

First Lutheran Church, Findlay OH
March 7, 2021

GATHERING

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

Announcements/Prelude *Canticle of Grace* ASHDOWN

Confession and Forgiveness

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.**

Gathering Song *In Christ There Is No East or West*

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;
all Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *And also with you.*

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, Have Mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Lord, in the midst of hardship, you bring comfort; in sorrow, you bring joy; in fear, you bring faith; in division, you bring unity. Come near all your beloved children today: guard us, guide us, and fill us with your love and peace. Amen.**

WORD

We hear together God's Word for us today.

First Reading: Ephesians 4:2-6

A reading from Ephesians

²Be completely humble and gentle; with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Lenten Acclamation

Let Your Steadfast Love



Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Gospel: John 2:13-22

A reading from the book of John **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Moment

Hymn of the Day *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.

Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.

Apostles' Creed

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.

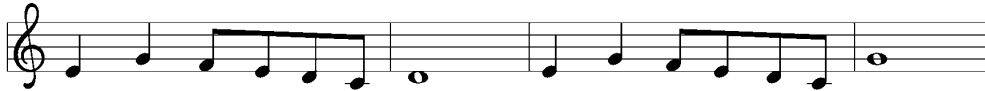
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* JONES

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 *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am*



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Response to Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer.

that the gospel may take root in us and spread everywhere; *Lord in your mercy...*

that the earth may be restored and protected; *Lord in your mercy...*

that peace and justice may flow within us and from us,

that all nations and those in authority may serve and shield the vulnerable,

that our community may be a light to the world. *Lord in your mercy...*

We pray for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, and lonely,

for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit,

for First Lutheran Church, and those on our prayer list; *Lord in your mercy...*

for the faithful departed, who have joined the church triumphant. *Lord in your mercy...*

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 and wine.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:

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) 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.

(Please raise your cup) 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.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come, come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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. Amen. Amen.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ given for you... *Congregation and pastor consume the wafer.*

The blood of Christ given for you... *Congregation and pastor consume the wine.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. 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 *The Glory of These Forty Days* SEDIO

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