

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship
Sunday, June 21, 2020 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost
<https://vimeo.com/430562391>

Prelude - Andante from Cello Sonata No 2 by Gabriel Fauré

Kirsten Jerme, cello

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn - Lift High the Cross

660

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

A Confessional Litany and Lament Commemorating the Nine Who Were Slain at Mother Emanuel AME Church

They were doing
what we are called to
as they engaged in bible study.

It was Wednesday night —
a stranger walked in,
and these people welcomed him and prayed together:
the Rev. Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, the Rev. DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Kibwe Diop Sanders, the Rev. Daniel Lee Simmons, the Rev. Myra Singleton Quarles Thompson, and the honorable state senator and pastor of the church, the Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney

This stranger wanted to ignite a “race war,”
he said, after he shot and killed them,
denying them the very humanity he claimed for himself,
claiming rights and privileges associated with “whiteness.”

Now we are grieved, once again in pain,
burning and anguished, lamenting the horror of evil unleashed.
And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

Sorrow and heartache have come to us.
Death and mourning have visited us.
We feel far from you, O God, and distant from one another. And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

Evil besets us in our land.
We acknowledge that our nation is socialized in ways that promote and normalize colonialization.
We cry out against the horrors and agonies of racism. And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

The privileged of our nation have benefitted from practices that dehumanize indigenous peoples. We have claimed as “discovery” lands that were not ours. These lands have been stolen and the nations,

that were the original occupants of these lands, slain. And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

Tribalism has led to the denial of your presence, O God.
Present generations,
the children whose ancestors were kidnapped and sold into slavery,
those forced to labor not on their own behalf,
still suffer and struggle to live in freedom
while the children of colonizers,
live out of “white privilege,”
denying the fullness of your presence in all people. And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

Assaults born of greed and murder continue propping up
white privilege that is institutionalized in our church and nation,
preventing us from recognizing
the twin evils of racism and nationalism
still perpetuated among us. And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

Open our eyes, O God, open our hearts.
Open our ears, O God, open our minds.
Help us to behold one another as you behold us.
Help us to be more firmly rooted
in the practices of the gospel – so that, when we pray,
the way we live will make real the dream of your beloved community
within and among us. And so we cry out,
Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us.

With the help of your mercy and grace,
lead us to think, believe, and change.
May your gospel’s transforming power
by the working of the Holy Spirit
be present in us, in our churches,
in our nation and all the nations of the earth.
May it be so. And the people said, “Amen.”
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

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading – Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution.

Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

¹⁰For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble.

"Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him."

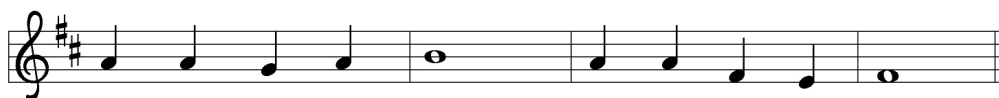
¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

Refrain



An - swer me, O Lord, for your love is kind.

Refrain

⁷Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach, and shame has cov- | ered my face.

⁸**I have become a stranger to | my own kindred, an alien to my | mother's children.**

⁹Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.

¹⁰**I humbled my- | self with fasting, but that was turned to | my reproach. Refrain**

[¹¹I put on | sackcloth also, and became a by- | word among them.

¹²**Those who sit at the gate mur- | mur against me, and the drunkards make | songs about me.**

¹³But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have | set, O LORD:

"In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your un- | failing help.

¹⁴**Save me from the mire; do not | let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of | the deep waters. Refrain**

¹⁵Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swal- | low me up; do not let the pit shut its | mouth upon me.

] ¹⁶**Answer me, O LORD, for your | love is kind; in your great compassion, | turn to me.**

¹⁷Hide not your face | from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.

¹⁸**Draw near to me | and redeem me; because of my enemies de- | liver me. Refrain**

Second Reading - Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

802

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

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

Holy One, you bring us together and call us your own. Bless theologians, teachers, and preachers who help us grow in faith. Guide your church, that we might be a holy people. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy One, the whole earth is yours. Where there is fire, bring cool air and new growth. Where there is flooding, bring abatement. Where there is drought, bring rain. Inspire us to care for what you have provided. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God, our truth, through the ages you have spoken through prophets. Stir up in your church a passion for your word revealed in Jesus, that following the witness of the Emanuel Nine, your church studies the scriptures, shows hospitality, prays without ceasing, and embodies prophetic justice in community.

