

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship**  
**Sunday, August 30, 2020 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

<https://vimeo.com/452852472?activityReferer=1>

Prelude - Soul Adorn Yourself with Gladness (*Schmucke dich, o liebe Seele*) setting by Johannes Brahms

**GATHERING**

**Gathering Hymn - Let Streams of Living Justice**

**710**

We gather in the name of the Father ☩ and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us confess our sin.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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.**

**KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**THIS IS THE FEAST**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Let us pray

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **WORD**

#### **First Reading – Jeremiah 15:15-21**

*Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."*

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth.

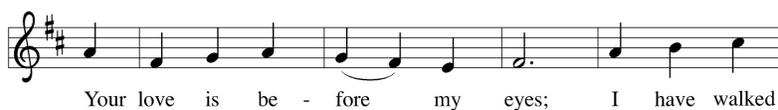
It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

### **Psalm 26:1-8**

#### **Refrain**



## **Refrain**

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O | LORD, and try me; examine my heart | and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes; I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat | with the worthless, nor do I consort with | the deceitful. Refrain**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of | evildoers; I will not sit down | with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD, that I may go in procession | round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell and the place where your glo- | ry abides. Refrain**

## **Second Reading - Romans 12:9-21**

*Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

<sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## **Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28**

*After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”*

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

## **Sermon**

**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**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of faithfulness, you bid your people to follow Jesus. Set the mind of your church on divine things. Grant us trust in you, that we lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through him. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth is yours and all that is in it. Heal your creation and give us eyes to see the world as you do. As the seasons change, pattern the rhythm of our lives in harmony with all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, you call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding, that they advocate and genuinely care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of salvation, you promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick especially, Audrey, Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, Charlie, JoAnn, Leon, Judy, Janet, Carol, Joyce, Barbara, Ida, Debbie, Larry, Blanche, Leslie, Jim, Bob, Ellie, Kaaren, Leigh, Bob, Kathy, Sue, Phyllis, and all those we name now in our hearts or on our lips. Lord in your mercy.

**hear our prayer.**

God of community, you call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a workshop of your love. When we quarrel, bring reconciliation. Help us overcome evil with good. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of all grace, you give us everlasting life. In love we recall your holy ones who now live in your undying light. In our remembering, give us a foretaste of the feast to come. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Great Thanksgiving**

*Dialogue*

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.**

**Preface**

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 on this day 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:

**Holy Holy Holy**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of powe'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
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.  
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **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.**

Come to the banquet for all is ready.

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**Communion will be available in the church parking lot Sunday, from 10 to 11 am.**

Please do not leave your car. We will come to you and deliver a wafer and wine or grape juice. It will be served to you in a foam bowl. Please take the elements and distribute among those in your vehicle and then dispose of the cups and bowl when you get home.

### **Prayer after Communion**

God of the welcome table,  
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us.  
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all,  
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.  
**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.**

## **Sending Hymn - Praise and Thanks and Adoration**

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Postlude - Praise and Thanks and Adoration (*Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele*)

setting by Jacqueline Nappi

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**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God.

**Prayer of the Church (Members):** Audrey Pearson, Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Johanna Nikitscher, Tony Perrotte, Charlie Bock, JoAnn and Leon Bowman, Judy Schlegel, Janet Ravert, Carol Sackett, Joyce Veazey, Barbara Anderson, Ida Elliott, Debbie Fullbright, Larry Jenkins, Blanche Bragg, Leslie Johnson, Jim Klausman, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Kaaren Johanson, Leigh Stock, Bob Lewis, Kathy Daniels, Sue Dahl, Phyllis Jenkins

**Prayer List Changes** – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time** - email staff, or call the office.

**Prayer of the Church (Friends):** Kay Matthews [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Byron Franzen (brother of David Franzen), Laura and Mike Smith (sister and her husband by Carol Sackett), Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), JoAnn Sackett (daughter-in-law of Carol Sackett), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Tom and Mary Jakubus (friend of Deb Tabert), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Tristan and Hailey Hunter (relatives of Deb Tabert), Cary Grant (friend of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Lydia Taylor (cousin of Bee Ellertson), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gary Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midyette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Rose (friend of Deb Tabert), Brady Laubert (grandson of Pam and Steve Taylor), Staci Dominick (daughter-in-law of Ted and Diana Dominick), Leonard Anderson, (family friend of Ted and Diana Dominick), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Karen Boone (relative of Robin Winfree), Michelle Meadors, Paul and Lora Kindem and new daughter Sally Jane (by Bill and Barbara Dahl), Tony Blackwell (cousin of Pat Casper), Gad Kainer, Peggy Stevens (by John and Linda Foreman), Nancy Randle (niece of Ann and Larry Grovenstein)

