

Saturday Worship, June 11, 2016

Be Longing [to Belong]

Theme: Belonging: Wisdom (specifically for our work ahead)

a. James 1

Resources for this service: LUYH (Lift Up Your Hearts hymnal). Psalter Hymnal, PFAS (Psalms for All Seasons hymnal)

Prelude:

Strength Will Rise/Everlasting God
Be Thou My Vision

Opening of worship

Liturgist: We have come in with singing this morning. As we continue to worship, please join in singing this prayer from Psalm 119 - Order My Steps in your Word, Dear Lord.

Sing: Order My Steps (LUYH 758)

Call to Worship

People of God, worship the living God today!
Remember that out of nothing God created the heavens and earth.
Remember that God raised Jesus
from the powerlessness of death
to the power of his right hand.
Remember that not even the gates of hell
can stand against God's purposes.
Behold your God, who reigns now and forever!

Hymn of praise: Be Exalted - 2X (Psalter Hymnal or PFAS 108B)

Liturgist: [Introduce the overall theme at this point]

Our worship services for synod this year have been planned with the overall theme of Belonging. We belong to God, we belong to the church, we belong to each other. In our belonging, we long for the things of God and his Kingdom. Each day we will focus on an aspect of that longing. Today our focus is on wisdom. As representatives of the Christian Reformed Church, we long for God's wisdom. Please join in reading Psalm 121 responsively.

Psalm 121

(as in PFAS)

L: I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where does my help come?

A: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

L: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber

A: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

L: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

A: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

L: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

A: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Prayer: Maker of heaven and earth, we trust you to keep us in your care.

Guard us from evil, protect us from harm.

Help us to know you,

and knowing you to follow you, so that all our comings and goings,

our thoughts and our words,

our discussions and our decisions

may conform to your purposes, O Lord

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[adapt. PFAS pg. 792]

Song: I Lift My Eyes Up – 2X (LUYH #652)

Scripture Reading: James 1:5-8

Meditation/Message: "Longing for Wisdom"

Song of Response: God of Grace and God of Glory (LUYH 926)

Prayer from scripture (from Eph. 1:17-19):

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father,

May give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation,

So that you may know him better.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened

In order that you may know the hope to which he has called you,

The riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

And his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Closing Song: Lead Me, Guide Me -(PH 544, LUYH 329)

Benediction / Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,

keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,

and of God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord;

and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit,

remain with you always.
Amen.

Passing of the Peace (we will invite the people to pass the peace on the screen)

Monday, June 13, 2016

Resources Used in this Service: Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal (LUYH), The Worship Sourcebook, Psalter Hymnal, Heidelberg Catechism (HC)

Be-Longing for the Holy Spirit

Theme: Galatians, the work of the SPIRIT, keeping in Step with the Spirit

Prelude: (2-4 songs as the delegates gather, boot up computers, etc)

Fear Not, Rejoice and Be Glad (LUYH #240)

Dios, Esta Aqui/God is Here Today (LUYH #522)

With One Heart - Navajo and English

Synod pauses to pray and lament the shooting in Orlando, FL, as we begin this morning.

Sing: Kyrie – (LUYH #635)

Prayer

Sing: Make Me A Channel of Your Peace (Psalter Hymnal)

Liturgist

God of life,

as we prepare for worship today,

help us not to take lightly the highly charged message we proclaim.

Help us sense the power, beauty, and mission of your Spirit.

Through Christ, our Lord, Amen.

[The Worship Sourcebook]

Hymn: Fill Thou My Life (PH 547, LUYH 356)

Liturgist/Reader: This morning we continue with our theme of 'belonging'. On Saturday we noted that in our belonging, we long for wisdom. In our belonging, we also long to be in step with the Spirit. We long to be the people who participate in building the kingdom of God on earth. We long for the fruits of the Spirit to be evident in our lives, our speech, our attitudes, and our actions.

Hear these words from 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory,

are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory,

which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Affirmation: The Holy Spirit (taken from LUYH 229)

Liturgist: What do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit?

**ALL: First, that the Spirit, with the Father and the Son,
Is eternal God.
Second, that the Spirit is given also to me,
so that, through true faith,
He makes me share in Christ and all his benefits,
comforts me, and will remain with me forever. (HC Q&A 53)**

Sung prayer: Send Us Your Spirit (LUYH #228 - soloist to take stanzas 1&2, all sing on refrain)

Scripture Reading: Galatians 5: 16-17
Meditation/Message: Walking By the Spirit

Song of Response: Breathe on Me, Breath of God (LUYH #747)

Prayer (responsively):

Eternal God, our Father, you are the source of our being,
the breath of our life, and the joy of our living.

