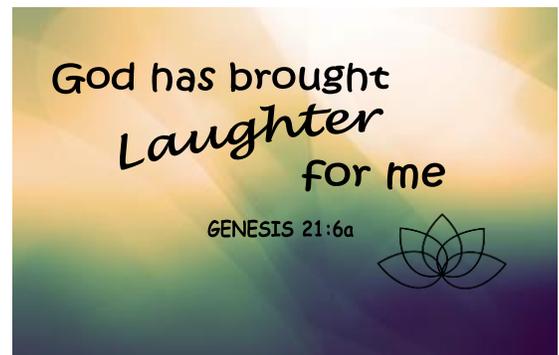


TODAY'S HYMN IS PUBLIC DOMAIN  
FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH – KENYON

*Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*  
**June 28, 2020**  
*SARAH LAUGHS*



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: In our worship,  
All: **May we be as welcoming as Sarah and Abraham who were quick to serve the stranger.**
- L: In faith,  
All: **May we proclaim that nothing is too big for God.**
- L: In moments of holy surprise,  
All: **May we laugh with deep abiding joy.**
- L: For God is in the holy surprise.  
All: **God is in the winding path.**
- L: And God is in our presence today.  
All: **Let us worship Holy God.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY & CONFESSION

- P: God of unexpected joy and answered prayers  
C: **we confess that sometimes things feel too good to be true, while at other times we wonder if your hear us at all. When life unravels for the worst – we blame you. When life unravels for the best, filling our days with holy surprise –we tend to praise ourselves, thinking we've earned this unexpected joy. Forgive us.**
- P: Help us to see you in our midst.  
C: **And with every breath that turns into a laugh, draw us closer to you. Amen.**

## READINGS

### ECCLESIASTES 3:1,4, 9-12

<sup>1</sup>For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...

<sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance...

<sup>9</sup>What gain have the workers from their toil? <sup>10</sup>I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. <sup>11</sup>He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. <sup>12</sup>I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live.

### GENESIS 18: 1-15; 21:1-7

<sup>18:1</sup> The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup>He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup>He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup>Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup>And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." <sup>7</sup>Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup>Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. <sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10</sup>Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. <sup>11</sup>Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. <sup>12</sup>So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" <sup>13</sup>The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' <sup>14</sup>Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." <sup>15</sup>But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

<sup>21:1</sup>The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. <sup>2</sup>Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup>Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. <sup>4</sup>And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup>Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. <sup>6</sup>Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." <sup>7</sup>And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

MESSAGE Pastor Julie Rogness

MUSIC *My Life Flows on In Endless Song* vss. 1,2 ELW #763  
Robert Lowry, 1826-1899 — PUBLIC DOMAIN

- 1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

REFRAIN       **No storm can shake my inmost calm  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
How can I keep from singing?**

- 2 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?** REFRAIN

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**I believe in God, the Great Sew-er —  
who weaves us together in community,  
collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit —  
who hems us in before and behind,  
catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative.**

**And I believe in Jesus Christ —  
who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out,  
refusing to disregard anyone as scrap.**

**I believe God has woven part of God's self  
into the fiber of our being,  
making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.**

**I believe the fabric of my life is weak,  
that I am prone to error  
and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.**

**I believe in the Church,  
and that like a quilt of different fabrics,  
she is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.  
And I believe that when life unravels,  
God is there to stitch my wounds together,  
to hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,  
and to invite me into a new journey. Amen.**

## PRAYERS & 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.**

## SHARING OF PEACE | OFFERING OF GIFTS

MUSIC *My Life Flows on In Endless Song* vss. 3,4 ELW #763  
Robert Lowry, 1826-1899 — PUBLIC DOMAIN

- 3 What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.**

REFRAIN      **No storm can shake my inmost calm  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
How can I keep from singing?**

- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? REFRAIN**

BLESSING      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.      ROMANS 8:38-39

God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ,  
And the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
Bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL      Go in peace. Christ is with you  
**Thanks be to God.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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HYMN: *My Life Flows On In Endless Song*, Robert Lowry 1826-1899 – PUBLIC DOMAIN

## PARTICIPANTS

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MUSIC-Annette Thunhorst, Linda Cordes, Kari Boyum, Brad Nesseth, Carol Lozon; TECH-Jim Braaten

## CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES

Prerecorded Worship: (Website) [fickenyon.org](http://fickenyon.org) (Facebook) **First Evangelical Lutheran Kenyon MN**

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## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sid Strandemo, Faye Marcuson, Ron Grose, Mary Ravlin Gould, Barb Schaller, Lila Cole, Colette Flom, Stephen Berge, & Lyle Canton,

