



**When Our Freedoms as Americans
Keep Bumping Up Against Each Other**

Welcome to Zumbro Lutheran Church!

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020

Our sermon series, “Didn’t See It Coming,” continues in July. The title comes from a book by Carey Nieuwhof with the same name. No need to buy the book, but we invite you to come along with us on the journey. With COVID-19 keeping us closer to home, we’re spending some time looking inward. The more interior topics this month include freedom, pride, burnout, and emptiness. According to Nieuwhof, many of these realities can sneak up on us when we’re not looking. After a time, we find that we’re not the same persons that we were 5, 10, and 20 years ago. Hopefully these sermons will provide some guidance for our journey of faith. With help from God, and some effort on our part, we can change course. The goal is to live the thoughtful, purposeful lives that God intends for us.

This week, our series continues with “When Our Freedoms as Americans Keep Bumping Up Against Each Other.” What does freedom even look like and feel like anymore? How is one person’s freedom intertwined with another’s? How does our faith inform how we exercise our freedom? As we recognize 4th of July this weekend, the birthday of our nation and the celebration of the freedom and ideals it was built on, we are invited to wrestle with how some of the current American ideals of freedom might align and conflict with how we love God and love neighbor in this 2020 world. Buckle up. There are no easy answers red or blue answers here, rather only perhaps a call to gaze deeply within ourselves, at our neighbors, and most importantly at Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith.

Worship will continue to be streamed online. It will also be broadcast on the radio at 1520AM. You’re invited to Wednesday Worship online at 6:15pm.

GATHERING MUSIC

GOD OF OUR FATHERS

ARR. RALPH SCHORNACK

*As you prepare your heart for worship during the gathering music,
you are invited to pray:*

Circle us, O God. Keep hope within, keep despair without.
Keep peace within, keep worry without. Keep love within, keep hatred without.
Keep light within, keep darkness without. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C: Amen.

L: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

silence for reflection and self-examination

L: Reconciling God,

C: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.

L: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN

GOD OF OUR FATHERS

**God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.**

**Thy love divine hath led us in the past,
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay,
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.**

**Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.**

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.



Hid-den with Christ, hid - den with Christ, all of us deep with-in God's heart.



Hid-den with Christ, hid - den with Christ, all of us deep with-in God's heart.

*end here
last time*



Called from our wan - der - ing, and claimed with our his - tor - y,
We are the car - ri - ers of hope for what the world can be,



voice of our home, whis - per of mys - ter - y.
peop - le of faith, bear - ing the mys - ter - y.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Jesus,

C: You are the way, the truth, and the life—the only one who is able to set us and all people fully free. Continue to transform us into your holy people: a community that shares life giving freedom and light and love to all of your creation. Amen.

SCRIPTURE SONG

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o - pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un - der - stood.

continued on next page



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,
 warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
 Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

BIBLE READING

1 PETER 2:9-17 NRSV

⁹ You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

¹³ For the Lord’s sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God’s will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. ¹⁶ As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

L: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

C: Thanks be to God.

STORYTIME

JANETTE REEVES

SERMON

WHEN OUR FREEDOMS AS AMERICANS
 KEEP BUMPING UP AGAINST EACH OTHER

JEN GRUENDLER

O BEAUTIFUL FOR SPACIOUS SKIES

O beautiful for spacious skies,
 for amber waves of grain,
 for purple mountain majesties
 above the fruited plain:
America! America!
 God shed his grace on thee,
 and crown thy good with brotherhood
 from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved
 in liberating strife,
 who more than self their country loved,
 and mercy more than life:
America! America!
 May God thy gold refine,
 till all success be nobleness,
 and ev'ry gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream
 that sees beyond the years
 thine alabaster cities gleam,
 undimmed by human tears:
America! America!
 God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
 confirm thy soul in self-control,
 thy liberty in law.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

After each petition the congregation responds:

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

HEAR OUR PRAISES

REUBEN MORGAN

JANETTE REEVES AND RALPH SCHORNACK, VOCALISTS

May our homes be filled with dancing
May our streets be filled with joy
May injustice bow to Jesus
As the people turn to pray

Refrain **From the mountain to the valley**
Hear our praises rise to You
From the heavens to the nations
Hear our singing fill the air

May a light shine in the darkness
As we walk before the cross
May Your glory fill the whole earth
As the water over the seas *Refrain*

"Hear Our Praises"
 By Reuben Morgan
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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Lord, draw us close to you and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

INVITATION TO SHARE THE MEAL AT HOME

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

L: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✝ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen.

HYMN

MINE EYES HAVE SEEN THE GLORY

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
his truth is marching on.**

Refrain

**Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.**

**He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. *Refrain***

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
while God is marching on. *Refrain***

SENDING

L: People of Zumbro, what is our mission?

C: Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Prayers for Healing:

Pat Campbell

Krista Jacobson

Karen Jensen

Carol Wilkinson

Ardis Witte

Sympathy to:

Luanne (Al) Wussow on the death of her brother, Stan Olson.

Lois and Stephen Lackore on the death of their son, Matthew. His memorial service was held on Friday, July 3, at Ranfranz & Vine Funeral Homes Chapel.

Paul Landry (Dera Hanson) on the death of his brother, Richard Hartley.

The family of Elmer Kiphuth. His graveside service will be in Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis on July 11.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: 9AM-2PM**WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

PROCLAIMER-Jen Gruendler; **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**-Pastor Shelley Cunningham; **STORYTIME**-Janette Reeves;
LECTOR-Alex Kelsch; **PIANIST**-Ralph Schornack; **SINGING**-Janette Reeves, Ralph Schornack

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