**"Light a Candle"** -- Candles are lit for prayer intentions. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, and the candle symbolizes that prayer. The practice of lighting candles is an important tradition in Christian churches, communities and families. Its origins may be traced back in the Old Testament times where an oil lamp is lighted to "keep a

flame burning perpetually" (Exodus 27:19-20), as "perpetual incense before the Lord from generation to generation" (Exodus 30:7-8) and as a "lamp stand in the Tent of Meeting ... set up before the Lord as He has commanded Moses" (Exodus 40:24-25). In today's Christian tradition, this light has a very special place because it symbolizes Christ who said, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have light and life" (John 8:12). **The candle screen and votive candles are in the Narthex of the church**, along with wood tapers to light them with. You are welcome to come, light a candle, and pray. If you come after hours or when no staff is in the building, please put out the candle before you leave. Staff will check during the daytimes when they are there to make sure all are put out.

**Pour a cup of tea or coffee and join the Pastor and Vicar for Coffee Hour on Mondays** on Zoom from 10-11. We are looking forward to seeing you, chatting, and catching up. Here is the info:

Topic: **Coffee Hour with the Pastor and Vicar**

**Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRIgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09>

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753

Password: 292680

**Scott Anderson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Bible Study on Thursday mornings.**

Topic: **Bible Study - Acts** – You may download the lessons ahead of time by going to the home page of our website ([stpaulsdurham.org](http://stpaulsdurham.org))

**Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/946532621?pwd=UTJqYjV0V3laMmpROStMdGRvTGhUT09>

Meeting ID: 946 532 621

Password: 402561

**Zoom Hour with Ben Finholt, August 30 at 2:00 PM**

CCG invites you to join us on August 30th for a Zoom Sunday School hour with Ben Finholt, of NC Prisoner Legal Services. NCPLS advocates for the rights of those incarcerated in North Carolina state prisons. Mr. Finholt has worked with NCPLS since 2012. He'll describe some of the services that Prisoner Legal Services provides to NC residents. He'll guide us in examining the ways that our state's justice system affects minority and marginalized citizens. NCPLS attorneys evaluate claims about an individual's conviction or sentence, and work to correct any errors, either informally, or through litigation. NCPLS civil attorneys also evaluate potential civil rights claims, such as use of force by prison staff, dangerous prison conditions; inadequate medical care; religious freedom; and free speech issues. When NCPLS cannot litigate a case, they still provide legal advice and self help packets on post conviction and civil issues. As our congregation works to learn about systemic racism, and the fundamental inequities of our society, Ben Finholt's remarks will give us important insights about the NC justice system, and ways that we might support actions to increase fairness and equity in our communities.

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86138333815?pwd=QWNqVnNRUTErcy9YN1dYK1NxRIhEQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 3833 3815 Passcode: 108280

One tap mobile +19292056099

**The City and County of Durham need your help.** The September 30th deadline to complete the 2020 Census is fast approaching. COVID-19 has presented numerous challenges for all of us and has especially affected outreach to Durham residents about the Census. As a consequence, Durham is

behind. That means we risk losing millions of federal dollars that we need to support so many vital programs and services right here in Durham such as school lunches, Head Start, Medicaid, highways, medical centers, Pell grants, food stamps, and much more. You can complete the form online at [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) or by dialing 1-844-330-2020. The census is safe, secure and confidential and only takes 10 minutes to complete. Everyone counts!

**St. Paul's has a new Facebook group** to allow us to communicate with each other as you feel inspired. Vicar Judy will be posting a question for discussion each week. However, please feel free to post on other topics as well. If you think this might be interesting or helpful, please join the group. The name of the group is St. Paul's ELCA - Durham, NC, and the link is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2364775460484568>. Right now, this group is open, so anyone can read messages on the group page. If we get "trolled" we may need to make the group private.

**Make sure you are registered to vote!** New voter? Moved? Removed from Voter Roll? visit [youcanvote.org/register](https://youcanvote.org/register) to confirm, update or register.

3 ways to vote:

1. Early Voting: vote at any early voting site in your county
2. Election Day: You must vote at your assigned polling place
3. By Mail: Request an absentee ballot – go to [youcanvote.org/voter-guide](https://youcanvote.org/voter-guide)

**Early Voting:** October 15-31 - Find an early voting site: [youcanvote.org/voting](https://youcanvote.org/voting)

**Election Day:** November 3 - vote at your assigned polling place from 6:30 am-7:30 pm. Find your assigned polling place at [youcanvote.org/lookup](https://youcanvote.org/lookup)