COON VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

**“We are a family of God, striving to enrich**

**the lives of all through the love of Christ.”**

PRELUDE Mary Schultz

**~ GATHERING ~**

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

God of love, your grace is the mustard seed that grows in us,

that gives life and beauty.  
**Your love is the net that gathers us in in all our diversity.**

Christ*,*you are the treasure hidden in the field of our lives.  
**You are the fine pearl we seek.**  
Holy Spirit, you are the yeast that leavens us with love.  
**You are new and old, eternal and always coming anew.  
In awe, in gratitude, in joy, we worship you.**

GATHERING HYMN #532 Gather Us In

GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY

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.**

Beloved and sovereign God, **through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**~ WORD ~** (Scripture insert)

**God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.**

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

PSALM 119:129-136 *(Read Responsively)*

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

*After the Gospel is read…*The Gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON Pastor Mark Jolivette

HYMN of the DAY #515 Break Now the Bread of Life

**~ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ~**

**The Holy Spirit calls us as a community to say what we believe,**

**reach out to each other and offer gifts and prayers for God’s purposes.**

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

OFFERING and OFFERING SONG (on insert in pews) Seek Ye First

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky, **you are the giver of all good things.**

**Sustain us with the gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**~SENDING ~**

**God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.**

BENEDICTION

BELLS

SENDING HYMN #705 God of Grace and God of Glory

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE Mary Schultz



**The Kingdom of God is Like…**

**Coon Valley Lutheran Church**

**The Ninth Sunday in Pentecost**

**9:00 a.m.**

**July 30, 2023**

**Head Usher:** Jason Thomas Family

**Reader:** Deb Holen

**Attendance & Offering Last Sunday:** 61; $2,331.47

**SCHEDULE**

**TODAY: Sign up for Vacation Bible School today!**

**TUESDAY: 10:00/**Ruth Circle

**THURSDAY: 6:00p/**Rebecca Circle

**SUNDAY: 10:00a/**Worship with Pastor Meg Hoversten; **5:15-7:30p/**Vacation Bible School

**\*In this time as we are without a pastor, if there is an emergency, please contact Jamie at one of the numbers listed below. Thank you!**

**Coon Valley Lutheran Church**

**www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org**

**Office Administrator:** Jamie Thomas, [jamiel@mwt.net](mailto:jamiel@mwt.net)

**Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00a-11:30a; Wednesday & Thursday 9:00a-3:00p**

Office452-3772/Cell 317-0007

**Treasurer:** Becky Lusk, [treasurer1005@mwt.net](mailto:treasurer1005@mwt.net)

**Organist:** Mary Schultz

**Indoor Custodian:** Tracy Stellner

**FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 3:5-12**

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” It pleased the LORD that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no on like you shall arise after you.”

*Word of God. Word of Life.* ***Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM 119:129-136 *(read responsively)***

Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

**The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.**

With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments.

**Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.**

Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.

**Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.**

Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statues.

**My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.**

**SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:26-39**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first born within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that 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 our Lord.

*Word of God. Word of Life.* ***Thanks be to God.***

**GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he has and bought it. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

*The Gospel of the LORD.* ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

*\*We are always so happy to include you and our CVLC family in our prayers. If you feel your name, or the name of a family member can be removed from this list please contact Jamie.* *Thank you!*

**We remember in prayer:**

**†** *Those hospitalized this past week:* Jim Knutson, Herby Cornell

**†** *Our members whose names we lift up in prayer today:* Corrine Appleman, Beverly Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Richard Brose, Jeanne Ebli, Kira Foster, Phyllis Galstad, Bonnie Holey, Donna Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Alan Jacobson, Todd King, Mike Kellogg, Jim Knutson, Margaret Lee, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Larry Lichtie, Cindy Manske, Aaron Marx, Frank Mathison, Bud Miyamoto, Marianne Myhre, LuEtta Nelson,Romaine Nelson, Sandy Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Lisa Olson, Sandra Onshus, Steve Pauloski, Eunice Quast, Melanie Role, Jojo Satona, Mary Schultz, Billie Slater, LaVonne Stendahl, Patty Stuempges, Joyce Temp, Teri Tomten.

**†** *Our members who are currently in health care facilities & Assisted Living:* Tip Bagstad, Inez Beck, Rachel Berg, Evelyn Dahlen, Joanne Fletcher, Betty Gilbertson, Erma Graupe, Lenore Henley, Carl Holte, Sylvester King Jr., Bob Moilien, Irene Nestingen, Annie Olson, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Betty Sanders.

**†** *Those who grieve**:* Family and friends of Carliss Larson

**†** *Our members who are currently home bound*

**†** *All those in need of God’s healing and help*

**†** *Family and friends of our members*