

Viral Worship: The Spirit is Contagious

July 26, 2020

GATHERING

The HOLY SPIRIT calls us together as the people of God.

Announcements/ Prelude *How Can I Keep from Singing* Culli

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the HOLY SPIRIT. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your HOLY SPIRIT, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the HOLY SPIRIT. **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

Gathering Song *Come, Thou Almighty King*

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise;
Father all-glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour!
Thou who almighty art, rule now in ev'ry heart, never from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the **HOLY SPIRIT** be with you all.

Kyrie

1. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
2. Christe eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. This is a summer like no other, O Lord. We ask for your protection for ourselves and all your beloved children. We also ask for the gift of your **SPIRIT**, that we may have our empty spirits filled with your passion, wisdom, and love. **Amen.**

WORD

We hear together God's Word for us today.

Bible Acclamation

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your **HOLY SPIRIT** from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free **SPIRIT**.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them,

step by step, saying, ⁵I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Special Music *Always Remember* Philip Burson – Soloist; Denise Burson - Pianist

Second Reading: Acts 15:4-11

A reading from the book of Acts.

⁴When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

⁶The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. ⁷After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. ⁸And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; ⁹and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. ¹⁰Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

Sermon Moment

The assembly is seated.

Hymn of the Day *O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

HYMN *Hear Our Prayer*

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
peace to all people, hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

We pray for the one church of Jesus Christ,
for its ministry and the mission of the gospel; [Pause]
for the well-being of creation; [Pause]

for peace and justice in the world,
for all nations and those in authority who serve them,
for our community; [Pause]

for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, and lonely,
for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit,
for this congregation, and the needs of its people; [Pause]
for the faithful departed, who have joined the church triumphant. [Pause]

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the **HOLY SPIRIT**, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
Please bow your heads and pray quietly...

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 For ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude *Great God of Nations* BOUD