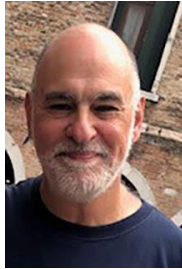


Seventh Sunday After Pentecost/Holy Communion
Ephraim Moravian Church - Ephraim, WI
July 19, 2020

The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe, Pastor
Mr. & Mrs. Peter & Barbara Classen, Mr. Jeremy P. Kahn,
Mr. Harald Halvorsen & Mr. Colin Welford, Musicians
Mrs. Sherry Moore, Lay Reader



Welcome & Announcements

Piano & Organ Duet: "Prelude," Op.18 (by César Franck)

Call to Worship: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Reflection

Hymn #470 (v. 1 – 3): "Fairest Lord Jesus"

Fairest Lord Jesus, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of man
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown!

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in the flowers of blooming spring
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing!

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky!

Prayers of the Church/Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Psalm 86: 11 – 17, and Romans 8: 12 – 25

Meditation

Piano Solo: "Come Sunday" (by Duke Ellington)

The Lord's Supper

Breaking of the Bread

Voice & Piano Duet: "He Comes to Us as One Unknown" (by Dudley-Smith/Parry)

He comes to us as one unknown, a breath unseen, unheard
As though within a heart of stone, or shriveled seed in darkness sown
A pulse of being stirred, a pulse of being stirred.

He comes when souls in silence lie and thoughts of day depart
Half-seen upon the inward eye, a falling star across the sky
Of night within the heart, of night within the heart.

He comes to us in sound of seas, the ocean's fume and foam
Yet small and still upon the breeze, a wind that stirs the tops of trees
A voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.

He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and birth
To bear within our mortal frame a life, a death, a saving name
For every child of earth, for every child of earth.

He comes in truth when faith is grown; believed, obeyed, adored
The Christ in all the scriptures shown, as yet unseen, but not unknown
Our Savior and our Lord, our Savior and our Lord.

The Cup of Salvation

Hymn: "Jesus Keep Me near the Cross"

Jesus, keep me near the cross! There a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream flows from Calvary's mountain.

Refrain: *In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever
'Til my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river!*

Near the cross! A trembling soul, love and mercy found me
There the bright and Morning Star shed His beams around me. (*Refrain*)

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me
Help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. (*Refrain*)

Near the cross! I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever
'Til I reach the golden strand, just beyond the river. (*Refrain*)

Pastor: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death,

Congregation: *Until he comes.*

Organ Solo: "Cantilène," from "Suite Brève" (by Jean Langlais)

Benediction

Reflection

How long do pandemics last? It's a fair question, and one that has no answer. There are a lot of steps between this moment and the day we take off our masks, hug everybody in sight and thank God for bringing us through it. Until that great day, we have hope – hope for stemming the spread of this disease, healing of those who have contracted it, peace for the loved ones left behind by those who have died.

In the midst of something so huge and seemingly all-powerful against human imagination and will, hope can feel futile and useless. It's understandable.

Yet today I challenge you to hope.

Paul's letter to the church in Rome contains these words about hope: "For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." Although patience isn't easy, especially as a learned skill, I also challenge you to be patient and give God credit where credit is due.

Hope is a daily practice of honoring God's steadfast lovingkindness and presence as tangible, trustworthy and powerful. Patience is being willing to keep looking, even if God seems distant or invisible. God is always with you, with us. God stands with us now in our inability to see the future and what it holds.