



Voices Not Always Heard: Queer Voices

(Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

August 17, 2025

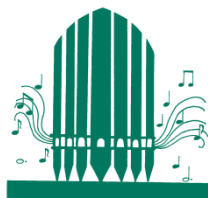
9:30 AM

*(You are welcome to share a prayer request to be used in worship today.
Prayer Cards will be collected during the Sermon Song.)*

GATHERING

(A time of silence to let go of daily worries and refocus on worshipping God)

PRELUDE *(and lighting of the altar candles)*



CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Matthew 11:28-30)*

Leader: People of God—

All: come and worship!

Leader: Even if you're tired and worn out—

All: come and worship!

Leader: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—

All: come and worship!

Leader: Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—

All: come and worship!

Leader: See if you can discover how Jesus wants to use you—

All: come and worship!

Leader: For Jesus is humble and gentle,

All: and he will give us everything we need to follow him.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT PRAYER

Leader: Lord God,

O Loving Creator, we acknowledge this traditional home of the Duwamish and Muckleshoot peoples on which we live and worship today. We give thanks for their stewardship of this land over centuries. We ask for your guidance in our efforts to care for this place, and to honor the First Peoples' legacy with humility, respect and responsibility.

Response: Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

Heavenly God,

we come before you with grateful hearts,
celebrating the vibrant tapestry of love that defines us all.

May Your light shine upon us,
erasing barriers and fostering inclusivity.

Guide us to embrace each other without judgment,
nurturing a world where all hearts can find solace and acceptance.

All: Amen.

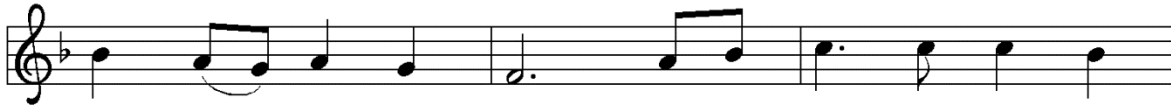




1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



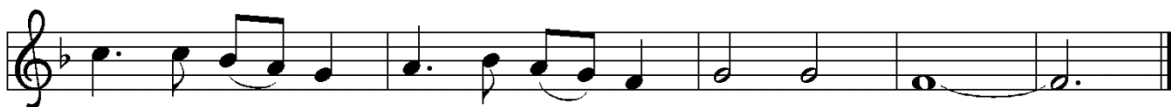
hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

CONFESSION

Leader: Whenever self obscures the needs of others,

All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget who is our neighbor,

All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we pass by on the other side,

All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget to say 'Well done!

All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget to simply give thanks,

All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget the path that we tread,

All: forgive us.

Leader: For all those times we bring a tear to your eye,
bring us back into your forgiving arms
and teach us once again, your way.

Response: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: We are forgetful people of God.

But, we are forgiven even before our confession reaches your holy ears.

The Holy Spirit is always here to guide us and
remind us that all people are God's children.

Response: Amen.



THE WORD

THE FIRST READING **Genesis 1:26-31** (*Inclusive Bible Translation*)

Reader: Our readings are from the **Inclusive Bible** translation, and the first reading today is from the first chapter of Genesis:

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, to be like us. Let them be stewards of the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, the cattle, the wild animals, and everything that crawls on the ground."

²⁷ Humankind was created as God's reflection:
in the divine image God created them;
female and male, God made them.

Reader: ²⁸ God blessed them and said, “Bear fruit, increase your numbers, and fill the earth—and be responsible for it! Watch over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things on the earth!” ²⁹ God then told them, “Look! I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the earth, and every tree whose fruit carries its seed inside itself: they will be your food; ³⁰ and to all the animals of the earth and the birds of the air and things that crawl on the ground—everything that has a living soul in it—I give all the green plants for food.” So it was. ³¹ God looked at all of this creation, and proclaimed that this was good—very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING Galatians 3:23-28 *(Inclusive Bible Translation)*

Reader: And our second reading today is from the third chapter of Galatians:

²³ Before faith came, we were under the constraint of the Law, locked in until the faith that was coming would be revealed. ²⁴ In other words, the Law was our monitor until Christ came to bring about our justification through faith. ²⁵ But now that faith is here, we are no longer in the monitor’s charge.

