HOLY COMMUNION Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2020

8:00 am and 9:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: (8:00 am) Let All Things Now Living

(9:30 am) His Eye is on the Sparrow Kyra McFadden, Soloist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

HYMN: Let All Things Now Living Printed on the following page. Bedford

Martin/Gabriel

Let All Things Now Living



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- **P** 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.

G Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Stand

P 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.

C Amen.

Stand

GREETING

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (GLORIA IN EXCELSIS)

- **A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
- Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
 - Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 - Lord God, Lamb of God:
 - You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 - You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
 - receive our prayer.
 - For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit

FIRST READING

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

A reading from Ezekiel.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

- **A** The word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Later service only:

PSALM 119:33-40 (The congregation reads the verses in bold face type.)

- ³³Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes, and I shall keep it | to the end.
- ³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your law; I shall keep it with | all my heart.
- ³⁵Make me go in the path of | your commandments, for that is | my desire.
- ³⁶Incline my heart to | your decrees

and not to | unjust gain.

- ³⁷Turn my eyes from watching | what is worthless; give me life | in your ways.
- ³⁸Fulfill your promise | to your servant, which you make to | those who fear you.
- ³⁹Turn away the reproach | which I dread,

Ezekiel 33:7-11

because your judg- | ments are good.
⁴⁰Behold, I long for | your commandments; in your righteousness pre- | serve my life.

SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

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.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

[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."

P The gospel of the Lord.

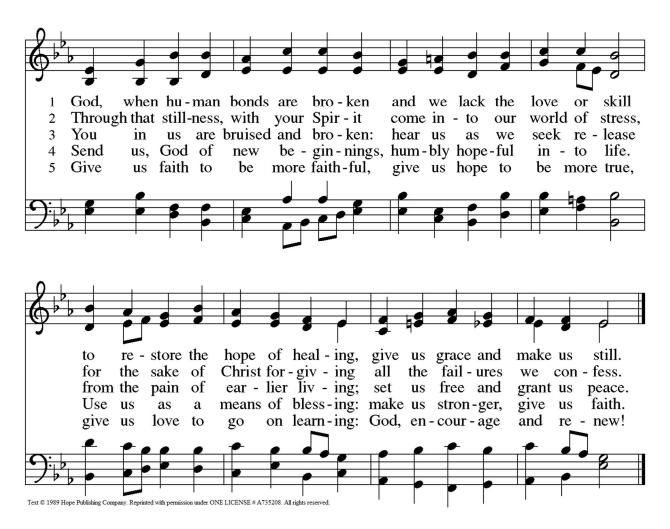
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand Later service only: HYMN OF THE DAY: God, When Human Bonds Are Broken Printed on the following page.

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



Stand

The Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed may be spoken. The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

APOSTLES CREED

- **P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- **C** 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 into hell. 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.
- A We pray for the church, for its pastors and bishops, for the newly baptized, for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and for our growth in grace.

Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an increase of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace among nations and among peoples.

Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness, and for all who this day will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts... Lord, in your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- A We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,
- **G** hear our prayer.
- Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

The Offering will be collected in the Narthex as you leave the church. The service continues with the Great Thanksgiving.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly continues with the SANCTUS:

 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven 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.

The minister continues with the WORDS OF INSTITUTION.

 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

P 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God,
 behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
 Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

 Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)

C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread, the communion ministers say The body of Christ, given for you. and each person may respond

Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are "truly and substantially" present "in, with, and under" the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to come forward for a blessing. At the direction of the ushers, approach the communion station, receive the host in your palm, move to the side and place the host in your mouth, and return to your seat.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

- The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- **C** Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- Let us pray.
 We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **G** Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

G Amen.

DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

HYMN: Praise the Lord! O Heavens

Printed on the following page.

Praise the Lord! O Heavens



OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

POSTLUDE: *Postlude in Classic Style*

Young

+ + +

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The Time of the Church is the season after Pentecost, beginning with The Holy Trinity and ending with Christ the King. These weeks focus on Christ's ministry and teaching.

On Sundays for which the color is green, it is appropriate to omit either the Kyrie or the Hymn of Praise, reserving both together for festival seasons.

The liturgical color green, symbolic of growth, is used for the season after Epiphany and after Pentecost.

+ + +

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Worship Assistants

Vestry Ushers: John Kochel and Gary Wessner

Ushers: Dick Allebach, Scott Halteman, and Mike Taylor

Altar Guild: Becky Quirk

Offering Tabulation: Janet Stokes, Sherry Jessee and Chris Dogonniuck

Video Production: Jim Lien

<u>The Flowers that Adorn the Altar in the Brick Church Nave</u> are given to the glory of God by Alice Franks and family in loving memory of Mother Minnie Mae Eichert Meyer's September 7th birthday anniversary.

<u>The Flowers that Adorn the Altar in the Old Church Nave</u> are given to the glory of God by Sally Sweeney in memory of her mother, Virginia L. Weicheld, and Debra Augustine in loving memory of her son, Samuel Carlos Augustine.

<u>The Sanctuary Candle</u> is given to the glory of God by Karen McClain in honor of parents David and Sandra Waugh.

<u>The Worship Bulletins</u> are given to the glory of God by Jim Lien in honor of daughter Jenny's 24th Birthday.

<u>Today we welcome</u> Kyra McFadden as soloist at our 9:30 am service.

Kyra is a social worker at the Norristown Hospitality Center. Welcome Kyra!

