



# CHURCH ON THE AVENUE

St. Luke's, Hampden

**Tenth Sunday After Pentecost  
2022**

**August 14,**

## **WELCOME & INSTRUCTION**

*Participants are invited to respond with the text in bold type.*

In the Name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **ORDER OF CONFESSION**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Loving God, **we have turned against you.**

**By our thoughts, words, and deeds, we have broken our relationship with you and with each other.** *Breathe*

Gracious God, **when you showed us love, we have thought and spoken poorly of our neighbors.** *Breathe*

God of Abundance, **when you provided for our needs, we ignored the needs of others and often justified our wants.** *Breathe*

Consoling God, **when you said “do not be afraid,” we allowed fear to fester, giving birth to anger and hatred of the other.** *Breathe*

Empowering God, **when you made us caretakers of the earth, we hurt your creation with our greed and selfishness.** *Breathe*

Merciful God, **often we do not recognize our own sinfulness though we are quick to point out the sinfulness of others;** *Breathe*

God of Compassion, **at times, we believe we are unforgiveable and we do not trust in the capacity of your Spirit.** *Breathe*

Redeeming God, **Forgive us, transform us, empower us by your grace. Amen.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins  
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

**Amen.**



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;  
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:  
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.  
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,  
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,  
oh, teach your wand - ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.  
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.  
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## PRAYER

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING | Jeremiah 23:23-29

*Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes*

*between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.*

<sup>23</sup>Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup>How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup>They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 82

<sup>1</sup>God stands to charge the divine coun- | cil assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst | of the gods:

<sup>2</sup>**“How long will you | judge unjustly,  
and show favor | to the wicked?”**

<sup>3</sup>Save the weak | and the orphan;  
defend the hum- | ble and needy;

<sup>4</sup>**rescue the weak | and the poor;  
deliver them from the power | of the wicked. R**

<sup>5</sup>They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander a- | bout in darkness;  
all the foundations of the | earth are shaken.

<sup>6</sup>**Now I say to you, | ‘You are gods,  
and all of you children of | the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup>nevertheless, you shall | die like mortals,  
and fall like | any prince.’”

<sup>8</sup>**Arise, O God, and | rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations | for your own. R**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** | Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

No. 172

**GOSPEL READING** | Luke 12:49-56

*Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.*

God is with you. **And also with you.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup>“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided:

father against son  
and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,  
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE |

*Rev. Jim Muratore*

## BREAKOUT QUESTIONS

- What challenges you about Jesus’ claim to be the source of division?
- How have you experienced the breakdown of long-standing teachings/beliefs/traditions?
- What holds your faith together when you confront this divisiveness?

## HYMN | Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Your Word

No. 517



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son  
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we  
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.  
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Arise, O God, and sustain your church. We pray for all who dedicate their lives to serving your people. Renew our commitment to our siblings in faith around the globe and bless the work of our ecumenical and interfaith partners. Bless the work begun by the Churchwide Assembly this week and move your church into a new era of reformation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain your creation. We pray for all places affected by natural disasters. Transform the devastation of floods and fires into fertile ground for new life and growth. Fill heaven and earth with your life-giving Spirit. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain the nations. We pray for all elected officials. Kindle in them a desire to administer your justice. Strengthen their resolve to defend those who are vulnerable and to stand publicly against all forms of oppression. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain those who are oppressed. We pray for people harmed by racism, ableism, and all people discriminated against based on their gender identity or sexual orientation. Rescue us from all systems that degrade our fellow human beings and teach us to honor the dignity of all people. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Arise, O God, and sustain this assembly. We pray for this community, celebrating with those who rejoice and weeping with those who weep. We welcome the new volunteers with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps and pray for a fruitful year of service. We raise up to you, Bob and Jeanette, Rob and Scott, Ron and Beryl, Justin, Zach and Rae, Buddy, Steve, Katie, Roman, Terrance, Angel, Jon, Pam, Jim, Quinn, Charles, Joe, Htet (Tet), and all else whom we name now.... In our joy and in our tears, be near us. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, we remember the saints who have gone before us. May we run with perseverance the race set before us until we find our rest in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.  
**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## OFFERING

*Offering may be made electronically on the church's website at [www.churchontbeavenuehampden.org](http://www.churchontbeavenuehampden.org). You can also sign up for automated giving.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance: **you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## COMMUNION

*The assembly is invited to stand in body or spirit.*

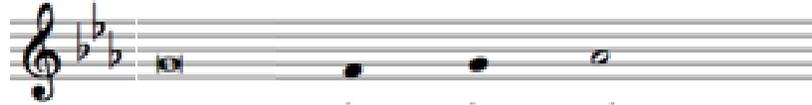
## GREAT THANKSGIVING



[P] The Lord is here



[A] God's Spir - it is with us



[P] Let us lift up our hearts



[A] We lift them to our God



[P] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,  
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God,  
 through this meal you have bandaged our wounds  
 and fed us with your mercy.  
 Now send us forth to live for others,  
 both friend and stranger,  
 that all may come to know your love.  
 This we pray in the name of Jesus.  
**Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THRIFT SHOP SUMMER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED | Saturdays 11am-4pm**

### WE'RE CHANGING OUR ONLINE GIVING PLATFORM

We are currently transitioning online giving to "Tithe.ly" and need members to register on the new site to complete this task. You can do so by clicking the updated GIVE link on the church website.

Donors will be able to set up recurring/automated giving. If you have questions or challenges, please check in with Pastor Jim.

### **HARMONY WORKS ACU-SOUND BATH | NEW TIMES**

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm and Wednesdays 5:30-7:00pm

### **MOTION COLLECTIVE ON THE AVENUE**

View class offerings at [www.motioncollectiveontheavenue.com](http://www.motioncollectiveontheavenue.com)

**THANK YOU** for your continued generosity and for sustaining our ministry together. You can provide offering or make a special gift at anytime through the church's giving portal. Links can be found in the e-newsletter and on the church website at

<http://www.churchontheavenuechampden.org>.

### **FAREWELL AND GODSPEED**

Eternal God, we thank you for Lynda and for our life together in this congregation and community. Thank you for her leadership and her guidance, especially through the challenging time of the pandemic. Thank you for the energy and friendship with which has enlivened this church. As she has been a blessing to us, so now send her forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

God is with you! **And also with you!**

The God of peace,  
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life  
this day and always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** | The Canticle of the Turning

No. 723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



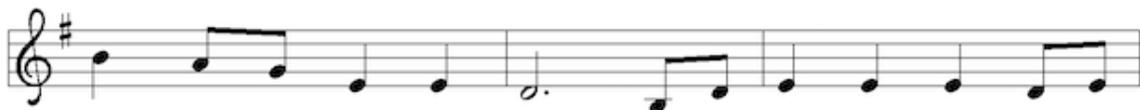
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
depths of the past to the end of the age to be,  
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.



Wipe a-way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat  
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional  
Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**