

First Lutheran Church, Findlay OH
September 6, 2020

GATHERING

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

Announcements/ Prelude *Let Us Break Bread Together* ENGLERT

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]

Built on a Rock

Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling—
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.

Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

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, leison.

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.

First Reading: Romans 13:8-14

A reading from Romans

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment,

are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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.

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

Sermon Moment

The assembly is seated.

Hymn of the Day [cantor] *Day of Arising*

Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken. This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
when the church gathers, when bread is broken, there Christ is with us in bread and wine.

Apostles' Creed [Sign – “Believe”]

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, hear our prayer, O Lord,
Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, O Lord
incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. Amen

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.**

MEAL

We celebrate Christ's true and full presence in the bread

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The congregation responds by raising both hands heavenward instead of speaking.

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.]

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 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:

[cantor] Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Please raise your wafer with two hands

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. [*Lower your wafer*]

[cantor] Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

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.

[cantor] Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

COMMUNION

Please raise your wafer.

The body of Christ given for you.... [*Congregation and pastor consume the meal.*]

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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 *How Great Thou Art* LINKER

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