

## Vasa Lutheran Church

*“Normal” Isn’t Coming Back, Jesus Is*

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

August 20, 2023

**ANNOUNCING THE DAY:** Today’s Bumper Sticker is: “Normal isn’t coming back, Jesus is.” The folly is that we have some sense of normal to begin with. Covid broke the word normal. The main idea: We don’t know when Jesus will return, but when he does, he will make all things new.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned.  
We have hurt our community.  
We have squandered your blessings.  
We have hoarded your bounty.  
In the name of Jesus,  
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Righteous God,

**we confess that we have sinned.  
We have failed to be honest.  
We have lacked the courage to speak.  
We have spoken falsely.  
In the name of Jesus,  
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.  
God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
Claim the gift of God’s mercy:  
you are freed and forgiven  
in the name of † Jesus Christ.

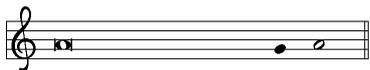
**Amen.**

**GREETING**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: and also with you.**

**KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



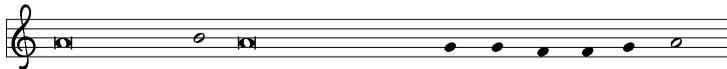
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

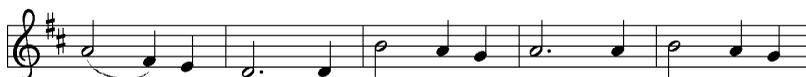


strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** Gracious and holy God, **give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you, eyes to behold you, ears to listen for your word, a heart to love you, and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS: Isaiah 64:1-9** O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- 2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. 5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. 8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

**Mark 13:24-33** 24 "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. 28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN**

**OH, HAPPY DAY WHEN WE**

**ELW 441**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS**

**ELW 597**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** using the words of the Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION:** Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

## **GENEROSITY MOMENT**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

L: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

L: The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars;  
beneath the sea;  
within each cell;  
with every breath.

**C: We praise you, O God.**

L: Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water;  
by night and day;  
across the wilderness;  
out of exile;  
into the future.

**C: We bless you, O God.**

L: We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life;

near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner;  
among the poor;  
with us now.

**C: We thank you, O God.**

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.

L: Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

L: We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 OF COMMUNION**

*We will receive communion by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:** We thank you, generous God, **for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

**JESUS SHALL REIGN**

**ELW 434**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

L: The God who calls across the cosmos  
and speaks in the smallest seed  
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you  
now and to the end of the age. **C: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PARISH PULSE:**  
**August 9 & 13, 2023**  
Participating in Worship:

**47**  
+10 live-streams  
Total Offerings:  
\$1,660.00

### **VENDORS WANTED FOR THE VASA BAZAAR ON NOV. 4**

If you are a vendor, or know of one  
who wants to have a booth at the  
bazaar, contact the church office for a  
registration form! 651-258-4327 or  
[office@vasalutheran.org](mailto:office@vasalutheran.org).



**Eileen Anderson,  
Irene Carpenter, Deloris  
Clemens, Paul Mikaelson,  
Scott Sorenson, Max  
Tilderquist, Dale Safe, Dan  
Hedeem, and Rodney  
Nelson.**

### **Worship Assistants Today:**

**Usher:** Rick Samuelson  
**Reader:** Geri Lindhom  
**Hospitality:** Lyle Ness  
**Comm. Asst:** Roger Guttromson

### **Worship Assistants Next Week (August 27, 2023)**

**Usher:** Bruce Tilderquist  
**Reader:** Kathy Tilderquist  
**Hospitality:** Mo Hauck

## Music for Sunday, August 20, 2023

### **My Lord, What a Morning**

Text: African American spiritual

Music: African American spiritual

### **O Happy Day When We Shall Stand**

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship,  
admin. Augsburg Fortress

### **My Hope is Built on Nothing Less**

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

### **Jesus Shall Reign**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Reprinted/Streamed with Permission under  
ONE LICENSE #A-740635  
All rights reserved



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT WANGEN PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Wangen Prairie Lutheran Church is holding an ice cream social on Sunday, August 27. Music starts at 2 pm. Sharing their talent will be the Cannon Valley Ensemble. Ice cream and treats served right after. Free family event. There will be free will offering for helping local families. Historic school house will be open for viewing.

Also, Wangen Prairie is holding a free coat/jacket giveaway on Sept 30, and needs donations of new or gently used coats, jackets, mittens, scarves, and hats. If anyone has anything which they would like to donate, please contact Kathy Tilderquist.



## **GoodStock: August 26-27**

**Musical Guests: Becky Schlegel, Six Mile Grove, & The Many. Color Run, Village Market, Family Fun Zone, Food Trucks and more!**

**For a detailed schedule visit:**

**[https://goodearthvillage.org/goodstock.](https://goodearthvillage.org/goodstock)**