

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - Sunday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 9:00 am

Music Today

Cross Road & Lake Country Lutheran

**AS WE GATHER**

Physical fitness is “in.” The message of health spas is that if you just work hard enough and get your body into good enough shape, then somehow, you’ll be “fit for life.” Advertising has picked up on this theme and embellished it to amazing proportions. Today, you will be led to understand we have a different kind of life altogether, a life that is made “fit” not by the world’s standards, but by a gift of God. The promise of Jesus tells us how we can be not only physically, but also emotionally and spiritually “Fit for Life.” Jesus said, “*I have come that they may have life. And have it to the FULL!*” Jesus promised to give you MORE LIFE! He fulfilled that promise by giving His life as the sacrifice to take away your sins, and by rising to life again. Jesus is the Lord of Life. Open your ears and your heart to His Word and let Him be the Lord of YOUR life.

**Gathering Song                      Our God (Is Greater)**

Water you turned into wine    opened the eyes of the blind  
there’s no one like you    none like you

Into the darkness you shine    out of the ashes we rise  
there is no one like you    none like you    **(Chorus x2)**

**Chorus:**            Our God is greater    Our God is stronger  
                          God you are higher than any other  
                          Our God is Healer    Awesome in power  
                          Our God, Our God

**Bridge:**            and if our God is for us    then who could ever stop us  
                          and if our God is with us    then what could stand against  
                          and if our God is for us    then who could ever stop us  
                          and if our God is with us    then what could stand against  
                          what could stand against

**Chorus**

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**Welcome & Invocation**

*Pastor Aaron Boerst*

**Opening Song                      Build Your Kingdom Here**

Come, set Your rule and reign  
In our hearts again  
Increase in us we pray  
Unveil why we're made

Come, set our hearts ablaze with hope  
Like wildfire in our very souls  
Holy Spirit come invade us now  
We are Your church  
We need Your power in us  
We seek Your kingdom first  
We hunger and we thirst

Refuse to waste our lives  
For You're our joy and prize  
To see the captive hearts released  
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace  
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause  
We are Your church  
We pray revive this earth

Build Your kingdom here  
Let the darkness fear  
Show Your mighty hand  
Heal our streets and land  
Set Your church on fire  
Win this nation back  
Change the atmosphere  
Build Your kingdom here We pray

Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r  
Reaching the near and far  
No force of hell can stop  
Your beauty changing hearts  
You made us for much more than this  
Awake the kingdom seed in us  
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ  
We are Your church  
We are the hope on earth

Build Your kingdom here  
Let the darkness fear  
Show Your mighty hand  
Heal our streets and land  
Set Your church on fire  
Win this nation back  
Change the atmosphere  
Build Your kingdom here We pray

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### **Confession & Forgiveness**

Pastor: Despite all of God's actions on our behalf, we still struggle with sin in our lives. Our tongues still curse. Our feet still stumble. Our ears still listen to lies and vicious gossip. But our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him for restoration, renewal, and forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

**People: we have sinned against You and our neighbors in what we have said and what we have left unsaid. We have neglected opportunities to love our neighbors. We have stumbled and fallen again and again. We ask that You restore us, renew us, and forgive us on account of Jesus. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in His boundless love sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for our forgiveness and eternal life. Because of Jesus, we are restored, body and soul. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. We are renewed and restored. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness,

**People: grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **Reader**

*Chris Fecke*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Genesis 1:1-5*

*(The Presence of the Holy Trinity in the Beginning)*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Reading**

*1 Corinthians 15: 1-8, 12-20*

*(The Resurrection of Christ)*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

<sup>12</sup>Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. <sup>15</sup>We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. <sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Holy Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 10: 32-39*

*(The Cost of Discipleship)*

<sup>32</sup>So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

<sup>34</sup>"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Pastor: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Message / Kid's Church**

*Carson Cantwell*

**Song of the Day                      The Heart of Worship**

When the music fades  
All is stripped away  
And I simply come  
Longing just to bring  
Something that's of worth  
That will bless Your heart

Pre-Chorus:                      I'll bring You more than a song  
    For a song in itself  
    Is not what You have required  
    You search much deeper within  
    Through the way things appear  
    You're looking into my heart

Chorus:                      I'm coming back  
    To the heart of worship  
    And it's all about You  
    All about You Jesus  
    I'm sorry Lord  
    For the thing I've made it  
    When it's all about You  
    All about You Jesus

King of endless worth  
No one could express  
How much You deserve  
Though I'm weak and poor  
All I have is Yours

Ev'ry single breath **(Pre-Chorus & Chorus)**

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**Sermon**

***FIT FOR LIFE: "What's In Your Heart?" (Apostles Creed)***

*Pastor Aaron Boerst*

**Creed – APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the Church**

**Pastor:** Whenever we are moved to think the worst or look with discouragement, O Lord remind us of where and when you are active among us. We thank You for answered prayers, and prayers answered better than what we hope for. Dear Lord we thank you for the many helping hands and volunteers of the Church.