²⁶ Each one of you is a child of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or citizen, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

Response: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE



ON BEHALF OF VOICES NOT ALWAYS HEARD

Chris Brown

SERMON

Queer Voices

Pastor Tormod Svensson





1 When pain of the world sur - rounds us with dark - ness and de -
 2 We see with . . fear and trem - bling our ach - ing world in
 3 The church is a ho - ly ves - sel the liv - ing wa - ters
 4 We praise you . . for our jour - ney and your a - bun - dant



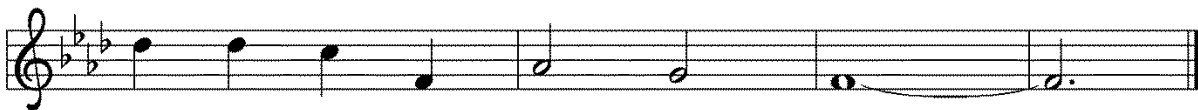
spair, when search - ing just con - founds us with
 need, con - fess - ing to each oth - er our
 fill to nour - ish all the peo - ple, God's
 grace, your sav - ing word that guid - ed a



false hopes ev - 'ry - where, when lives are starved for mean - ing and
 waste - ful - ness and greed. May we with stead - fast car - ing the
 pur - pose to ful - fill. May we with hum - ble cour - age be
 strug - gling hu - man race. O God, with all cre - a - tion, your



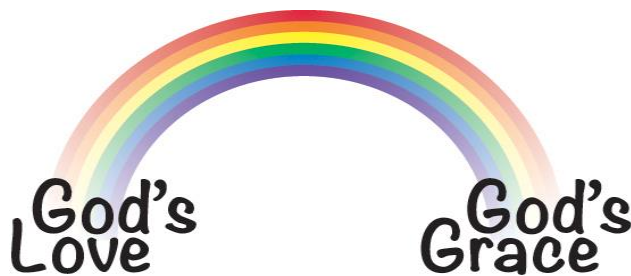
des - ti - ny is bare, we are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 hun - gry chil - dren feed. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 o - pen to God's will. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 fu - ture we em - brace. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and



let God's heal - ing flow through us.
 let God's jus - tice flow through us.
 let God's Spir - it flow through us.
 let God's chang - es flow through us.

Text: Jim Strathdee, b. 1941
 Music: CALLED TO FOLLOW, Jim Strathdee
 Text and music © 1978 Desert Flower Music. www.strathdeemusic.com.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.



DECLARATION OF FAITH *(inspired by Mark 1:14-20, Matthew 4:18-22)*

Leader: We declare our faith:

**All: I believe in an innovative God,
who does not wait for us to find ourselves
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become,
both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,
calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty
and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.**

**Because Christ has called me
in this I truly believe.
Amen.**

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Leader: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

(silence for reflection)

Leader: God of the rainbow, let us cast aside prejudice and ignorance, recognizing that love is a gift to be cherished, regardless of gender or orientation. Thank you for the immense capacity of the human heart and the power it holds to bring joy and harmony into our lives.
God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, those who believe that no one cares or understands them, and those who are sick or homebound. Comfort and bring healing and hope to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Reassure them of your care in all times and places, and give them the needed strength and courage to cope with their difficulties. Guide and sustain those who are or will be tending to their needs, and give support and comfort to their families and friends through these trying times.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us. And we thank you for the lives of all those saints who have recently entered eternal life, including....

Confident in the promise of the resurrection, we wait with anticipation and certainty that we will be reunited with them again at your heavenly banquet. Until that time, comfort those who are mourning the physical loss of their loved ones. Be with them as they struggle to find a path through their grief back to joy.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Listen now to the prayers of your people, spoken aloud or silently...

(pause for personal prayers)

(special congregational prayers are lifted up)

A more complete list of all whom the congregation is praying for this week is in the announcement insert in your bulletin.



God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Response: Amen.

MEAL



(Note: Receptacles for your offerings are available on stools at the front on either side of the center aisle as you come forward for communion)

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Our offering prayer:
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

**All: Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: We join in the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

**All: Our [Father|Mother|Heavenly Parent|Creator] in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**



ABOUT COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. Please wait in your pew until the usher indicates that it is your turn, then come forward using the center aisle. You may choose either the rail side or the side where there is no rail. If you and/or your children are not comfortable participating in the Rite of Communion, **know that all are still welcome to come forward for a blessing – just let the presider know your preference when you and/or your children are in front of the first Chancel step.** When you are at the front, please fill in a vacant spot. **If you would like a gluten free alternative to the bread, or if you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please indicate that to the presider.** After you have communed, please discard the empty cup to be recycled in the trash can by the side wall before returning to your seat.

COMMUNION INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Leader: The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Bread of Life from Heaven* ELW 474, Verses 1, 5 & 3

Refrain

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,
we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a hymn. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system is labeled "Refrain" and contains the lyrics "Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,". The second system contains the lyrics "we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with clear lyrics underneath.

1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this
 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -

thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is

Refrain

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas
 Text and music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

(when all in the sanctuary have been fed)

Pastor: Those joining us online – pick up your bread and hear these words:

This is the body of Christ given for you.

Eat and receive saying, "Amen."

