

JUST LOVE

PSALM 33:5

God loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church
Sunday, August 15, 2021

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
Organist	Julie Urban
Instrumentalist	Kim Bretheim, cello
Vocalists	Kim Bretheim, Sue Danielson Bretheim, Carolyn Deters, Tim Wicker
Lector	Gregg Kelley
Recording	Greg Winter

In our prayers this week: : Casey Austad, Linda Austad, Jerry Casterton, Tim and Adela Engelsgaard, Rich Gronner, Jennifer Harris, Dee Levine, Charlie Olson, and Eric, Jana, Piper, and Katie Roome; Mission Partners: Trinity and St. Peder's Lutheran churches, Community Emergency Service (CES), and Wapo Bible Camp

Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. for worship (online and in person)!

Outdoor, in-person worship on the church lawn this summer on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of the month (weather permitting).

Outdoor, in-person worship at Pearl Park on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

Online worship continues every Sunday.

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

AUGUST 15, 2021

10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”

Burton

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: We enter into worship with humble hearts,
confessing before God that we are broken
and in need of God’s mercy and grace.

**C: God of justice and righteousness,
we admit that we can never live up to,
never fully live into,
and barely comprehend the kind of love
that you have for all creation.**

**As hard as we try,
we fall short of loving our neighbor as ourselves.
As much as we talk about longing for justice,
our whole lives are wrapped up in systems of injustice,
and we struggle to untangle ourselves.**

**Restore us, O God, along with your whole creation.
Where we have become numb to this unjust world,
awaken our senses, that we might be partners with you
in creating a more just and loving world for all people.**

L: The earth is filled with God’s unfailing love.
You are restored, forgiven and made new
through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Live in this promise,
knowing that love and justice are all around you,
and are yours to give and receive.

C: Amen

OPENING SONG 721

“Goodness Is Stronger than Evil”

Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic-t'ry is
vic - t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Oh,

light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death; vic-t'ry is
Oh,

ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.
vic - t'ry is ours, vic-t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

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.

KYRIE 157

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

Continued on next page

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

SALUTATION

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of justice and love,

C: **as the Samaritan helped another traveler on life's journey,**

open us up to the lives of people

whose culture and experience differ from our own.

Help us to remove the boundaries and borders

that keep us from one another,

and build relationships that lead toward a more just world.

Show us the way so that we can begin to right what's wrong

and make space in our lives to hold love for all people.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

WORD

THE READING

Deuteronomy 10:17-22

L: For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen. Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons; and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 10:25-37

L: Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

SERMON HYMN 714

“O God of Mercy, God of Light”

1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus

mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and

in your sight, to live our lives in you.
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
 word and thought may work a work for you.
 grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Introduction

L: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

L: You have revealed your love for people overlooked and cast aside. Send your church to proclaim good news to those who feel abandoned, despised, or rejected, and make our congregations places of genuine welcome and hospitality.

God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: All creation longs for healing and restoration. Thwart the destruction of plant and animal habitats and amplify the voices of those who advocate for wise stewardship of the earth's resources. Send rain to places that cry out for it and quench the wildfires that threaten the land and those who live on it.

God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We remember your promise to your people and look to you for justice. Expose pride, greed, and exploitation wherever it is found and raise up humble leaders who act on behalf of those who are poor, oppressed, or in other need.

God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for all who cry out to you in their affliction—for exiles, refugees, and others who face long and difficult journeys, uncertain about the future. For all who mourn the death of a loved one, and or all who are sick, *especially... (we pray for members and friends in need of prayer).*

God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Conclusion

L: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; 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 PRAYER

L: God of perfect summer nights
and moonbeams on lakes,
we are grateful for this world
and all its bounty.
Along with all creation,
we give thanks to you
for providing all that we need for this life.
Receive the gifts we bring:
gifts of money,
gifts of time,
and gifts of compassion.
Use them to restore justice
and spread love throughout the world.

C: Amen

SENDING**BLESSING**

L: The world has waited long enough
to hear your voice,
to feel your feet treading with gentle curiosity,
to see how you embrace each adventure.
God's world needs you
and thank God that
the Spirit will whisper direction
directly into your heart
to the places in need of
and the people who are thirsty for
love and justice.
Go, child of God,
into the wild places
where you will fly and fall and finally
build brighter days
singing all the while
of a holy JUST LOVE.

C: Amen

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

SENDING

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

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of silence

PRELUDE

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

Mann

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NOKOMIS
HEIGHTS

Place of Worship. Space for Questions.