

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023

10:00 a.m.

The Approach to God

PRELUDE Third Nuptial March Alexandre Guilmant

WELCOME

VOTUM

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

O God, you have gathered your people this day!

Your word is a lamp to our feet!

O God, you have called us here to hear your word and live in its light!

Your word is a light to our path!

We gather to praise you for the gift of this word.

We sing to you our praises for the light you have given us.

SALUTATION

*HYMN OF PREPARATION 575 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

(The congregation may exchange the Peace.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Father, you tell us in your Word

that whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

We confess that we have frequently relaxed our faith.

We have allowed ourselves to become cynical,

and our cynicism has boiled over

with slander, criticism, prayerlessness, and pessimism.

How easily we've allowed ourselves

to crumple under the stresses of our lives.

Forgive us for our smallness of faith.

In your mercy, hear us,

for Jesus' sake. Amen.

—The Worship Sourcebook

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 55:10-13 p.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 p. 13

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

SERMON "Empty Words"

The Response to God

SENIORS' TESTIMONY AND BLESSING

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support Penny
by teaching the gospel of God's love,
by being an example of Christian faith and character, and
by giving the strong support of God's family
in fellowship, prayer, and service?

We do.

*HYMN 961 Gloria Patri

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY Speak O Lord Keith & Kristen Getty
(words can be found in Lift Up Your Hearts #755)

*DOXOLOGY 965 Tune: OLD HUNDRETH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

O God, who is light in the darkness,
we pray for those among us
who in the night hours work their shifts,
or those who labor in places
where light is dim.

**Be for them and for us
protection in the dark.**

O God, who is the bright Morning Star,
we pray for those among us
who grieve the loss of loved ones,
the tarnishing of innocence,
the failing of health,
the flight of security.

**Be for them and for us a sure defense
and the promise of a new day.**

Refrain

O God, who is sight to the blind,
we pray for those among us

whose eyes are clouded,
who are blind in soul, mind, or body.

**Be for them and for us
both courage and sight.**

O God, who is strength to the besieged,
we pray for those among us
who are beset by temptation,
those who are in danger,
those whose enemies are close
and whose help seems far away.

**Be for them and for us a
present fortress against our foes.**

Refrain

O God, who is salvation to the lost,
we pray for those among us
who have never found your way,
or who, having found it,
have strayed from your path.

**Be for them and for us the beacon that
guides safely home.**

Refrain

O God, who is comfort to the fearful,
we pray for those among us
who live in fear of threats real or imagined,
whose lives are torn by war,
whose thoughts are confused by mental illness,
whose souls and bodies are ravaged by abuse.

**Be for them and for us consolation and
surety against anxiety.**

Refrain

Give us wisdom, O God, to turn to you
in times of stress, fear, and grief;
in times of blindness,
temptation, danger, and perdition.

**Grant us patience to wait for you,
and courage to be strong in your might,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray**

—Prayer: Kathleen Hart Brumm (b. 1958) © 2001 Brumhart Publishing

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Finale

Stanley Vann

*You may stand.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Ryan Boes, preaching; Mark Hiskes, Rev. Hunter Brumels, liturgists; Anya Wolters, James Baer, Penny Green, senior testimonies; Curtis Pierce, guitar; Linda Strouf, Minister of Music.

Today

We welcome all who worship with us and ask visitors and members to sign the Friendship Cards so that we may get to know one another. Please join us in the Gathering Place for refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

The flowers at the chancel are given in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Mark and Chris Walvoord.

We joyfully welcome Penny Green into our Christian faith community this morning.

The rose at the font is in celebration of the birth of a daughter, Clara Ann, to Dan and Jenna Callam.

ASSISTING TODAY: Deacons/Ushers: Sandy Stielstra, Jeff Voskuil, Laura McMullen

IF YOU DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and/or others Katherine and George Hunsberger will be available to pray with you following today's worship service. Please make your way to the Place of Prayer located in the south hallway on the main level.

SUMMER CHILDREN AND WORSHIP: Our Children and Worship Program for children aged 4 through the 2nd grade continues today during the 10:00 service. Our Worship Center program takes place in Room 2. (Downstairs: Take the Northwest staircase down to the lower level. The room is the first door to your right.)

EL ENCUENTRO (EN ESPAÑOL): Les invitamos a las 11:30 a.m. a reunirnos en la presencia del Señor, escuchar su Palabra y orar juntos. Favor de invitar a sus familiares y vecinos-- ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Nos reuniremos en **Fellowship Hall**. (gimnasio). ¡Nos vemos!

[Translation] EL ENCUENTRO (SPANISH GATHERING) We invite you to join us at 11:30 a.m. to spend time in the presence of God through his Word, and to pray together. Feel free to invite your family and friends-- everyone is welcome! We meet in the Fellowship Hall. See you! English translation via headset is available.

The Week Ahead

Sunday

11:30 a.m. Spanish Worship Ministry

Monday

7:00 p.m. High School Garage Movie Night

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday

6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study
8:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers (zoom)
5:30 p.m. Summer LIFT Dinner
6:15 p.m. Summer LIFT Classes

Saturday

9:30 a.m. Curso de Discipulado en Español (Discipleship Class)
2:00 p.m. Chalk the Lot

Congregational News

Please remember in prayer those in the hospital and in care facilities.

Please remember to have someone notify the church office when you are in the hospital so you can receive spiritual care by the pastoral staff. Call 392-1459.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Holland Hospital-Etta Hesselink, Shirley Hoksbergen. Zeeland Hospital-Dennis Gebben. Mary Boersen has moved to The Inn from the hospital. Hospice-Margaret Doorenbos, Beth DuMez. Apledorn-Bob Kuiper, Donna Prins; Vista Springs-Barb Piaget. Missionaries-Jaime & Martha Amaro (Mexico), Albino & Sandy Rodriguez (Peru).

SAVE THE DATE: Walk-in-choir on Sunday, July 30. Rehearsal at 9:30 am in the choir room and sing in worship at 10 am. All ages are welcome, and if you would like to see/hear the music ahead of time send Linda an email and she will send you a PDF of the music and an audio file so you can try it out at home.

Summer LIFT continues through August 2 (Wednesdays-Dinner at 5:30, activities for all around 6:15) and has something for everyone!

- **Children ages 4-5th Grade** will learn about the parables of the Bible.
- **Youth from 6th-12th grades** will participate in True Confessions!
- **Adults** will have Reciprocal Language activities - both verbal and in visual art.

So don't miss out! If you're interested in volunteering to help with activities or food, please sign up at church or email Kristen at the office at office@trcholland.org.

TRC RESETTLEMENT ROOM: A small team is creating a basement storeroom of home goods to be used by Pastor Angel and others who assist immigrant families with resettlement. At this time, we are seeking donations of the following new or clean, gently used items: silverware set; pots and pans set; linens for twin, full and queen beds (mattress pads, sheet sets, blankets, comforters/quilts, pillows), bath towel set; broom and dustpan, and fans. You may drop off these items in the space outside the office where pantry items were placed. Monetary donations are welcome too! We'd like to thank you and can provide you with a receipt if requested, so please attach your name to your donation. If you have any questions, you may contact: Kay Stewart (616.745.0268), Sue Boes (248.600.2294), Cindy Hiskes (616.990.2268).

CAMPER'S CORNER

Camp Geneva

July 17-22

Elias Baer

Jana Honeycutt

Anna Stewart

CHALK the LOT!

Saturday, July 5

2:00 - 3:30 PM

(weather permitting)

Chalk, Bubbles, & Popsicles

