

First Lutheran Church, Findlay OH
May 9, 2021

GATHERING

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

Announcements/Prelude – *Let All Things Now Living*

LARSON

Confession and Forgiveness

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.**

Gathering Song *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Greeting

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.*

Canticle of Praise

Refrain: Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. *Refrain*

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God;
to make all things new. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Lord, in the midst of hardship, you bring comfort; in sorrow, you bring joy; in fear, you bring faith; in division, you bring unity. Come near all your beloved children today: guard us, guide us, and fill us with your love and peace. Amen.**

WORD

We hear together God's Word for us today.

First Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of

God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

"The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music *Oh How He Loves You and Me*

Women's Choir - 9:00 service

Gospel Acclamation *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Gospel John 15:9-17

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The Word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Moment

Hymn of the Day *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

Refrain

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain*

These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*

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.

Offering (10:30) *Nun lob mein Seel den Herr* BACH

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.

Response to Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer.

that the gospel may take root in us and spread everywhere; *Lord in your mercy...*
that the earth may be restored and protected; *Lord in your mercy...*

that peace and justice may flow within us and from us,
that all nations and those in authority may serve and shield the vulnerable,
that our community may be a light to the world. *Lord in your mercy...*

We pray for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, and lonely,
for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit,
for First Lutheran Church, and those on our prayer list; *Lord in your mercy...*
for the faithful departed, who have joined the church triumphant.
Lord in your mercy...

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.

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.

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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

YOUNG

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