



FOR SUCH A
TIME
AS THIS

ESTHER 4:14B

SWCA SYNOD ASSEMBLY WORSHIP

Second Sunday After Pentecost

June 6th, 2021

Gathering: We Come Together as God's Family

Prelude *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Arr. Mark Hayes* Jessica Helms, piano

Call to Worship Pastor Ed Ramirez

Written by Pastor Ryan Chaddick, adapted by Pastor Ed Ramirez

L: Let us profess and confess our community mission grounded in the welcoming God.
Married, divorced, single, polyamorous here, it's one community looking to thrive together.
Big and small, there's room for us all here.
Believe and doubt here, we are all welcome to receive here.
Queer, trans, cis here, there's no hate here.
Woman, non-binary, and man here, everyone has a place here.
Neurodiverse, allistic and autistic here, all of our abilities matter here.
Whatever your race here, for all of us grace here. Able and disabled, all are welcome here.
In imitation of the ridiculous love Almighty God has for each of us and all of us, let us live and love without limitations!

Gathering Song *"War Cry" by Queen Naija* SIGNlent Prophets

Our people are dying, slowly every day
The enemy's trying, attacking every way he can
We gotta fight, we gotta fight, we gotta fight

You see, in this generation, materialistics
Swallow the minds of these innocent children, yeah
We gotta fight, we gotta fight, we gotta fight

Oh, you see the fame and the drugs, the money, the lust
The violence, the hatred, we must bleed the blood of Jesus
We gotta fight, we gotta fight, we gotta fight

Oh and I say Devil you can't have my mind, Devil you can't have my soul
I belong to God and I'm fighting you off
With the power of the Holy Ghost

This is a war cry (this is a war cry) *(Repeat)*

We've got some pastors false preaching, these church folks are leaving
'Cause they're so confused about these wrongfully teaching
Making a bad name for all of us Christians
So many Saints are holding unforgiveness

We got nation against nation, earthquakes in various places
People living in famine, everyone's losing patience
This is a war cry that everyone needs to hear
I can feel it in the air, that the end is near!

See Devil you can't have my mind, Devil you can't have my soul
I belong to God and I'm fighting you off
With the power of the Holy Ghost

This is a war cry (this is a war cry) *(Repeat)*
This is a spiritual warfare, a spiritual *(Repeat)*
Our souls are crying out to you Jesus (A spiritual warfare, a spiritual) *(Repeat)*

This is a war cry (this is a war cry)
Devil you can't have my mind (war cry, war cry, war cry)
Devil you can't have my soul (war cry, war cry, war cry)
Power of the Holy Ghost
This is a war cry (Devil you can't have my mind)
A war cry, this is my war cry

Confession & Forgiveness

Liturgy from www.enfleshed.com

Pastor Hazel Salazar-Davidson,
Lucía, Ava, and Ezra

L: God of Justice, God of Compassion, God of Sacred and Scandalous ways,
We have so much still to learn.

L: By your grace, we have come to know Love more deeply than once before –

C: its mess, its complexity, its stubborn and tender truths transform us each day.

L: Through fires that refine and valleys of death, you have guided us.

C: You draw us into the heart of Wisdom,

L: Saving us from the lies of destruction.

C: Turning us towards hope that liberates.

L: But still, O God, we struggle to trust in you.

L: And so, when we are afraid. Or hurt. Or weary... We betray the very One who brought us
thus far.

C: We confess, we still shame Jesus, when he flips over tables.

L: We confess, we still condemn Jesus, when he breaks the rules to which we are loyal.

C: We confess, while Jesus is torn from the arms of his mother by ICE,

L: killed by his own lovers – so afraid of desiring trans women,

C: and sitting lonely on the street with no family to welcome them home,

L: our loyalties are often elsewhere.

C: Our priorities are not your own.

L: Search our hearts, O God, and see if there is any fear within us.

Meet us there with your good news that sets the captives free.

Forgive us from the harm we have done as we seek to harm no more.

(pause in silent prayer)

L: Beloveds, God does not abandon us to the systems that destroy.

C: God does not bind us to our regrets.

L: Or forever hold us to what we once believed.

C: God says, come and follow!

