

Northeastern Minnesota Synod 2020 Synod Assembly



**We Are Church,
We Are Called**

50•40•10

Opening Worship
Friday, August 28, 2020



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Gathering

Welcome & Announcements

Introduction of 50•40•10
Land Acknowledgement

Video of the 50•40•10 Processional from the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly

Litany of Thanksgiving and Gathering Prayer

For the vocations of pastor, deacon, and bishop,
for those who lead churches and faith communities,
for those whose life work is evangelical witness in word and deed,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For 50 years of women's ordination
in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
and its predecessor bodies,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the women of color
who have been called by God to serve this church,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the faithful service of LGBTQIA+ pastors
who have enriched this church and for the 10 years
since the policy change enabling them to serve publicly
out and in partnered relationships.

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the work of seminary professors and staff,
chaplains and administrators,
those who work for nonprofits,
and those who are retired from paid ministries,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For those who are discerning a call
to serve Christ's church,
for those who are in candidacy,
and for those in their internship congregations,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the witness of Mary Magdalene,
the dance of Miriam,
the hospitality of Lydia,
the prayer of Mary,
the discernment of Deborah,
the courage of Rahab,
and the faithfulness of our biblical foremothers,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For witness of the faithful women of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

Elizabeth Platz

Barbara L. Andrews

Janith Otte Murphy

Karen Bockelman

Lydia Rivera Kalb

Earlean Miller

Asha George-Guiser

Marlene Whiterabbit Helgemo

Ruth Frost

Phyllis Zillhart

April Ulring Larson

Louisa Groce

Margarita Martinez

Sharon Stalkfleet

Phyllis Anderson

Dolores McKay

Jessica Crist

Elizabeth Eaton

Patricia Davenport

Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld

Let us pray.
Gracious and living God,
we rejoice and give you thanks
for your power on display throughout time and place,
calling all kinds of people
to be witnesses to your grace and power.
We celebrate how the Spirit has blessed your church
through the work of women and girls,
including in this time and place.
Guide us, as your people,
into welcoming your prophets and teachers among us
and hearing Christ's good news through them.
With gratitude, we pray.
Amen.

Song: We Are Marching in the Light of God

Word

Scripture Readings

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.

²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek,
there is no longer slave or free,
there is no longer male and female;
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹And if you belong to Christ,
then you are Abraham's offspring,
heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:26-29

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

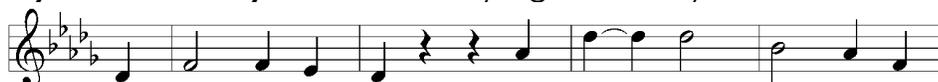
¹⁴Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

Psalms 27:1, 14

Sermon: Pastor Erika Nilsen



Hymn of the Day: The Lord is My Light and My Salvation



1 The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the
3 Wait on the Lord and be of good cour - age, oh,



Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, the Lord is my
wait on the Lord and be of good cour - age, . . . wait on the



light and my sal - va - tion; whom shall I fear?
Lord and be of good cour - age; he shall strength - en thy heart.

Refrain



Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?



The Lord is the strength of my life; whom shall I fear?



2 In the time of trou - ble, he shall hide me; in the time of



trou - ble, he shall hide me; in the time of trou - ble,



he shall hide me; whom shall I fear?

Prayers of Intercession

With confidence in God's presence and mercy,
we pray for the church, the world, and those in need.

For Elizabeth, our presiding bishop,
and for all the women who faithfully serve as bishops, pastors, and deacons;
for those first to be ordained and those most recently ordained.

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

For the unity of the church, for the well-being of our shared creation,
for patience, wisdom, justice, and respect in our public life,
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For laypeople, who do vital work through church ministries
of hospitality, outreach, teaching, music and art;
and for those who do vital work through their vocations
of healing, advocacy, service and witness in the world,
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For women and girls around the world
who are abandoned, dismissed, discounted, ostracized,
and treated as less than children of God, created in God's image,
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For essential workers whose hard work is rarely praised or rewarded,
whose names are forgotten, and who offer themselves daily for the sake of others,
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
for those who live in fear and anxiety;
for the isolated and lonely, and for all needing strength and courage,
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who have nurtured us in faith,
whether in families of birth or adoption or in the family of God,
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most high God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting that your steadfast love is our light and our salvation,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as 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.**

Sending

Blessing

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad.
Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Music



Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Kimberly Sturtz

Litany of Thanksgiving and Gathering Prayer

Pastor Jessica Olson

Scripture Readings

Pastor Sarah Fike

Sermon

Pastor Erika Nilsen

Hymn of the Day

The Rev. Taylor Telford

Prayers of Intercession, Lord's Prayer, and Blessing

Pastor Karen Bockelman

Video & Technology

Pastor Sierra Westerman

Northeastern Minnesota Synod Worship Committee

Pastor John Dietz

Pastor Sarah Fike

Vicar Christina Kadelbach

Deacon Brenda Tibbetts

Pastor Sierra Westerman