

First Lutheran Church, Findlay OH
October 11, 2020

GATHERING

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

Announcements/ Prelude *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness* 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]

We Are Called

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.

Refrain

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.

Refrain

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 4:1-9

A reading from Philippians

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Special Music *His Eye On the Sparrow* Karon Makrancy

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows fall?
Why should my heart be weary, and long for heaven, my home,
If Jesus is my refuge, a constant friend is he:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
Refrain I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free! Yes!
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the book of Matthew

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again 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.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves,

mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then 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.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen." The Word of the Lord. [Sign – “**Thanks**”]

Sermon Moment

The assembly is seated.

Hymn of the Day [cantor] *Let Us Go Now to the Banquet*

Refrain

Let us go now to the banquet, to the feast of the universe.

The table's set and a place is waiting; come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food. *Refrain*

May we build such a place among us where all people are equal in love.

God has called us to work together and to share ev'rything we have. *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.**

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.

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.** [Sign – “Thanks”]

Postlude *We Are Called* BIERY