

# Service of Worship

## Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2017

10:30 am



*Ebenezer*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**+ GATHERING +**  
*We gather to learn love for one another.*

***Welcome to Ebenezer!***

*We hope you are blessed by your time in worship today. Please complete the "Welcome" insert and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.*

***Restrooms*** are located in the Education Building.

***Devices for the hearing impaired*** are located on designated pews. For assistance, please see an usher.

***A nursery*** for children three-years old and younger is available, beginning 9:15 am, for Sunday school and worship. The nursery is located across from the library in the Education Building. Our attendants are trained and willing to help. Parents are welcome to use the nursery for part or all of the worship service.

***As you enter*** the worship space, please be sure to silence your cell phones.

**Preservice Music**

*We stand as able.*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
full of compassion and mercy,  
abounding in steadfast love.

**Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness,  
let us confess our sin against God and one another.  
*We kneel as able or remain standing. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Eternal God our creator,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
Look upon us, your children,  
the work of your hands.  
Forgive us all our offenses,  
and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.  
By your grace draw us near to you,  
our refuge and our strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit given to us.  
In the mercy of almighty God,  
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;  
and for his sake, God † forgives you all your sins.  
**Amen.**

*All stand and face the processional cross.*

**Gathering Hymn**      *Morning Has Broken*      Hymn 556

**Greeting**

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

## Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*We welcome one another to worship and then we sit.*

## Welcome and Announcements

**+ WORD +**  
*God speaks to us in Bible readings.*

## Children's Message

### First Reading

Isaiah 44:6-8  
(Pew Bible pages 659-660)

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading

Romans 8:12-25  
(Pew Bible page 1032)

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43  
(Pew Bible pages 892-893)

The holy gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

## Sermon

*Silence is kept for reflection.  
We stand.*

Pastor Dreier

## Hymn of the Day

*As the Grains of Wheat*

Hymn 465

## Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 People

*After the assisting minister introduces the prayers, we stand or kneel  
as able, for the petitions.*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers.  
All stand.*

## Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.  
*We sit.*

An offering is collected to support the mission of the church.

**+ MEAL +**  
*Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven."*

## Reception of the Offering

**Musical Offering**  
*We stand.*

**Offertory Song** *Holy Ground* Geron Davis  
We are standing on holy ground,  
and I know that there are angels all around.  
Let us praise Jesus now.  
We are standing in his presence on holy ground.

**Offering Prayer**  
*After the gifts have been presented, the prayer is said:*  
Let us pray...**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**  
*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season; We respond:* *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

## Jesus' Words About Communion

**What is Holy Communion?**  
*Holy Communion is our participation in the meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. As Jesus' disciples now this meal is a participation in our Lord's life: he feeds us, forgives us, and unites us.*

*This meal, sometimes called "Eucharist" (meaning "thanksgiving"), connects us to our Lord and to all his people across time and space.*

**How we Commune**  
 Welcome to the table of the  
 Risen Christ!

*All* baptized worshippers are  
 invited to partake of the  
 Eucharist, regardless of  
 denominational affiliation.  
 Come down the center aisle  
 and either kneel or stand at  
 the rail in front of the altar.  
 Take the bread and  
 dip it into  
 the cup of wine.

If you require gluten-free  
 wafers or grape juice, please  
 let the ministers know.  
 Return to your seat  
 by way of  
 the side aisles.

If you are unable to come  
 forward please come down  
 the side aisles on either side  
 after the "Invitation" and  
 communion will be brought  
 to you. If you need to remain  
 in your seat please notify an  
 usher.

Any who do not wish to  
 receive communion may  
 fold their arms across their  
 chest to receive a blessing  
 at the altar.

## Lord's Prayer

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your  
 name, your king-dom come, your will be done on  
 earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our  
 dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as  
 we for-give those who sin a- gainst us.  
 Save us from the time of trial and de-  
 liv-er us from e-vil, for the king-dom, the pow'r and the  
 glo-ry are yours, now and for ev-er.

## Invitation to Communion

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
 Our Lord's body let us take together.  
*We sit.*

## Communion

Distribution Music

*Lamb of God...*  
*Lord I Need You*

Page 174  
 Christy Nockels

Verse 1

Lord I come I confess Bowing here I find my rest  
 And without You I fall apart You're the one that guides my heart

Chorus 1

Lord I need You oh I need You Ev'ry hour I need You  
 My one defense my righteousness Oh God how I need You

Verse 2

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
 Where grace is found is where You are  
 And where You are Lord I am free Holiness is Christ in me  
 Where You are Lord I am free Holiness is Christ in me

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You When temptation comes my way  
 And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You Jesus You're my hope and stay  
 And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You Jesus You're my hope and stay

Chorus 2

Lord I need You oh I need You Ev'ry hour I need You  
 My one defense my righteousness Oh God how I need You  
 My one defense my righteousness Oh God how I need

*Above All*

Lenny LeBlanc

Verse 1

Above all powers above all kings  
Above all nature and all created things  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man  
You were here before the world began

Verse 2

Above all kingdoms above all thrones  
Above all wonders the world has ever known  
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth  
There's no way to measure  
What You're worth

Chorus

Crucified laid behind the stone  
You lived to die rejected and alone  
Like a rose trampled on the ground  
You took the fall and thought of me  
Above all

*When all have returned to their places, we stand or kneel.*  
**Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray...Amen.  
*We stand.*

**+ SENDING +**

*We are blessed to go and serve God in the world.*

*All turn and face the processional cross.*

**Sending Song**    *Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word*

Hymn 663

**Blessing**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**



**Serving in Worship Today**

The Rev. Melvin E. Amundson	<i>Presiding</i>
The Rev. Gary Dreier	<i>Preaching</i>
Karen Hardy	<i>Assisting</i>
Brenda Argoe	<i>Lector</i>
Brenda Argoe	<i>Element Bearer</i>
Ron Banister, Marcia Lucius	<i>Communion Assistants</i>

**“Reaching out to draw others to Christ.”**

- We place Jesus first in all that we do ·
- We share Christ wherever we are ·
- We welcome a diversity of believers and skeptics to experience Christ with us ·
- We seek to deepen our faith and discipleship ·
- We embrace the gifts of each and all ·

**Strategic Directions**

- We will offer worship opportunities with Biblically based, doctrinally sound preaching and inspiring music, energizing ourselves to do God’s work.
- We will welcome our neighbors and invite them to participate in all church programs.
- We will respond to the needs of all God’s people, seeking justice and peace, locally and globally.
- We will commit our time and resources to support God’s work through the South Carolina Synod and the ecumenical community.
- We will provide dynamic Christian education, immersing ourselves in God’s word.
- We will foster a sense of congregational community and genuine concern for the well-being of our members.



**Ebenezer Lutheran Church**

1301 Richland Street, Columbia, SC 29201  
Office hours 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday Phone 803.765.9430  
Website: <http://www.ebenezerlutheran.org>  
The Rev. Melvin E. Amundson, Interim Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Gary Dreier, Pastoral Associate  
David E. Turner, Director of Music and Worship  
Diane M. Oliver, Administrative Associate  
Wendy Isgett, Accountant