

P: Pastor **V:** Vicar **C:** Congregation **VC:** Voice of Congregation **W:** Worship Asst.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

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

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: In the name of the Father,
and of the **+** Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

V: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG “Heaven Came Down” *sung by Jane Cuccia*

1. O what a wonderful day, day I will never forget,
After I wandered in darkness away, Jesus my Savior I met.
O what a tender compassionate friend, He met the need of my heart,
Shadows dispelling, with joy I am telling, He made all the darkness depart.

(Refrain)

Heaven came down and glory filled my soul
When at the cross, the Savior made me whole.
My sins were washed away, and my night was turned to day
Heaven came down and glory filled my soul.

2. Born of the Spirit with life from above, into God's family divine,
Justified fully through Calvary's love, o what a standing is mine.
And the transaction so quickly was made, when as a sinner I came,
Took of the offer of grace He did proffer, He saved me, O praise His dear name.

(Refrain)

3. Now I've a hope that will surely endure, after the passing of time,
I have a future in heaven for sure, there in those mansions sublime.
And it's because of that wonderful day, when at the cross I believed,
Riches eternal and blessings supernal, from His precious hand I received.

(Refrain)

LIGHT YOUR CANDLE

GREETING

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

V: And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE PSALM 100 *Read by Loretta Brockmeier*

W: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

Know that he is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

W: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5-9 *Read by Matthew Brockmeier*

W: ⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

W: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 *Read by Dave Meeks*

W: ¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
²For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
³“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
⁴“I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”
¹⁵Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.
¹⁶They rejoice daily in your name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
¹⁷For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.
¹⁸Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

W: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Read by Judy Ormsby*

W: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42 *Read by Jerry Glavin*

W: The holy according to St. Matthew the tenth chapter.

V: Glory to you, O Lord.

W: Jesus said to the twelve: ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will

receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

W: The gospel of the Lord.

P: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLES CREED *VC---Voice of the congregation read by Bill Horne*

**VC: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**VC: 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.**

**VC: 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 THE PEOPLE *written by Carol Dunn*

W: Read by Carol Dunn VC: Read by Chris Grundman

W: God of extravagant welcome, we vowed at our baptisms to seek justice and peace, and we say at St. Paul's that we welcome others without any labels which might separate us. Open our hearts to mean this every day.

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: This was Pride Month. The need for action and equality is still real. We ask you to erase any beliefs which lead to the harm of your children. God of all,

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: As we celebrate the birth of our nation, strengthen our will to make equality and justice for all a reality. Show us how we benefit from a society that operates by implicit white supremacy. Then guide us to undo that concept. Loving God,

VC:: Hear our prayer.

W: We pray for greater understanding of you, God. But it has been said that “If you think you understand it, it is not God,” as you are in every way greater than we can comprehend. Be with us as we grapple with our attempts to know and worship you. Wise God,

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: Thank you, Gentle God, that we are not under law but under grace, which you have freely given to us. Your grace redeems us, and we are grateful.

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: Shepherding God, May we also be shepherds, seeking the lost lamb. When we reach into our community to assist those who need help, it is a way of praising you.

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: The numbers of infected are rising again in Florida. Look upon those who are ill and give them patience and strength. We pray for those who care for the sick and for those who serve us in our isolation. Remind us to practice every protective measure in our daily lives for our own safety and for that of others. Healing God,

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: We ask you to bring ease to those on our prayer list especially Herb Schaepering, Mary Cramer, Marcie Moore, Carl and Linda Johnson, Emmy and Mike Volenberg, Dennis Kelly, Susan Tauzen, the family of Ian, Moria, and Jeff King, Torya James, Steve Wren, the Latson family, Mark Brickman, Eve Brein, Miguel Acta, the family of Frances Prevatt Tisdale, the family of Warren McLamb, William Fino, Jacob Jones and to those whom we name now silently or aloud. (Prayer leaders will pause and you are invited to unmute your mic and offer prayers .

VC: Hear our prayer.

W: As the day comes to a close, give us your peace, clothe us with your compassion, and guard us from the perils of the night. In your protective care we pray to you, Three person God. **Let all the people say (Unmute)**

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY REFLECTION-

To assist you in your giving there is a link on the website to enable you to give online.

www.stpaulsclearwater.org

If you do not want to contribute electronically, you may mail your envelopes to the church at 407 S. Saturn Ave. Clearwater, FL 33755 Checks will be processed Thursdays.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. P: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P: Let us give thanks for the word. P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *All will be unmuted so that we can say the Lord's Prayer together.*

**C: 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.**

SENDING

P: God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: 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.

SENDING HYMN "Seek First The Kingdom Of Heaven" *Sung by Janice Fernow*

Refrain

Seek first the kingdom of heaven,
And all the rest will fall in line.
Give God his due and God will give back to you,
Turn your water into wine.

1. Some men are money mad,
Go about richly clad,
Seeking the rainbow's end.
I tell you, God,
He will surely ditch,
All those among the rich,
Who have no poor man friend. (*Refrain*)

2. Some men are barely fed,
Begging their crust of bread,
From dawn to setting sun.
I tell you, God,
Will give liberty,
To those in poverty,
A feast to everyone. (*Refrain*)

3. Some men are neither, nor,
Life rushes by their door,
Leaving them far behind.
I tell you jump in
And join the fight,
Stand up for what is right,
Serve God in mankind. (*Refrain*)

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

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