**People: Move us to find joy in humble service.**

**Pastor:** Wherever nations quarrel and plunge toward war, O God, open the ears of their leaders to hear the wisdom from above and pursue peace. Wherever international alliances, national leaders, and groups within society follow the lead of their selfish ambitions at the expense of the downtrodden and forgotten people across borders and in their midst, O God, give both citizens and their leaders hearts that are open to reason, full of mercy, impartial and sincere.

**People: Grant that peace break out across borders and justice within them.**

**Pastor:** Whenever the Church is fraught with boasting, falsehoods, and schisms, O God, send Your Holy Spirit to use Word and Sacrament to bring clergy and lay leaders to repentance.

**People: Embolden them to announce with one voice the victory Your Son won for us all.**

**Pastor:** Wherever people respond to illness, accident, injustice, and discrimination, O God, strengthen them to rely on You for protection in all circumstances.

**People: Guide them to make decisions in wisdom and to sow righteousness in peace.**

**Pastor:** Whenever our conduct betrays worldly jealousy and selfish ambition, O God, turn our laughter to mourning and our joy to gloom until we recognize Your unending grace.

**People: Help us seek to meet the needs of the people around us in humble service.**

**Pastor:** Whenever we pridefully seek to solve our problems by our own strength, O God, remind us of Your faithfulness, constant presence, and gracious protection for Jesus' sake.

**People: Show us how to humbly serve the people around us as You have served us.**

**Pastor:** Wherever people call out to You in their distress, especially O Lord, Hear us now on behalf of those in our congregation and all who stand in need:

***Local concerns are added by congregational elder.***

**Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

### **Sharing Peace**

**Offering (Lake Country Lutheran)**

### **Presentation of Gifts**

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good things, and Your Word makes clear that every good and perfect gift comes from You. We ask that You accept these gifts back unto Yourself and use them to Your glory. [Psalm 145:15, James 1:17]

**People: Amen.**

## Holy Communion

### Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**The Words of Our Lord** [*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*]

### Proclamation of Christ

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.  
[*1 Cor.11:26*]

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** [*Revelation 22:20*]

**Lord's Prayer** [*Matthew 6:9–13*]

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**People: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### Distribution

#### *Lake Country Lutheran*

#### **Above All**

Above all powers above all kings

Above all nature and all created things

Above all wisdom and all the ways of man

You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms above all thrones

Above all wonders the world has ever known

Above all wealth and treasures of the earth

There's no way to measure

What You're worth

Crucified laid behind the stone

You lived to die rejected and alone

Like a rose trampled on the ground

You took the fall and thought of me

Above all **(Repeat)**

Like a rose trampled on the ground

You took the fall and thought of me

Above all

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**Whole In My Heart**      *Written by Prakash Matthew*

As I loaded up, my online shopping cart  
The days were gloomy, the nights very dark  
Each time I clicked, I still missed the mark  
My heart was empty and lost

And that's when I knew I had a hole in my heart  
Hole in my heart    Hold in my heart  
How could I live with a hole in my heart

Heard of the One, sent by the Father  
Lay in a stable, hung on a tree  
He was the fulfillment I was searching for  
Salvation of God, reached out to me

So I pray that today dear Lord Jesus  
Be born in my heart    Be born in my heart  
Come mend the hole in my heart  
Be born in my heart    Be born in my heart  
Come mend the hole in my heart

Angels singing louder  
Bethlehem drawing closer  
My heart now the manger  
And now I'm whole, in my heart

I'm whole in my heart    I'm whole in my heart  
Now today I'm whole in my heart  
I'm whole in my heart    I'm whole in my heart  
Now today I'm whole in my heart

I'm whole in my heart    I'm whole in my heart  
Praise God now I'm whole in my heart

**Benediction** [*Numbers 6:24-26*]

Pastor:            The LORD bless you and keep you.  
                      The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
                      The LORD look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**People:**        **Amen.**

**Announcements**

**Sending Song**            **Let My Lifesong Sing To You**

<sup>1</sup> Empty hands held high  
a small sacrifice  
not joined with my life  
I sing in vain tonight  
May the Words I say  
and the things I do  
Make my lifesong sing  
bring a smile to you.

Chorus    Let my lifesong sing to you  
            Let my lifesong sing To you

I wanna sign your name  
to the end of this day  
knowing my heart was true  
Let my lifesong sing To you

<sup>2</sup> Lord I give my life  
a living sacrifice  
to reach a world in need  
to be your hands and feet  
May the Words I say  
and the things I do  
Make my lifesong sing  
bring a smile to you **Chorus x2**

Let my lifesong sing To you

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