

**First Lutheran Church, Findlay OH**  
**October 25, 2020**

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**GATHERING**

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

**Announcements/ Prelude    *Ein Feste Burg*    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]

***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe,  
with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight:  
on earth there is no equal.

God's Word shall stand above the pow'rs, shall end all their thanksgiving.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
though all of these be gone, they yet have nothing won.  
The kingdom's our forever!

**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.**

**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.

## WORD

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

### **First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18**

A reading from Leviticus

<sup>1</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

<sup>2</sup>Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy. <sup>15</sup>You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. <sup>16</sup>You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. <sup>18</sup>You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

**Special Music**

***Built On a Rock***  
Small Ensemble

ALTHOUSE

### **Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46**

A reading from the book of Matthew

<sup>34</sup>When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup>and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup>Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? <sup>37</sup>He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

<sup>41</sup>Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: <sup>42</sup>What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he? They said to him, "The son of David." <sup>43</sup>He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup>"The Lord said to my Lord,  
"Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet" '?"

<sup>45</sup>If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" <sup>46</sup>No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The Word of the Lord. [Sign – “**Thanks**”]

### **Sermon Moment**

*The assembly is seated.*

### **Hymn of the Day** [cantor] *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

### **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**      *The Church's One Foundation*      PARKS