St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship Sunday, July 4, 2021 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude - How Firm a Foundation, setting by Jacqueline Nappi

GATHERING

We gather in the name of the Father ₱ and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 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 \maltese Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn - How Firm a Foundation

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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

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

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Children's Message

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

¹[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." ⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Psalm: Psalm 123

Refrain

To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

²As the eyes of servants look to

Our eyes look to you, O God, un til you show us your mer - cy.

the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy. Refrain

³Have mercy upon us, O | LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough | of contempt, | 4**too much of the scorn of the in-** | **dolent rich, and of the derision** | **of the proud.** *Refrain*

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us. ²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—4was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, veven considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. *Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

God of all, through the waters of baptism you claim people of all races, ethnicities, and languages as your beloved children. Sustain the baptized and increase their faith, that your gospel may be proclaimed throughout the earth. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the heavens, your creating Spirit animates the universe. We give you thanks for the moon and stars, for the planets and the Milky Way Galaxy, and for all of the mysteries of the cosmos that remain unknown to us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of freedom, you have liberated us from sin and death and rescue us from all forms of spiritual, social, and political oppression. Defend us from tyrants in our midst and deliver us from all forms of slavery or corruption. Direct our freedom for works of liberation and wholeness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of compassion, you became vulnerable in the person of Jesus Christ in solidarity with the disempowered. Strengthen those who feel faint, give courage to those who fear, and bring wholeness to those in need (*especially*) Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, JoAnn, Leon, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis, Leslie, Bob, Ellie, Fran, Gus, Sue, Barbara, David, Ted, Naomi, and others we may name aloud or quietly.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of holiness, you send us out into the world to proclaim your love. We pray for our outreach ministries (*local ministries may be named*). Equip us as we leave this place to witness and serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks that in every time and place you call forth prophets who move us towards freedom. Thank you for those who work for human rights, community organizers, and all who strive for liberty for all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Offertory - Meditation by Flor Peters

Offertory - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

P Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

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, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day 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

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.

LAMB OF GOD

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, grant us peace.

Hymn during Communion - For by Grace You Have Been Saved

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Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, bless you now and forever.

Post Communion Canticle

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.

Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

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.

Sending Hymn - We All Are One in Mission

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Postlude - Prelude in G by Johann Pachelbel

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

You are invited to sign up for altar flowers by stopping by the credenza in the atrium under the monitor. In the double-stacked box are the sign up sheets in the top, with the forms and envelopes in the bottom. Sign up for your date(s) and then complete the forms/envelopes and return **at least** one week before your selected date(s). Any number of people may sign up for flowers each week. Donation cost is \$30.

Prayer of the Church (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Johanna Nikitscher, Tony Perrotte, JoAnn and Leon Bowman, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Phyllis Jenkins, Leslie Johnson, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Gus Holshouser, Sue Dahl, Barbara Shade, David Dahl, Ted Dominick, Naomi Watson

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time,** 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); Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Lydia Taylor (cousin of Bee Ellertson), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay 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), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (greatgrandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Michelle Meadors, Gad Kainer, Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Marjorie Bower (daughter of Doug and Fran Whitfield), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Jim Allen (family member of Ted and Diana Dominick), Sara (sister of Marlene Coulter), Farmer family (cousins of Marlene Coulter), Betty Sue Dickerson and son Barry Dickerson (friends of the church), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Mike Winfree (brother-in-law of Robin Winfree), Clarence Schulze (father of Sharon Schulze), Paul (son-in-law of Jan Huntley)

St. Paul's In-Person Worship and Building Guidelines

The Reopening Task Force met and reviewed the rules announced by our governor and the CDC.

- We have increased the number of people in the sanctuary and Trinity Hall to 100 each and Jackie Nappi will begin live music on the Organ.
- We will still wear masks in worship in an effort to offer some protection from disease.
- All areas of the church are purified with IWave technology which eliminates up to 97% of all virus and bacteria particles.
- We will allow singing and humming while masked.
- Committees are encouraged to begin meeting in person or a combination of in person and zoom.
 Contact the church office to reserve space.
- We will continue for the next 30 days (through June) to limit outside groups from meeting in the church building.
- In order to be able to offer in person worship we continue to need assistance on Sunday morning.
 Here is the sign up sheet for help needed:
 https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944A4A72FA5F58-sunday1
- We have added a slot on the sign-up for Altar Guild as we need help with setting up and cleaning up the altar.
- We are also looking for people to help with the new video and sound equipment.
 Contact Curtis Chi or Tim Hoke if you would like to be trained.

