



## SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE, REPENTANCE AND HEALING

*Reconciled to one another through Christ*

Wednesday • July 15, 2015 • 7:00 pm

*in partnership with the Minnesota Council of Churches*

## REMEMBRANCE

### GATHERING MUSIC

*In remembrance of those who died at Emanuel AME Church on June 17 in Charleston nine large lighted candles are in the midst of the assembly as it gathers. As you arrive, please add your own candles in remembrance.*

*At the sound of the bell, please stand if you are able.*

### GATHERING SONG

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

(hymn) 247

stanzas 1-2

*Between stanzas 2 and 3 worship leaders will read out a litany of remembrance...*

+	+
Cynthia Hurd	Tywanza Sanders
+	+
Susie Jackson	Rev. Daniel L. Simmons
+	+
Ethel Lance	Sharonda Coleman-Singleton
+	+
Rev. DePayne Middleton-Doctor	Myra Thompson
+	
Rev. Clementa A. Pinckney	

*Following the litany of remembrance, the gathering song continues:*

### GATHERING SONG

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

(hymn) 247

stanzas 3-4

### GREETING AND GATHERING PRAYER

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation.  
He comforts us in all our sorrows  
so that we can comfort others in their sorrows  
with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,  
the love at our beginning and without end,  
in our midst and with us.

**God is with us, here we find new life.**

Let us pray.  
O God, powerful and compassionate,  
you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us.  
Heal each of us, and make us a whole people,  
that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son;  
in whose name we pray.  
**Amen.**

## WORD

### PSALM 55

*proclaimed by a reader*

*Cities are full of violence. Even friends cannot be trusted: only God.*

Listen, God, to my plea, do not ignore my cry.  
Listen and answer, I shake with grief at the furor of my enemies.  
They threaten and attack me; they shout out curses,  
venting their anger against me.

My heart is pounding, I can feel the touch of death.  
Terror holds me in its grip, trembling seizes me.

“If I had wings like a dove, I would fly far and rest,  
fly far away to the wilds to escape the raging storm.”

Confuse their speech, Lord!  
I see violence and strife stalk their city walls both day and night.

Evil and destruction live in their midst;  
oppression and deceit never leave the public square.

If my enemy insults me, I can bear it;  
if a foe rises against me, I can hide myself.

But it was you, my own friend, the one I knew so well.  
With you I could always talk, even as we walked to the temple,  
my companion among the crowd.

Death to them all! Let them fall into Sheol alive,  
for evil fills their homes and lives among them.

I call out to God who rescues me.  
Morning, noon, and night I plead my case.

God hears my cry,  
brings me to safety when the battle is raging and my foes are many.

Enthroned for ever,  
God acts by humbling them because they refuse to change;  
They will not fear God.

My friend turned traitor and broke old promises,  
Spoke words smooth as butter while intending war,  
words that flowed like oil but cut like a sword.

Give your burden to the Lord, who will be your support.  
If you are faithful, God will not let you fall.

O God, hurl the bloodthirsty into the pit of destruction.  
Let traitors live only half their days. But as for me, I trust you.

**Give praise to the Father almighty, to his son Jesus Christ the Lord,  
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever. Amen.**

*silence follows for reflection*

### Psalm Prayer

... in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### PSALM 143

*sung responsively with the cantor*

*A plea for compassion, for deliverance; a plea for God’s presence. Long ago God made promises of friendship.*



LORD, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed  
my <sup>1</sup> supplications;  
answer me <sup>1</sup> in your righteousness.

**<sup>2</sup>Enter not into judgment <sup>1</sup> with your servant,  
for in your sight shall no one liv- <sup>1</sup> ing be justified.**

<sup>3</sup>For my enemy has sought my life and has crushed me <sup>1</sup> to the ground,  
making me live in dark places like those who <sup>1</sup> are long dead.

**<sup>4</sup>My spirit <sup>1</sup> faints within me;  
my heart within <sup>1</sup> me is desolate.**

<sup>5</sup>I remember the time past; I ponder <sup>1</sup> all your deeds;  
I consider the works <sup>1</sup> of your hands.

**<sup>6</sup>I spread out my <sup>1</sup> hands to you;  
my soul gasps to you like a <sup>1</sup> thirsty land.**

<sup>7</sup>O LORD, make haste to answer me; my <sup>1</sup> spirit fails me;  
do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who go  
down <sup>1</sup> to the pit.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear of your lovingkindness in the morning, for I put  
my <sup>1</sup> trust in you;  
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my <sup>1</sup> soul to you.**

<sup>9</sup>Deliver me from my ene- <sup>1</sup> mies, O LORD,  
for I flee to <sup>1</sup> you for refuge.

**<sup>10</sup>Teach me to do what pleases you, for you <sup>1</sup> are my God;  
let your good Spirit lead me on <sup>1</sup> level ground.**

<sup>11</sup>Revive me, O LORD, <sup>1</sup> for your name’s sake;  
for your righteousness’ sake, bring me <sup>1</sup> out of trouble.