We're so glad to see you today!

We hope you are as glad to be back at worship as we are! Please keep in mind that the church, like everywhere else during these careful times, has had to make changes in order to adhere to CDC guidelines. Some of these changes are inconvenient, but we must all do our part to protect ourselves and our church family. Your patience and cooperation are very much appreciated. If you have questions about new policies, please feel free to speak with one of the Vestry ushers.

Please see a list of changes/requirements for worship on the following page.

<u>We will continue to post videos of our services on our web site</u> along with the complete bulletin for those who are unable to join us during this strange time in which we live.

<u>The Church office and all church buildings will remain closed through the summer.</u> Please check our web site for opening updates. The Parish Administrator will be available during normal office hours via telephone or e-mail.

We are never alone during this stressful time. Jesus walks alongside us every step of the way.

Augustus Re-Opening Information for Parishioners: Green Phase

- Please stay home if you are sick, feel ill, have a fever, or have been exposed to an individual diagnosed with Covid-19 (Coronavirus) within the last 14 days.
- Please stay home if you are at higher risk of severe illness with COVID19. If you are uncertain about your risk status, please consult your doctor.
- Worship will be held in the usual places and at the usual times during the summer: 8:00 AM in the Old Church and 9:30 AM in the air-conditioned Brick Church Nave.
- Before entering the Church, please put on your own facemask or cloth covering. (Facemasks will not be provided by Augustus.) Exceptions to wearing a facemask or other covering are "children younger than 2 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing ... and anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance" (CDC Guidelines).
- Please maintain social distancing guidelines with those people who are not members of your household.
- Due to current restrictions, you will probably not sit in your usual place at worship. Ushers will direct you to your seat, filling the church from the front to back to minimize contact. The only appropriate response to this temporary but necessary change is a patient and loving spirit.
- A complete large print worship bulletin will be given to you by an usher. No hymnals will be used. When leaving the church, please take the bulletin with you or place it in the recycle bin. It cannot be re-used.
- We will sing less than customary during the Green Phase. This is an added disappointment for Lutherans, but it is only a temporary restriction.
- Communion will be distributed to you as you come forward at the direction of the ushers. Only the host will be distributed. It will be placed in the palm of your hand. Please keep your mask on and move away from the Pastor. Then remove your mask, place the host in your mouth, and put your mask back on and return to your seat.
- The ushers will dismiss the congregation by rows starting in the back of the church. Please proceed immediately and directly to the exit of the church building.
- The offering will be received as you leave. Please place your offering in one of the receptacles at the door.



Dear Friends of the Spring Turkey Dinner,

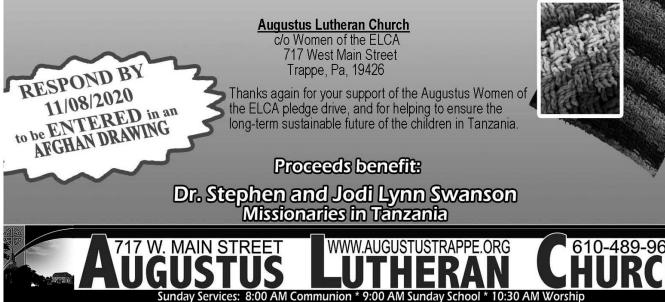
Despite the global pandemic, Stephen and Jodi Lynn Swanson and their family, missionaries whom we have supported for several years, have decided to stay in Tanzania and continue their roles as healthcare professionals. We would still like to support these missionaries and the wonderful work that they are doing to train Tanzanian health professionals, develop a neonatal intensive care unit and establish a feeding program for malnourished children.

Because of the cancellation of the 2020 Turkey Dinner and Craft show, we were unable to raise funds for missionary work. As a result, Augustus Women of the ELCA have initiated a Prayer and Pledge Drive to engage the local community to help missions on a global level. With your support, we can raise over \$3,000 to financially support our pediatric missionaries, and to foster health and wellness education in parts of the globe that are less fortunate than ours.

Would you consider contributing a faithful prayer, financial pledge, or both to help us work toward our mission? ALL DONATIONS **RECEIVED BY 11/08/2020 WILL BE MATCHED** by three generous gifts: a generous gift from the Augustus Women of the ELCA (up to \$1,000), a generous gift from Pastor Kochenderfer (up to \$1,000), and a generous gift from Pastor Martha and Pastor Howard Kriebel (up to \$1,000). So every dollar you contribute will be increased four-fold! And as an added bonus, you will be eligible to be entered in a drawing on November 22, 2020 for an afghan. The afghan is 48" x 54" and is crocheted with soft, bulky, polyester yarn.

On behalf of the Swansons, the Augustus Women of the ELCA, and the Christian community at Augustus Lutheran Church, we would like to thank you in advance for your support. For your convenience, you can make your contribution by one of the following two ways:

- 1. Donating online at <www.augustustrappe.org>. Just follow the "DONATE" prompts under the "GIVING" tab. Don't forget to add "WELCA-Turkey Dinner" and your phone number in the comments box so we can add you to the drawing.
- 2. By mailing-in your financial commitment. Checks and money orders can be made out to 'Augustus Women of the ELCA'. Additionally, please write "Turkey Dinner" on the memo line. Send your donation to the following address to ensure your donation is delivered to the applicable location:



Sunday Services: 8:00 AM Communion * 9:00 AM Sunday School