



*Encouraging faith and proclaiming God's love by Gathering, Growing and Giving*

5<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost

*Service of the World*

July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**This worship is being livestreamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.**

*If you are a VISITOR with us today, we are so grateful that God brought you here. Please sign our Guest Book in the church or send an email to [sothlc@sothem.org](mailto:sothlc@sothem.org). We are so glad that God brought you to this time of worship.*

*NOTE: Bold text indicates worshippers' response, and '\*' means please stand as able.*

BELL & PRELUDE

Michelle Young

WELCOME AND MUTUAL MINISTRY MESSAGES

### GATHERING

Green #370 GATHERING HYMN "*Bless Be the Tie That Binds*" pg. 5

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

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY O Lord God, **your worldwide church consists of people from many different lands and Christian denominations. We long to understand how you have knit us all together to turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to share live into and share the Good News of our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### GROWING

*On that fateful Pentecost morning when the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles, the city of Jerusalem was filled with faithful Jews from three different continents...and two distinctly different cultures. The Hebrews referred to in our reading, are the Jewish Christians who spoke only or mainly Aramaic, the cultural language for much of Israel. The Hellenists were Jewish Christians whose native language was Greek, the cultural language of the Romans. Many of their families had been exiled out of Israel generations ago by foreign invaders, but had maintained their Jewish faith throughout the centuries. A reading from the Book of Acts, chapter 6.*

<sup>1</sup>Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to [manage the distribution of food.]. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, <sup>4</sup>while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." <sup>5</sup>What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a convert from Antioch. <sup>6</sup>They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup>The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

*As we will hear, even some of the 7 men chosen were also gifted by the Holy Spirit to do great wonders and signs among the people. Just like the Apostles, Stephen quickly finds himself encountering pushback from non-believers. When they realized they were failing to win their argument, these men were willing to do whatever was necessary to discredit Stephen and the Christian message - without regard to how their deceitful ways may endanger anyone else's life. A continued reading of the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.*

<sup>8</sup>Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. <sup>10</sup>But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. <sup>11</sup>Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." <sup>12</sup>They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. <sup>13</sup>They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; <sup>14</sup>for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." <sup>15</sup>And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

*If you were to read chapter 7, you'd learn that rather than defend himself against the false charges made against him, Stephen recounts the history of Israel; focusing on the stories of Abraham, Joseph and Moses. What we will hear now are his words that further turned the powerful men against him. Here he quotes God's words spoken through the prophet Isaiah, which relate to God's presence being held ONLY within the Temple. These words tell how God rejects the assumptions that humans have authority of where God is located. As we will hear, speaking God's truth is not always appreciated or tolerated. Our final reading comes from the end of 7<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.*

<sup>48</sup>Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands as the prophet says,

<sup>49</sup>Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?

<sup>50</sup>Did not my hand make all these things?'

[Stephen continued] <sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. <sup>53</sup>You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

<sup>54</sup>When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. <sup>55</sup>But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>Look, he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Mary Eide

Green #296 HYMN OF THE DAY "Just As I Am without One Plea" sing verses 1-3 p. 5

GIVING

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

\*Or, He descended to the dead.

\* OFFERING PRAYER We freely give **back to God what was first given to us, in order to grow and build God's kingdom. With gratitude and thanksgiving Lord, we offer you our time, energy, skills, and the things we treasure. Receive the gifts we bring, in the name of Jesus Christ, our strength and our Savior. Amen.**

\* PRAYERS AND PETITIONS (L: God of grace, **All: Hear our prayer.**)

\* LORD'S PRAYERS **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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

\*ANNOUNCEMENTS/BLESSING 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.**

\* Green #390 SENDING HYMN "*I Love to Tell the Story*" p. 6

\* DISMISSAL **Go in peace. Love your neighbor.** Thanks be to God.

\* POSTLUDE

Michelle Young

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SCHEDULE

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>- Worship</b>
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>- Fellowship hosted by Rita Lee</b>
MONDAY	7pm	- AA Meeting
TUESDAY	4-6pm	- Food Pantry
	4-7pm	- Ice Cream Social at Barum Lutheran Church
	6pm	- Finance Meeting
WEDNESDAY	4-7:30pm	- Ice Cream Social at St. Josephs in Elk Mound
FRIDAY:	10am-Noon	- Food Pantry
SUNDAY:	10:00am	- Communion Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL @ Barum Lutheran Church Tuesday, 7/12 4-7pm** Hot Beefs, Barbecue, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Beans, Pie, Ice Cream, and Beverages. (Take Out Meals available)

ICE CREAM SOCIAL @ **St. Joseph's Catholic Church** on **Wed., July 13 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Serving BBQ Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Pie, Ice Cream, and beverages. Silent Auction and Grocery Raffle, too! Come, relax, and feed the family!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY and POTLUCK Thur., 7/27 10am in the church basement. No Bible Study experience required.

NEXT VBS PLANNING MEETING **Wed. 7/20 6pm at Jaime Folczyk's Home (2789 23<sup>rd</sup> St, Elk Mound)** Adults, young adults and teens needed to help lead, assist and be Group Leaders to move with a small group of kids from station to station. ***Come to the meeting to learn about our lessons, how the small groups work and more!*** Looking for Incoming 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders and adult volunteers

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FLYERS/REGISTRATION FORMS available for **Make a Splash with Jesus** Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm 3-year-olds through incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Contact Jaime Folczyk (715-821-0796) or Holly Sweeney (715) 456-6960.

***\*NEW\* SUMMER GIVING CHALLENGE AMOUNT*** Generous donors have established a SUMMER CHALLENGE to help encourage giving and work towards reducing our current deficit. They are willing to match up to **\$4,000** in giving that is **above your normal giving!** Any offerings/donations marked "SUMMER CHALLENGE" (also available on Online GIVE PLUS) given **between June 21, 2022 and August 31, 2022** will be doubled up to the \$2,000 limit. *[NOTE: If you'd like to participate by INCREASING that challenge amount, please contact Pastor Mary or Barb Vadnais.]*

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## Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

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the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.  
 Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1774–1836, adapt.

## Just As I Am, without One Plea

Sing verses 1-3 (public domain)



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - ya con - flict,  
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
 one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
 man - ya doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
 of the mind, yea, all I need in thee to find,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871  
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

# I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, of more Je - sus and his love.  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest!

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry

and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911  
 Music: HANKEY, William G. Fischer, 1835–1912