



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2020 • 10 am

You are welcome here! As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, shared unconditionally and without regard to race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic or family status, age, physical or mental abilities, outward appearance, or religious affiliation. We seek to live the truth written in Ephesians that Christ breaks down the dividing walls between us and makes us one.

Today we welcome The Rev. Fred Melton from the Delaware-Maryland Synod Hunger Task Force. His sermon is "The CRISIS of the Day - Brings Impotence or Opportunity." Isaiah challenges us "To feed the hungry (and in doing so) to bring light into our own darkness." God needs us now more than ever. . . .
"Let us not throw away our shot."

The Hunger Task Force is committed to working collectively with congregations to (1) learn about hunger on the local and global level, and (2) inspire and work cooperatively in supporting hunger ministries locally on our synod territory, and (3) combat hunger globally by supporting our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America World Hunger Program.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome

Prelude

Prayer for Children

** Gathering Song

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun (verses 1 and 2)

ELW#557



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy
2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and
3 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new. Dis -
4 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all
5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from
perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.
thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.
all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.
Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélémon, 1741–1808

** Prayer of the Day

Assisting Minister leads the prayer of the day and the assembly responds: Amen.

** Items in bold are to be spoken/sung by the assembly.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

Reading

Isaiah 58:6-10

Sermon

The Rev. Fred Melton

**** Hymn**

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken (verses 1 and 2)

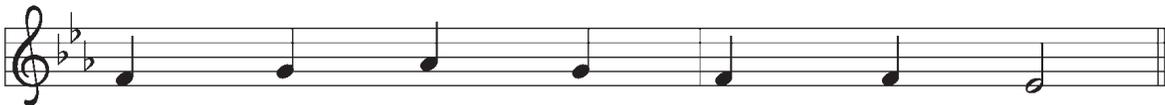
ELW #603



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
 2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
 3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
 5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
 world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
 seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
 in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
 be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
 all the fail - ures we con - fess.
 set us free and grant us peace.
 make us stron - ger, give us faith.
 God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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**** Prayers of the People**

Each portion of the prayer ends with either:

Responses: Bless we the Lord
Hear us, O God.

Thanks be to God.
Your mercy is great.

Thanksgiving for the Word

Lord's Prayer

**** Items in bold are to be spoken/sung by the assembly.**

Sending

We are sent into the world to serve.

Dismissal

Postlude

Enjoy today's service? Visit our Facebook page and invite a friend, comment, or leave a review. May God go with you today and everyday.

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For additional reference on hymn text and music please refer to the hymn number in the cranberry prayer book and hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor:

The Rev. Fred Melton

Cantor:

Dr. Oksana Glouchko

Assisting Minister:

Matthew Johnson

Lector:

Ralph Heiss

Reader:

Henry Sullivan

Ministers:

The people of St. Stephen's

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