

**First Lutheran Church, Findlay OH**  
**October 4, 2020**

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**GATHERING**

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

**Announcements/ Prelude** *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God* OSTERLAND

**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** [cantor]

***The Church's One Foundation***

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. [Sign - ***“And also with you”***]

**Kyrie** [cantor] Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

**Glory to God** [cantor]

Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest!  
Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest!

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. The summer of our discontent continues, O Lord. We ask for your protection for ourselves and all your beloved children. We also ask that our faith be renewed, our joy restored, and our hearts filled with love for you and for all people. **Amen.**

**WORD**

*We hear together God's Word for us today.*

**Bible Acclamation** [cantor]

***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: Philippians 2:1-13**

A reading from Philippians

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same

mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**Special Music**     *Thee We Adore, O Savior* – Phil Burson and Miriam Gibson

**Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14**

A reading from the book of Matthew

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen. "The Word of the Lord. [Sign – **“Thanks”**]

## **Sermon Moment**

### **Hymn of the Day** [cantor] *On Eagle's Wings*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

#### *Refrain*

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

*(Final refrain)* and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

For to the angels God's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

#### *Refrain*

### **Apostles' Creed** [Sign – **“Believe”**]

We confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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** [cantor] *Hear Our Prayer*

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;  
incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

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.**

**MEAL**

*We celebrate Christ's true and full presence in the bread*

**Great Thanksgiving**

*The congregation responds by raising both hands heavenward instead of speaking.*

The Lord be with you. [And also with you]

Lift up your hearts [We lift them to the Lord.]

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [It is right to give our thanks and praise.]

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; Who overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

[cantor] Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.  
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

*Please raise your wafer with two hands*

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. [*Lower your wafer*]

[cantor] Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

## **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, forever and ever. Amen.** [cantor] Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

## **Communion**

*Please raise your wafer.*

The body of Christ given for you.... [*Congregation and pastor consume the meal.*]

## **Post – Communion Prayer**

Let us pray. Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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**      *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*      NELSON