L: Know forgiveness and sin no more.

C: Love abounds. And justice shall be manifest!

L: Wherever new life is desired, may the peace of Christ be welcomed among us.

C: Thanks be to God who leads us on paths of resurrection.

Kyrie

Written by Matt Maher

Justin Hulsey

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy

Hear our cry, heal our land

Let kindness lead us to repentance

Bring us back again

Chorus: For your name is great and your heart is grace

Kyrie eleison

Over all you reign, you alone can save

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy on us now

Who is this God who pardons all our sin?

So ready to forgive—you delight to show your mercy

Who is this God who pardons all our sin?

So ready to forgive—you delight to show your mercy

(Repeat Chorus)

Prayer of the Day

Randy Foster

L: Let us pray. All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Word: We Listen for God's Voice

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

Read in Farsi by
Leila Mahmoudi Mader

Psalm 130

Read in Spanish by
Elizabeth Solis

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Read in Mandarin by
Yvonne Feng

Children's Sermon

Pastor Caleb Crainer

Gospel Acclamation

"Hallelujah, We Sing Your Praises"

CLU Choir

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises *Halehuya! Pelo tsa rona*

Refrain – sung twice each time

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our

bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your

ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

End

1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
 2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
 strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984
 Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
 English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

Gospel Reading: Mark 3:20-25

Pastor Tuhina Verma Rasche

Sermon

Pastor Tuhina Verma Rasche

Song of Response

“War” by Charles Jenkins

New City Parish
 Gospel Ensemble

I got joy in my soul—God is in control
 I got Satan on my trail, but I'm singing all is well
 He's attacking every day, but I'm watching while I pray
 No matter the attack I won't turn back

'Cause this means war
 This means war (*Repeat*)

I plead the blood
 (I plead, I plead the blood)
 There's power in the blood (I plead, I plead the blood)
 There's healing in the blood (I plead, I plead the blood)
 There's power in the blood (I plead, I plead the blood)

I've been in the storm and the rain, but the blood still stays the same
Whatever is going wrong, my war clothes are on
I might be in a daze, but you can't have my praise
No matter the attack I won't turn back

'Cause this means war
This means war (*Repeat*)

You can't have my family
You can't have my increase
You can't have my breakthrough
You can't have my, you can't have my,
You can't, you can't, you can't, I plead

I plead the blood
(I plead, I plead the blood)
There's power in the blood (I plead, I plead the blood)
There's healing in the blood (I plead, I plead the blood)
There's power in the blood (I plead, I plead the blood)

'Cause this means war
This means war (*Repeat*)

Prayers of Intercession

L: I invite you into a time of prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. Each petition will be offered by a member of our synod and reflect the linguistic diversity of our synod. You may respond to each petition with the words 'Hear our prayer.'

Let us come before the triune God in prayer. (*A brief silence.*)

God of wholeness, we pray for believers all over the globe, especially our global mission partners in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hong Kong and the Iglesia Luterana Salvadoreña, the Lutheran Church in El Salvador. Unify us in service of the gospel, that we may work together as beloved siblings to share your love with all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, we pray for creation; the gardens, waterways and creatures near to us and diverse forms of life that remain unseen. Teach us to treat the natural world with reverence,

seeking restoration when human divisions have caused harm to your beloved creation. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of all people, we pray for harmony among the nations. Cast out from us unclean spirits of greed and fear, that we may work in solidarity with one another for the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of abundance, we pray for those who are oppressed or in any need. Encourage those who have begun to lose heart. Strengthen and renew us with your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of righteousness, we pray for this holy house of worship. Set our gaze upon things eternal, that in thanksgiving for your mercy, we may extend grace to more and more people. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the ages, in your goodness you have sent us faithful witnesses for every time and place. We give you thanks for those saints who now rest in your eternal mercy (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

Peace

Bishop Murray Finck

Musical Offering *"Brand New Day"*

Rock of the Foothills
Socially-Distanced Singers

Morning has broken, morning has broken
Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for the springing fresh from the Word

Morning has broken (morning has broken)
Ain't no more darkness, it's lifted away
Welcome the brand new day

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass

Morning has broken (morning has broken)
Ain't no more darkness, it's lifted away
Welcome the brand new day
Here comes the sun (do-dum-do-do)
Here comes the sun... it's all right

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's re-creation of the new day

Morning has broken (morning has broken)
Ain't no more darkness, it's lifted away
Welcome the brand new day
Everybody keep singing' out loud
This chorus of praise:
Welcome the brand new (welcome the brand new)
Welcome the brand new day!