We know that you delight in the worship of your children
and that you eagerly send your Holy Spirit upon us.

**Send your Spirit today,
that we may speak in words not taught by human wisdom,
but taught by the Spirit.**

You sent your Spirit to your Son and your church,
giving them each power and wisdom to follow your ways,
speak your truth, and accomplish your purposes.

**So grant us your Spirit with all fruit and equipping gifts,
that we may reflect your glory
and the world might believe,
for the honor of your holy name. Amen.**

[adapt from The Worship Sourcebook, second edition]

Closing Song: Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God (LUYH #746)

Benediction / Blessing

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Against such things there is no law.

Since we live by the Spirit,

let us keep in step with the Spirit.

May the God of hope fill you

with all joy and peace as you trust in him,

so that you may overflow with hope

by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(LUYH #238 at the end, from Gal. 5:22-23, Rom 15:13)

Passing of the Peace (on the screen)

Tuesday, June 14, 2016 Synod Worship

Resources Used in this Service: Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal (LUYH), The Worship Sourcebook (TWS), Belhar Confession

Be Longing [to Belong]

Theme: Unity/Community

Scripture: I Corinthians 12

a. Unity through Diversity/many parts

Prelude: (2-4 songs as the delegates gather, boot up computers, etc)

I Love Your Church O Lord (LUYH 247)

With One Heart (Navajo and English)

Call to Worship

Liturgist: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

ALL: **And also with you!**

Liturgist: Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Sing (call to worship continues): Uyai Mose/Come All You People (LUYH #496)

Liturgist/Reader: In our worship, we have expressed our longing for wisdom and our longing for the Spirit to lead and guide us. We belong together, and in that belonging we long for unity of the Body. Join together in this Affirmation from the Belhar Confession.

Affirmation: The Unity of the Body

L: We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,

A: the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

L: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers

A: who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

L: We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways:

A: in that we love one another;

that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another;

L: that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another;

A: that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit,

**are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup
confess one name, are obedient to one Lord,
work for one cause, and share one hope.**

L: That together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;

**A: together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity;
together know and bear one another's burdens,**

L: therefore fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another
and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another;

**A: that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness;
pray together; together serve God in this world;
and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.**

Song: We Are One in Christ Jesus (LUYH #255)

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, you said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command."

Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience.

Lord, you said, "You may ask for anything in my name."

**Forgive us when we think we need to solve
our own problems.**

Lord, you said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

**We confess that our lives are often consumed
by worry and anxiety.**

Lord, you said, "If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit."

Forgive us our barren lives, Lord.

Lord, you said, "You must testify, for you have been with me."

We confess, Lord, that we have been too often silent.

Lord, you said, "Love each other as I have loved you."

**In this and in so many other ways,
we confess our failures and shortcomings. Amen.**

(TWS pg 108)

Song: Cornerstone (Hillsong)

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 12

Meditation/Message:

Song of Response: Take, O Take Me As I Am (LUYH 741) – 2X with 'me', then 2X with 'us'

Prayer

Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

We come before you as many parts of a single body;
people drawn from every tribe,
every nation, every language.
Holy Spirit, help us to remember that the body is made up of many parts;
each one unique and everyone necessary.
Teach us to embrace the discomfort that comes from our diversity
and to celebrate the fact that we are unified,
not through our sameness,
but through the blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. (adapt. LUYH 270)

Song: With One Heart

Benediction / Blessing

Closing Song: In Christ There is No East or West, stanza 1 in multiple languages (tune #266 LUYH)

Passing of the Peace [on the screen]

Wednesday, June 15, 2016, Synod Worship

Resources Used in this Service: Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal (LUYH), Our World Belongs to God (Contemporary Testimony CT), The Worshiping Church hymnal

Be-longing [to Belong, longing for peace, shalom]

Theme: Peace/Shalom

NOTE: This will be a service of scripture, song, prayer, litanies (no sermon).
Prayer language is taken from Our World Belongs to God (37-55)

Prelude: (2-4 songs as the delegates gather, boot up computers, etc)

Come Away from Rush and Hurry (LUYH 527)

Welcome Into This Place (LUYH 530)

I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness/Tu fidelidad (LUYH 371)

Call to Worship – Liturgist 2:

We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord;

All creation worships you, the Father everlasting.