In-Person Worship Zoom information: Topic: Sunday Morning Worship

Time: at 9:30 am - worship begins at 10:00 am

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88584944760?pwd=YTZISFp3NVq2Z09GV0JpOEhObER5Zz09

Meeting ID: 885 8494 4760 Passcode: 435920

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 885 8494 4760 Passcode: 435920

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbCjEelyDd

Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- ♦ **Devotions** https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1 Please send your devotions to Pastor Scott at pastor@stpaulsdurham.org
- ◆ Sunday Morning 10:00 AM Worship Tasks https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1 Tasks include setting up, lector, worship assistant, sound, video, etc.
- ♦ Sunday morning 10:00 AM Communion Assistants and Lock-Up https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-communion

The Thursday Morning Bible Study will be on vacation the rest of the summer. It will return in September.

Croasdaile Worship will be on the fourth Thursday of the month at 2:00 pm. Next date is July 22.

Region 9 ELCA Archivist at St. Paul's

Former Vicar Anna Carter made arrangements for the Archivist from the Region 9 ELCA Archives to come to St. Paul's and do a workshop. So, Shannon Smith will join us on Saturday morning, July 17 at 9:00 am until noon. We will talk about the kinds of material that we should be saving, the best ways to save our recorded history and review our current Archives files. All are welcome to attend. Even if you want to learn how to preserve your family history, this is a great opportunity to learn. Please let Pastor Scott know if you plan to attend.

Join the Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11. Here is the info:

Topic: Coffee Hour, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRlgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 - Password: 292680

2022 National Youth Gathering

Calling all students that will be rising 9th grade students through graduating seniors in the year 2022. The youth gathering will be in Minneapolis, MN. Youth will gather with approximately 30,000 other Lutheran youth from across the country. What we need at church is a full list of all students who meet the above criteria. We will then host a meeting with families and youth during August. We will work to raise funds to cover the trip but there will be some cost to families. We have about \$7000 already in an account for this trip. I don't have a per person cost yet, but last time we asked parents to cover 1/3 of the cost (approximately \$500) and we raised the additional 2/3 (\$1000). We were also able to offer full scholarships based on need. Please let us know if your child is eligible. Pastor Scott

Saturday, July 24 – VBS Day at St. Paul's

Begins at 9:00 am, Lunch at noon

We will have a fun time learning about Noah and the Ark, animals, rainbows, and God's promises.

Plans for our VBS Day are shaping up and here is how you can be involved:

- □ **Volunteer** your time and talents to help that day or some set-up time previous to the 24th.
- Register your children **NOW** so we can be sure to include them in this wonderful day.

We hope to be mostly outside on our grounds for singing, crafting, puppetry, play acting, learning about nature, hearing stories, and having a good time.

Everyone is invited to the picnic lunch – church members, friends, neighbors – served outside. After lunch, there will be a special event inside Trinity Hall – everyone is invited to enjoy the magic and laughter of **Happy Dan: The Magic Man**.

Let us know if you can help, or attend, or help set up or clean up the event. Contact Susan Esposito (admin@stpaulsdurham.org) ASAP!!!



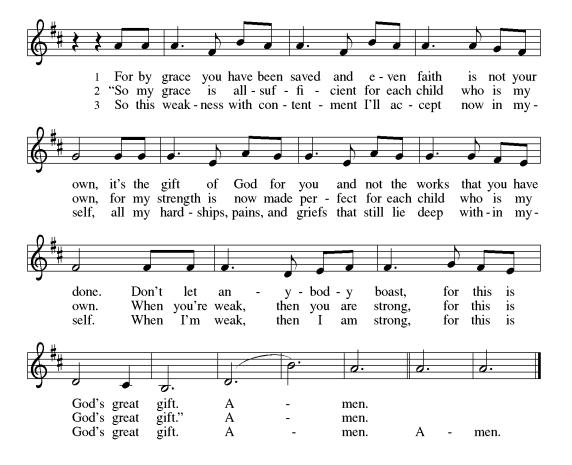


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