in the strong and precious name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

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## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, our mother 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.

Padre nuestro, Madre nuestra,  
que estás en el cielo  
santificado sea tu nombre.

Venga a nosotros y a nosotras tu reino.  
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el  
cielo.

Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas así como  
perdonamos a quienes nos ofenden.

No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del  
mal.

Porque tuyo es el reino,  
tuyo el poder y tuya la gloria por los siglos  
de los siglos. Amén.

You are encouraged to contribute your tithes and offerings to your local congregation

## OFFERING

## SONG

Let the Church Say Amen

Let the church say Amen!

Let the church say Amen!

God has spoken, so let the church say Amen!

# SENDING

## BLESSING

May the Lord continue to show you grace and peace and favor and love and kindness and tenderness. May our God continue to be with you during this turbulent, trying time. May God continue to shine God's face upon you and show you mercy. These things we pray in the beloved name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## POSTLUDE

Awesome

### Verse 1

My God is awesome  
He can move mountains  
Keep me in the valley  
Hide me from the rain

My God is awesome  
Heals me when I'm broken  
Strength where I've been weakened  
Forever He will reign

### Chorus

My God is awesome, awesome, awesome, awesome  
My God is awesome, awesome, awesome, awesome

Let the church say amen,  
Andrae Crouch CCLI #6119344

## Verse 2

My God is awesome  
Savior of the whole world  
Giver of salvation  
By His stripes I am healed

My God is awesome  
Today I am forgiven  
His grace is why I'm living  
Praise His holy name

## Chorus

### Bridge

He's mighty (He's Mighty)  
He's mighty (He's Mighty)  
He's mighty (He's Mighty)  
He's mighty (He's Mighty)  
Awesome, awesome

He's holy (He's Holy)  
He's Great (He's Great)  
He's Mighty (He's Mighty)  
Deliverer (Deliverer)  
He's Holy (He's Holy)  
Provider (Provider)  
Protector (Protector)

## Verse 1

My God is awesome  
He can move mountains  
Keep me in the valley  
Hide me from the rain

My God is awesome  
Heals me when I'm broken  
Strength where I've been weakened  
Praise His holy name



## Special Thanks

Calvary Lutheran Church, Minneapolis  
host site for the recording of this worship service

Rev. Matthew Ian Fleming of St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie,  
Church Anew ministry staff and technical expertise by Twin Cities Sound

### Spoken Word Poetry

Joe Davis, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Minneapolis  
Imani Waters, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Minneapolis  
Traiveon Dunlap, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Minneapolis

### Musical Leadership:

Traiveon Dunlap (vocals), Courtland Pickens (vocals),  
Michelé Crowder (vocals), Spencer Miller (piano), Miguel Hurtado (drums).  
Ethan Yeshaya (bass), Alyssa Schwitzer (vocals)

### American Sign Language Interpreters:

Regina Daniels and Sydney Groven

### Minneapolis Area Synod Staff:

Eric Howard, Bob Hulteen, and Emilie Bouvier

### Worship Leaders:

Welcome Message: Bishop Ann Svennungsen

### Assisting Ministers:

Deanna Kim Bassett, Christ the River of Life Lutheran Church, Minneapolis  
David Rojas Martinez, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis  
Christine Belfrey Johnson, Christ Lutheran Church, Blaine

Children's Message: Brian Evans, Citizen Artist

Preacher: Presiding Elder Stacey Smith,  
African Methodist Episcopal Church, Fourth District

Liturgy from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and Bible excerpts from  
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