To you all angels and all the heavenly powers cry aloud;

The cherubim and seraphim sing in endless praise:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. [LUYH 541, Te Deum)

Morning Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy (LUYH 538)

Liturgist 1: This morning in our worship time, we will spend our time in scripture, song, and prayer, expressing our longing for peace, longing for shalom. We worship a holy God who deserves our praise. Yet we know that things are not right in the world. We grieve the brokenness. Listen to these words of confession from Psalm 79.

Psalm of Confession: (Psalm 79:5-9)

How long, LORD? Will you be angry forever?

How long will your jealousy burn like fire?

⁶ Pour out your wrath on the nations

that do not acknowledge you,

on the kingdoms

that do not call on your name;

⁷ for they have devoured Jacob

and devastated his homeland.

⁸ Do not hold against us the sins of past generations;

may your mercy come quickly to meet us,
for we are in desperate need.
⁹ Help us, God our Savior,
for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive our sins
for your name's sake.

Prayer of Confession -liturgist 1 invites the people to join in prayer:

**All: Merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Song of Confession: Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive (LUYH 638)

Assurance of Pardon (Liturgist 2)

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
He bore our sins in his body on the cross,
So that free from sins, we might live for righteousness.
By his wounds we are healed.

Song: Oh to See The Dawn (The Power of the Cross) (LUYH 177)

[this next section uses the Contemporary Testimony - Our World Belongs to God as a
framework]

Liturgist 1 – Denise Posie

The church is a gathering of forgiven sinners called to be holy.
Saved by the patient grace of God, we deal patiently with others
and together confess our need for grace and forgiveness.
Restored in Christ's presence, shaped by his life,

this new community lives out the ongoing story of God's reconciling love, announces the new creation, and works for a world of justice and peace. [CT #39]

Song: I Then Shall Live (as one who's been forgiven...)(words by Gloria Gaither, from The Worshiping Church hymnal #507)

Liturgist 2:

We grieve that the church, which shares one Spirit, one faith, one hope, and spans all time, place, race, and language, has become a broken communion in a broken world. When we struggle for the truth of the gospel and for the righteousness God demands, we pray for wisdom and courage.

[CT 40 -first part]

With this next song, we join with our brothers and sisters from Egypt and around the world as we plead for peace.

Sing: Salaam (LUYH 298)

Liturgist 1 – Denise Posie

We are going to spend time in prayer, asking for God's healing and restoration in the world and in the Church. We'll sing the Kyrie, Lord Have Mercy, and when a topic is introduced, please pray using whatever posture or method is comfortable for you. You may pray outloud, in silence, on your knees, standing, etc.

Sing: Kyrie (635 LUYH) -(English first time, then Greek)

Liturgist 1:

Gracious God, we pray for all who suffer from prejudice, greed, or violence. We pray especially for all prisoners of politics or religion, and for all refugees. Hear our prayers for all who are oppressed...

Sing: Kyrie – 1X (sing either English or Greek)

Liturgist 2 :

We pray for all in need because of famine, flood, or earthquake. We pray for all who experience the pain of sickness, loneliness, fear, or loss. Hear our prayers, especially for those in need

Sing: Kyrie - 1X (sing either English or Greek)

Liturgist 1:

Gracious God, we pray your church in North America and around the world. We pray for the CRC and her needs. We pray for the church universal. Hear our prayers for the church....(wait about 60 seconds)

Sing Kyrie – 1X (sing either English or Greek)

Liturgist 2 :

We marvel that the Lord gathers the broken pieces to do his work,
and that he blesses us still with joy, new members, and surprising evidences of unity.
We commit ourselves to seeking and expressing the oneness of all who follow Jesus.

**All: Joining the mission of God, the church is sent with the gospel
of the kingdom to call everyone to know and follow Christ
and to proclaim to all the assurance that in the name of Jesus
there is forgiveness of sin and new life for all who repent and believe.
The Spirit calls all members to embrace God's mission in their neighborhoods
and in the world; to feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger,
Clothe the naked, care for the sick, and free the prisoner.
We repent of leaving this work to a few, for this mission is central to our being.**

Sing: Mighty to Save (everyone needs compassion..., Words & Music by Ben Fielding and
Reuben Morgan)

Liturgist 1

The Great Commission: (Matthew 28:18-20)

Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me."

With gratitude and expectation we hear Jesus' command:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,

Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

And teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

With joy and trust, we hear Jesus' promise:

"Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**(ALL): "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth
and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"**

**He has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God,
and we will reign on earth.**

**God will be all in all, righteousness and peace will flourish,
everything will be made new, and every eye will see at last
that our world belongs to God.**

Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!