50 | 40 | 10 Ordination Anniversaries

"Hornpipe" from Water Music, George Frideric Handel, arr. Lloyd Conley
Eric Lundquist, trumpet

Recognition of Deacons

Sending: We Are Sent Out As the Body of Christ for the World

Benediction

Pastor Jim Boline

Liturgy from www.enfleshed.com

For those weary of sharing their pain. For those who speak but are not heard.
For those whose stories began centuries ago.
For those whose testimonies are deemed a false witness.
For those who have nowhere to turn for rest. For those who refuse to be silenced.
For those who whisper tenderly and knowingly to their kin.
For those who shout a holy protest to their oppressors.
For those who wonder if there's any point.

For those who cannot keep truth to themselves. For those who wail for all that has been lost.
 For those who sing for all that we might become. For those who call others to rise.
 For those whose voice reaches out like open arms for the hurting.

May you be nourished in body and in soul. May you be guided in wisdom. May community
 uphold you, as through the lips of prophets God's Kin-dom draws near. Amen.

Sending Song

"We Are Marching in the Light (Siyahamba)"

CLU Choir

We Are Marching in the Light of God *Siyahamba*

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Charge

Deacon Tempie Beaman

L: Go now and be diligent in your study and proclamation of the liberating word of the gospel.
Go now and be faithful in your use of grace, extending it to all without distinction.
Go now, nourished and nourishing, and care for your people with word and action.
Go now and be a witness of God's word in the world - among the oppressed, marginalized and forgotten.

Postlude

"A Mighty Fortress" Arr. Lloyd Larson

Jessica Helms, piano

We give thanks for all our worship leaders:

Preacher

Pastor Tuhina Verma Rasche

Liturgy

Pastor Ed Ramirez

Pastor Hazel Salazar-Davidson, Lucía, Ava, and Ezra

Randy Foster

Pastor Tracy Williams

Bishop Murray Finck

Pastor Jim Boline

Deacon Tempie Beaman

Readers

Leila Mahmoudi Mader

Elizabeth Solis

Yvonne Feng

Prayers

Neil Sprouse

Iskandar

Leila Mahmoudi Mader

Daisy Lopez

Jaivan Ortiz Mohorko

Pastor Violeta Sanders

Children's Sermon

Pastor Caleb Crainer

Musicians

Jessica Helms, piano

SIGNlent Prophets

Justin Hulsey, guitar/vocals

California Lutheran University Chapel Choir

New City Parish Gospel Ensemble

Vocalists from Rock of the Foothills, La Verne:

Scott Dicken, Cindy Dicken, Eric Strom, Lisa Strom

Eric Lundquist, trumpet

Reflections on the 50/40/10 Ordination Anniversaries Offered by:

Pastor Peg Schultz-Akerson

Pastor Ruth Sievert

Pastor Tracy Williams

Bishop Emeritus Guy Erwin

Members of SoCalLutherans (Lutherans Concerned/Los Angeles)

Reflections on the Ministry of Deacons Offered by:

Deacon Tempie Beaman

Deacon Marilyn Chelsvig

Deacon Shannon Savage-Howie

Deacon Agnes McClain

Deacon Martha Santrizos

Deacon Lynn Bullock

Deacon Nancy Ackerman

Deacon Jamie Hovland

Synod Assembly Worship Planning Team

Pastor Jennie Chrien

Deacon Tempie Beaman

Pastor Ryan Chaddick

Pastor Hazel Salazar-Davidson

Video Editing by Jennie Chrien

Closed Captioning by Natalie Chrien

Translation by Evangeline Dai (Chinese) and Ismael Calderón (Spanish)

The Worship Planning Team is grateful for help provided by members of the Synod Office staff, especially Pastor Joseph Castañeda-Carrera, Samantha Henderson, and Robin Lujan.