Lift up your cup of wine or juice and hear these words:

This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

Drink and receive saying, "Amen."

COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Response: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Leader: May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy,
 Go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness.

May the Son who teaches us to care for strangers and foreigners,
 Go with us as we try to be good neighbors in our communities.

May the Spirit who breaks down our barriers and celebrates community,
 Go with us as we find the courage to create a place of welcome for all.

Response: Amen.

E A2

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

E A2 Bsus4 B

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

F#m7 E/G# A2 Bsus4

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

E Bsus4

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver -
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's
 for young and for old, the right to be -
 for just and un - just, a new way to
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be

WE GO

Pastor: Let us go now, to follow Jesus, to serve our neighbor,
to stand with the oppressed, to proclaim and live God's grace,
and to share God's peace with one another and our world!

Response: **Thanks be to God!**

*(As we pass the peace, **ALL** people have the right to choose
if they would like a verbal greeting, a handshake, or a hug.)*

POSTLUDE





Resources: All bible texts are from the Inclusive Bible by Priests for Equality, Publisher Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, copy privileges granted by eBooks.com

Some liturgy wording and clip art from <https://www.sundaysandseasons.com>, copyright 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26161.

Call to Worship ~ written by Christine Longhurst, re: Worship, modified for inclusivity –

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/06/intergenerational-call-to-worship-matt.html>

Prayer of the Day ~ written by Rhonda Gleason

Confession ~ written by John Birch, and posted on **Faith and Worship**. <http://www.faithandworship.com/>

Assurance of Pardon ~ written by Rhonda Gleason

Declaration of Faith ~ written by Bruce Prewer, on [Bruce Prewer's Homepage](http://www.bruceprewer.com/) --

<http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocB/BEIPHANY3.htm>

First Petition of the Community Prayers ~ from [15 Celebratory Prayers for Gay Pride Day and Celebrations - Strength in Prayer](#)

Closing Benediction ~ attributed to Clare McBeath and Tim Presswood

Special Clip Art:

Diverse people ~ from <https://clipart-library.com/search1/?q=diversity#gsc.tab=1&gsc.q=diversity&gsc.page=6>

Family Praying in Silhouette ~ from <https://cliparting.com/free-prayer-clipart-40215/>

Bible with Gold Cross ~ from https://clipart-library.com/clip-art/438134_bible-logo-png.htm

Jesus with the Children ~ from <http://www.clker.com/cliparts/6/f/a/2/15163052791737896005jesus-loves-little-children-clipart.med.png>

I am a Child of God ~ from <https://www.itsalwaysautumn.com/i-am-a-child-of-god-free-printable.html>

God's Love to God's Grace ~ from <https://img2.clipart-library.com/28/gods-grace-clipart/gods-grace-clipart-19.jpg>

Praying Hands ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/516920.htm>

Come to the Table ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/702688.htm>

Piano with Music ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/314679.htm> and recolored

God Loves Me Just As I Am ~ from <https://clipart-library.com/clipart/942752.htm>

Some clip art ~ from <https://www.sundaysandseasons.com>, copyright 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26161.

One License, Annual License with Podcasting, Category B avg attendance 26 to 100, A-729010 for Oct 18, 2024 through Oct 17, 2025

CCLI Copyright License 263987 Size B, Streaming License 20757860 Size B



KENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

lives and celebrates the accepting love of Christ

CORE VALUES

We affirm the following values:

- * We value the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus;
- * We value God's love as a gift to be shared with everyone;
- * We value everyone as a child of God, and invite all to be embraced by God;
- * We value providing a loving, caring environment supporting spiritual needs;
- * We value that all people are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God and community.
- * We value the participation of people of all ages, ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, educational background, different abilities, and economic conditions.

OUR VISION

Kent Lutheran Church, a Christ-centered, sacred place
for spiritual, cultural, and community enrichment.

Kent Lutheran Church is an **RIC (Reconciling in Christ)** congregation.

336 Second Avenue South, Kent, WA 98032-5849

Phone: 253-852-2057

Office email: klcoffice@kentlutheran.org

Web Site: www.kentlutheran.org

Visit us on Facebook: Kent Lutheran Church, Kent Lutheran Youth, KLC South Sudan

Other KLC related web sites: www.KentGrandOrgan.org, www.klcsouthsudan.blogspot.com

Pastor Tormod Svensson

Pastor's Cell Phone: 301-707-1548

Pastor's email: pastorsvensson@gmail.com

Sean Haley, Director of Music Ministries

Ken Brooks, Office Ministries Manager

Mona Lee, Treasurer

Kathy Nixon, Financial Secretary

Joseph Lual, Seminarian

Lutheran Counseling Network counselor:

Karen Klemetson (Kent and SeaTac)

425-271-9711, ext. 3