**<sup>12</sup>In your steadfast love, destroy my enemies and bring all  
my <sup>1</sup> foes to naught,  
for truly I <sup>1</sup> am your servant.**

*silence follows for reflection*

#### Psalm Prayer

... through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**PSALM 46** *The assembly joins the reader in repeating the antiphon.*

*Neither disaster nor force will matter before the power of God. Rest secure in  
God’s protection.*

Our sure defense, our shelter and help in trouble,  
God never stands far off.

So we stand unshaken when solid earth cracks  
and volcanoes slide into the sea,  
when breakers rage and mountains tremble in the swell.

**The Lord of hosts is with us,  
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.** ◆

A river delights in the city of God, home of the Holy One Most High.  
With God there, the city stands; God defends it under attack.  
Nations rage, empires fall. God speaks, earth melts.

**The Lord of hosts is with us,  
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.** ◆

Come! See the wonders God does across the earth:  
everywhere stopping wars,  
smashing, crushing, burning all the weapons of war.

An end to your fighting!  
Acknowledge me as God, high over nations, high over earth.

**The Lord of hosts is with us,  
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.** ◆

**Give praise to the Father almighty, to his son Jesus Christ the Lord,  
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts, both now and forever. Amen.**

*silence follows for reflection*

#### Psalm Prayer

... through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### READING

*Reconciled to God through Christ* Ephesians 2:13-22  
*The author of this letter is reminding his audience that originally they were not part of  
God’s chosen people. Through Jesus’ death, however, they are included in God’s  
household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.*

Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the  
blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into  
one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.  
<sup>15</sup>He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he  
might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making  
peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross,  
thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup>So he came and proclaimed  
peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup>for through  
him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

<sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the  
saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation  
of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In  
him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the  
Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for  
God.

Praise to Christ, the Word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### REFLECTION

*silence follows*

#### SONG

“Amazing Grace”

*(hymn)* 779

## REPENTANCE

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess together:

*silence*

We confess, dearest Lord  
that we have failed time and again to see you in our neighbors.  
**We have instead cultivated hostility  
when people don’t look or act like us.**

We have been complacent in larger systems and institutions  
that we designed only to benefit people in the majority culture.  
**We have made a god of our own comfort,  
and stood silent in the face of oppression.**

When confronted by our sin we have denied you,  
polarized groups against each other,  
and tried to minimize our involvement.  
**Forgive us, restore us,  
and bring us into right relationship with you  
and with your beloved people.**

God’s beloved people, do not fear, take heart,  
Christ who has made us all one in his own body, has forgiven us.  
You are forgiven in the name of the God of Hagar and Ishmael,  
in the name of Jesus the Christ who ate with sinners,  
and in the name of the Holy Spirit who called the Ethiopian eunuch.  
Christ has set us free.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... we cry out to you.

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

In Jesus Christ God has made his peace with us.  
The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to share God’s peace with one another.*

#### OFFERING

*Tonight’s offering has been designated by the Minnesota Council of Churches for the  
Christ Church Cathedral (St. Louis) “Rebuild the Churches Fund.”*

#### Offering Prayer

Let us pray together.

**Blessed are you, God of all creation;  
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

## SENDING

#### INVITATION TO HEALING

*Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near; and sent the  
disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and  
anointing.*

#### *Invitation to communal healing*

*As a sign of your continuing commitment to be an agent of healing in the world, we  
invite you to take a votive candle with you as you depart this evening. Bring it to a  
place of darkness, or light it as part of your own prayer life and healing.*

#### *Invitation to personal healing*

*In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, at the conclusion of  
the service, we invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness — laying  
on of hands and anointing — in the name of the triune God. If you wish, after the  
Dismissal you may present yourself at the chancel kneelers no matter your need of  
healing - physical, emotional, relational, spiritual... You will not be asked to speak.*

#### CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good;  
return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak, and help the suffering;  
honor all people; love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### BENEDICTION

**Amen.**

#### DISMISSAL

Go now to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*Prayer and anointing for healing are offered this evening following the  
dismissal, Meet a healing minister at the chancel kneelers.*

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# WELCOME

## SERVING TODAY

Pastor D. Foy Christopherson, *presider*  
Pastor Melissa Pohlman, *reflection*  
Carney Bergeson-Meekins, *assisting minister*  
Judy Hedman, Christopher Haug, *readers*  
Cantor Mark Sedio, *organist/pianist*  
David Molvik, *sound operator*  
Bruce Bergeson-Meekins, *sacristan*

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Some material from the New Zealand Prayerbook.  
Psalm 55 and 146 © ICEL.



## NEXT WEEK

Next Wednesday's MCC prayer service will be held at

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
2742 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
6:00 pm

*Please join us for fellowship in the South Commons following worship.*

*Parking for this evening's worship (in Central's parking lot)  
is validated at the welcome desk.*

*This service is being streamed live on the internet. [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org)*

**Everyone is welcome.** As a community of the people of God, the members of Central Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female" (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the "Welcome to Central" card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email [info@centralmpls.org](mailto:info@centralmpls.org).

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances.

**Welcome to the Holy Baptism.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

### Friends of Central...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join a new network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.



**Digital giving** is available at Central. You can go online through Central's website at [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org) and click on **Donate to our Mission**. If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. Central Lutheran is supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.



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