

**Strength
FOR TODAY**
---- AND ----
Bright Hope
FOR TOMORROW



October 18, 2020
8:30am

Welcome to Zumbro Lutheran Church!

We begin a four-week sermon series entitled, “Strength for Today and Bright Hope for Tomorrow.” This is our stewardship theme for 2021. Our inspiration comes from the hymn, “Great is Thy Faithfulness.” In the midst of COVID-19 and a highly partisan election process, we long to hear that God is faithful even when we are not, and God promises to walk with us – and all people – every step of the journey.

In this week’s sermon, we meet Joshua, who’s drawn the enviable job of stepping into Moses’ shoes and leading God’s people out of exile and into the promised land. Everything about this is new to him. But despite encouraging words from the Lord promising to accompany him every step of the way, Joshua still has to act -- and, when we face unexpected challenges, or new adventures, or an uncertain future, so do we.

GATHERING MUSIC

SIYAHAMBA (WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD)
HANDBELL QUARTET

SOUTH AFRICAN,
ARR. SONDRRA K. TUCKER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Faithful God,

C: have mercy on us.

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God’s work in the world.

C: Amen.

HYMN

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

**Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.**

**Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.**

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of reassurance,

C: Your words are trustworthy and true, and you promise to be with us always. But it can be so unsettling to step out in faith, especially when we can't see exactly where we are going. Be the still, small voice in our hearts that gives us confidence to do hard things. Lead us, like you led Joshua, into the unknown future with courage and faith and hope. In Jesus' name, Amen.

BIBLE READING

JOSHUA 1:1-9 NRSV

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, ²“My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. ³Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. ⁵No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. ⁷Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. ⁹I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

L: Holy wisdom, holy word,

C: Thanks be to God.

STORYTIME (8:30AM)

JANETTE REEVES

SERMON

FAITH TO GO OUT WITH GOOD COURAGE

PASTOR SHELLEY CUNNINGHAM

HYMN

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

Refrain **Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.** *Refrain*

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!** *Refrain*

VIDEO

“NURTURING OUR PERSONAL CONNECTIONS”

MELANIE AND EMILY SCHMIDT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

After each petition the congregation responds:

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust them to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

Those with smart phones are encouraged to text a message of peace to someone in your life.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

SIMPLE GIFTS
HANDBELL QUARTET

SHAKER SONG,
ARR. SONDRRA K. TUCKER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is 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.

INVITATION TO SHARE THE MEAL

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

first time through **L:** O God, You have called us to ventures where we can not see the
second time through **C:**

end, By paths ne-ver yet tak en, Through per ils un known.

Give us good cour-age Not know ing where we go, To

know that your hand is lead-ing us Wher ever we might go.

A - - - - men.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps) and common time (C). It consists of five lines of music. The first line begins with a rest for one measure, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The second line features a triplet of eighth notes. The third line has a quarter rest followed by eighth and quarter notes. The fourth line continues with eighth and quarter notes. The fifth line ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words split across lines.

L: Creator God, source of wisdom and wonder, wrap us in your blanket of love, and give us the strength and courage to carry on with our journey. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

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.**

SENDING MUSIC

THE ASH GROVE (SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING)
HANDBELL QUARTET

WELSH FOLK SONG,
ARR. SONDR A K. TUCKER

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Gordon Christianson Herb Olin

SYMPATHY TO:

Tess Johnson on the death of her husband, Curt. A private family memorial service will be held at Czaplewski Funeral Home in Kasson on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Gloria (Ron) Bonnicksen on the death of her sister, Carol Anderson.

Ruth (Glenn) Monson on the death of her mother, Lela Kabele.

Shirley (Duane) Miedtke on the death of her brother, Jim Muenchow.

Tammy (Tom) Westby on the death of her sister, Pam Tischer.

TODAY'S RADIO BROADCAST IS GIVEN IN CELEBRATION OF:

Barb Turner's 80th birthday.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

PROCLAIMER-Pastor Shelley Cunningham; **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**-Pastor Vern Christopherson; **LECTOR**-Chris Gade;
STORYTIME-Janette Reeves; **PIANIST**-Kristy Giere; **SONGLEADERS**-Bob Giere, Janette Reeves; **HANDBELL QUARTET**-
Stacy Freimuth, Pam Hammond, Karen Sessler, Maika Suzuki

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