**Fifth Sunday After Pentecost Worship**

*For music performed by Deb & Ben please see the links in the description box below the YouTube video or visit the Sermons page of the church website. Lyrics for the music can be found at the end of this worship liturgy.*

**☩** indicates you are invited to make the sign of the cross.

Congregation speaks the **Bold** text.

Opening

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

whose steadfast love is everlasting,

whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

Word

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:8-14 (read in unison)

**8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,**

**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

 **9 Lord, you are good to all,**

 **and your compassion is over all your works.**

**10 All your works shall praise you, O Lord,**

**and your faithful ones shall bless you.**

 **11 They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom**

 **and speak of your power,**

**12 that all people may know of your power**

**and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

 **13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

 **You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

**14 The Lord upholds all those who fall**

**and lifts up those who are bowed down.**

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25

15 I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. 17 But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 23 but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:16-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 11th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] 16 “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

 17 ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

  we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; 19 the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

20 Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done, because they did not repent. 21 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. 23 And you, Capernaum,

will you be exalted to heaven?

 No, you will be brought down to Hades.

For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24 But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you.”

  25 At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

  28 “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

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.**

*\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith which withers. Especially we pray for our Synod prayer partners Messiah Lutheran Church in Roscommon and Jeff Bonn their pastor & Latvian Lutheran Church in Kalamazoo and Aija Graham their pastor.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water, and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living. Especially we pray for the Amazon Rainforest, and all United States National Parks.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations especially the United States and Canada, celebrating their nationhood. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from nationalism that hinders relationship-building and views the lives of others with less value. Lead us to expansive love for our neighbor.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed especially those sickened by the Covid-19 virus, and all those recovering from any medical procedure. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. Energize children’s ministry volunteers, church administrators, church musicians, and those who maintain our building. Shine in this place that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for those who have died in faith especially those from our congregation, and those we have known in our own lives. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Offering

*Normally during this time in worship, we would now receive the offering. Thank you to our electronic givers and all those who have lovingly continued to send in your offerings so the missions and ministries of the church can continue. LCS mail is checked several times a week so offering checks made out to LCS can be mailed in and will be safely collected and deposited.*

Lord’s Prayer

Let us pray together as our Lord Jesus taught us to pray saying…

**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.**

Benediction

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God**.

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