From: Affirmation: Come, Lord Jesus- CT 68 (also LUYH

484)

Closing Song: Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow (several languages)

Passing of the Peace (on the screen)

Thursday, June 16, 2016, Synod Worship

Resources Used in this Service: Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal (LUYH), The Worship Sourcebook (TWS), Psalter Hymnal (PH)

Be Longing [to Belong]

Theme: Celebration of life (including creation)
Longing for the Abundant Life in Christ
Scripture : John 10:10

Prelude: (2-4 songs as the delegates gather, boot up computers, etc)
Look and Learn (LUYH #120) – st. 1 & 2
God of Wonders (LUYH #4)
Haala Ayoo Diyinn (Navajo song)

Invitation to Silence, followed by acapella singing of Alleluia....; He's my Savior....; I will praise Him. (traditional tune)

Call to Worship-liturgist – Sam Lee:
The creator God has given us another day to work and to worship. Let's continue praising him as we sing this hymn of praise.

Opening Hymn: Praise to the Lord the Almighty (LUYH 575, PH 253)

Liturgist Sam Lee: This morning we celebrate all created life. We celebrate the beauty of creation. We celebrate our belonging, and we long for fullness of life in Jesus.

Psalm 148 – invite the people to read responsively:
Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

Fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

His glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,

For the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the Lord!

Song: All Creatures of Our God and King (LUYH #551)

Prayer:

Lord God, we love you.
We trust you.
We believe in you.
We know that Jesus loves us and died for us.
We know that you never leave us.
Today, we celebrate life together
because of everything you have done for us! (TWS)

Song: Oh How Good is Christ the Lord, Oh Que Bueno – 3X – first Spanish, 2nd English, 3rd either language (LUYH 192)

Scripture Reading: John 10:10

Meditation/Message: Longing for God's Abundance

Song: Spirit of the Living God (LUYH 749, PH 424)

Words of Hope (from Romans 8:14-16)

Pastor: Invite the people to read together these words of hope from Romans 8:

**All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you have received a spirit of adoption.
When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is the very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit
that we are children of God.**

Alleluia! Amen.

(from LUYH 694)

Song of Response: What the Lord Has Done in Me (LUYH #800)

Benediction / Blessing

May God go before you to lead you;

May God go behind you to guard you;

May God go beneath you to support you;

May God go beside you to befriend you.

Do not be afraid.

Let the blessing of God come upon you today.

Do not be afraid.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

(Text unknown, LUYH 946)

Closing Song: We Receive Your Blessing (LUYH 947)

Passing of the Peace (on the screen)

Friday, June 17, 2016, Synod Worship [Closing Service]
Resources Used in this Service: Lift Up Your Hearts Hymnal (LUYH)

Be Longing [to Belong]
Theme: Kingdom/Heaven/Glory/Restoration

Scripture: Hebrews 9:9-13; Get Outside of Your Camp

Prelude: Facing a Task Unfinished (original words Frank Houghton, new words & music by
Keith & Kritsyn Getty)
Cornerstone (Hillsong)

Call to Worship: We gather for this final worship time together to offer praise and thanks for what God has done. We belong to God, we belong to the Church, we belong to each other. In our worship this past week we have longed for wisdom, for the Spirit, for unity, for shalom, and for the abundant life in Christ. Today we long for the completion of all things temporal, and for the coming of the kingdom. Please join your hearts and voices as we worship the King of all kings this morning.

Opening Hymn: O Worship The King (LUYH #2)

Responsive reading of Psalm 105

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
Make known among the nations what he has done.
Sing to him, sing praise to him;
Tell of all his wonderful acts.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

**Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles,
And the judgement he pronounced.** (Ps. 105:1-5, NIV)

Song: How Great is Our God (LUYH #574) / How Great Thou Art -chorus only (LUYH #553)

Scripture Reading: Scripture: Hebrews 9:9-13
Get Outside of Your Camp

Reading from Ephesians 4:1b-6
I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.
Be completely humble and gentle;
Be patient, bearing with one another in love.
Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
There is one body and one Spirit,
Just as you were called to one hope when you were called;
One Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all,
Who is over all and through all and in all.

Song: God, the Father of Your People (LUYH 927)

Rachel: We've heard many languages spoken and sung this week. We are a beautiful church of many nations. At the banquet we heard the blessing given in many languages. We will hear our blessing given in two more languages we haven't heard spoken yet – Russian from Petr Kornilov and Romanian from Daniel Bud, then in English from pastor Paul.

Benediction given in Russian, Ukrainian, English

Benediction / Blessing from Eph. 3:20-21

Now to him who by the power at work within us
is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,
to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

Closing Song: My Friends May You Grow in Grace (LUYH #938)

Passing of the Peace (on screen)