Embolden church leaders and all the baptized to remember the lives of the Nine, repent of racism and white supremacy, and renew our commitment to your word revealed most fully in Jesus, our way, truth, and life. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy One, we have created divisions you will not own. In all places of conflict, including the United States, raise up leaders who work to develop lasting peace and reconciliation. Encourage organizations and individuals who care for all forced to leave their homes. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy One, you care for those who are harassed and helpless. Protect and defend those who are abused. Heal those who are sick. Feed all who hunger. Empower all whose voices go unheard, and help us respond to the pressing needs of our neighbors. Comfort all in need, especially Audrey, Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, Sonja, Charlie, JoAnn, Leon, Judy, Janet, Carol, Jim, Joyce, Barbara, Ida, Debbie, Larry, Blanche, Leslie, Jim, Kaaren, Leigh, Bob and all those we name now in our hearts or on our lips. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy One, you provide a plentiful harvest of gifts and resources. Prepare us to labor and gather the fruits of this congregation, that we might discover new ways of living. Minister to us in our work, that we do not lose heart. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy One, you bring all people to yourself. We give thanks for the holy people who have gone before us. Sustain us in your mission until the day you bear us up to join the saints in light. Lord in your mercy,

hear 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.

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.
You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God,
ever to be adored in your eternal glory.
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.

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

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.
Amen.

Postlude - Allegro from Gamba Sonata No. 2 by J. S. Bach

Kirsten Jerme, cello

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God with the following recognition:

✝ In honor of our children, in memory of our parents, and all fathers everywhere by Sue and Gary Dahl.

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

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time** - drop a note in the offering plate, 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 and Jim Sackett), Kate Genaitis, 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), Bob and Ellie DeVries, Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Al Deardorff (cousin-in-law of Marlene Coulter), LeRoy Farmer (cousin of Marlene Coulter), 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)

Daily Devotions: New dates through Saturday, July 4 for the daily devotions have been added to the Devotion Sign Up. If you are willing to write a daily devotion for the congregation please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily> Please submit your devotion to Vicar Anna at least two days in advance of the publish date.

From Pastor Scott Anderson: We extend to you an invitation to a new initiative by the NC Synod of the ELCA concerning Racism and our desire for justice and equity. Their effort is another opportunity to engage in learning and conversation as well as develop new skills in our fight to overcome racial inequality. Follow this link to this initiative: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Special-e-News-From-the-bishop.html?soid=1101477504383&aid=NQtoMkx5b7E> . I would encourage you to consider participation in this effort.

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)

Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 946 532 621

Password: 402561

Dear Fellow St. Paul's members,

Social Ministry is giving you the opportunity to continue with the annual Christmas in July through the ELCA's Good Gifts Program. Throughout the month of June, you may write a check to St. Paul's or donate money in another way, indicating this is for "ELCA Good Gifts." The first of July, the money will be tallied and a "gift" will be selected. You will be notified of the amount and the "gift" selected. If you want more details on the ELCA's program, visit <https://goodgifts.elca.org/> . Give as you are motivated to do for this program. There are many ways to support those in need during these challenging times. This is only one. Thank you.

God's work. Our hands (and hearts!).

Social Ministry Committee

COVID-19 Task Force

As North Carolina begins to reopen, the congregation council has created a COVID-19 Task Force to make recommendations about worship and other in-person activities at St. Paul's. It will be chaired by Linda Foreman with Pastor Anderson, Tina Bessias, Joan Albright, Dean Redman, Janet Seiz, and Sean Slane serving on it.

Because our congregation and staff skew toward high risk categories, we will not be among the early wave of churches and businesses to reopen. We certainly want to do so as soon as safely possible, however. The task force will keep up with guidance from the ELCA and the NC synod as well as state and local orders. We will update the congregation regularly. Please feel free to share questions, requests, opinions, etc. through the council email address: council@stpaulsdurham.org .

In the meantime, we are still the church, and there is much we can still do! Remember to look for the link to each week's worship service in Saturday email messages--or just keep an eye on our Vimeo page (<https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham>). Consider coming to drive-through communion on Sundays from 10:00-11:00. And check on people you know in the congregation. Perhaps it's time to

make some more calls to people you haven't crossed paths with since March!

Thank you for your continuing financial support. Our finance team encourages you to consider giving online. You can make a one-time or recurring contribution by visiting this page on the church website: <http://www.stpaulsdurham.org/giving-online.html>. Or you can use the mail to send in a voided bank check with the amount of contribution and frequency. Our Financial Secretaries, Phil Hart and Rod Runestad will be glad to answer questions or guide you through this process. Contact Phil at psbhart@gmail.com; phone 817.692.9487. Contact Rod at rodrunestad@gmail.com; phone 203.912.3024.