

St Paul's and St. Matthias Lutheran Churches
Service of the Word
November 22, 2020

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

PRELUDE "Praise and Thanksgiving" (*Sung by Deb Horn, Rob Toth, Barb Christ, Carlee Layton and Diane Harrop*)

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*Voice of the Congregation: JoDee Hub*)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

P: 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.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *JoDee Hub* will represent the voices of the congregations and you are invited to confess while muted at home. (*The confession will be shared on the screen.*)

VC: **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.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

V: You are invited sing along while muted at home. ELW #634

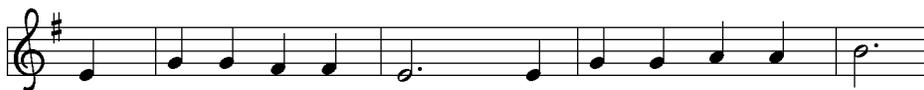
GATHERING SONG "All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name"

(*Sung by Deb Horn, Rob Toth, Barb Christ, Carlee Layton, Diane Harrop and Fremont Ogle*)

1. All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
and crown him Lord of all.
2. O seed of Israel's chosen race
now ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace
and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace
and crown him Lord of all.
3. Hail him, you heirs of David's line,
whom David Lord did call
the God incarnate, man divine
and crown him Lord of all.
The God Incarnate, man divine
and crown him Lord of all.
4. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet
and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at his feet
and crown him Lord of all.
5. Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.
6. Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

(Played by Will Goetze and you are invited to sing while muted at home.) ELW p. 203

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

(Played by Will Goetze and you are invited to sing while muted at home.) ELW p. 204

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

(Sung by Gretchen Bush, Dave Meeks and Bill Horne)



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

V: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 *(Read by Bill Horne)*

WA: A reading from the book of Ezekiel the thirty-fourth chapter.

WA: ¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

WA: Word of God, word of life.

V: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Halle, Halle, Halle" *(Sung by Deb Horn, Rob Toth, Barb Christ, Carlee Layton, Diane Harrop and Fremont Ogle)*

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46 *(Read by Linda Toth)*

WA: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the twenty-fifth chapter.

V: Glory to you, O Lord.

WA: Jesus said to the disciples: ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

WA: The gospel of the Lord.

V. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The creed will be shared on the screen.

APOSTLES' CREED *(Read by Judy Wylde)*

VC: With all Christians around the world you are invited to confess your faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed while muted at home.

VC: Together,

**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

Prayers written by Carol Dunn

(WA: Read by Loretta Brockmeier) (VC: Read by Chris Grundman)

Invitation to Prayer

WA: As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the whole Church, the nation, and all the world.

WA: Forgiving God, God who reconciles, forgive us the sins we commit: sins of racism, sins of neglect of those who are poor, weak, or in any kind of need, the sin of failure to speak truth to power. Show us the shallowness of our motives when we fall short of honoring you, and our selfishness when we ignore others. We call your son Christ the King. Help us respond to that Kingship with our faithfulness.

VC: Help us, Lord.

WA: Good and gracious God, In the midst of uncertainty, you are the rock that keeps us anchored. In the midst of darkness, you are our light and in the midst of struggle, you can bring us peace. Help us to see in each other a brother or sister in Christ, a reflection of you.

VC: Help us, Lord

WA: This week we celebrate a holiday of rejoicing for our plenty. Make us thankful for that, God, and may we recognize that not all people have "plenty." Help us respond to that with kindness and generosity. The holiday also marks a time in our past when we regarded the people who lived here when the Europeans came as less than worthy. We have not overcome those attitudes; those same biases still exist among us, and we repent those beliefs. God forgive us for all the cruelties and injustices which followed and were repeated when we enslaved other men and women.

VC: Help us, Lord.

WA: Wise God, we in this nation claim to be a land of law and of respect for one another. Help us settle the results of the recent election with honesty and honor. Stop any false claims. Show us ways to move ahead as a nation and become for ourselves and others a place meriting admiration. May your values and your teachings be the ones that guide us.

VC: Help us, Lord.

WA: Guide us, God, to be thankful for your many mercies. Show us ways to copy those mercies in all our interactions with others.

VC: Help us, Lord.

WA: God of Power, the people of Central America were struck again by a powerful storm which took their homes, their communities, their livelihoods and their lives. Help us understand the forces which have upended the weather, and teach us how to reverse the dangerous course we are on.

VC: Help us, Lord.

WA: God of healing, we ask your loving hand be extended to all those who suffer, including Herb and Teresa Schaepering, Mary Cramer, Marcie Moore, Carl and Linda Johnson, Eve Brein, William Fino, Anthony Fino, Eric Johnson, Shawn Whitehead, Lou Saugstad, Charles and Audry Klien, Michael Perron and sons, Jay Croft, Woody Woodward, Linda Fino, Rick Spaulding, Barbara Christ, Dawn Miller, Barbara Ann Shepherd, Steve Wren, Clifford Whitmoyer, Jane Cuccia, Peter Brein, Christina, James Glass, Emmy Volenberg, Caroline Ogle-Gordon, Marcia Engler and those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. **(Prayer leaders will pause and you are invited to unmute your mic and offer prayers.)**

VC: Help us, Lord.

WA: These and all other things which you know we need, grant us, Lord.

VC: Amen.

STEWADING GOD'S CREATION

V: Siblings in Christ, as we pause to listen to the offertory we are encouraged to consider our invitation to be stewards of the resources given to us by God. Offerings are an act of worship. Prayerfully consider how God invites us to offer what God has given to us. Offerings that are discerned to be offered to the Lord through the church of St. Matthias may be mailed to the church office. Offerings that are discerned to be offered to the Lord through the church of St. Paul's may be mailed to the church office or given online at the St. Paul's website. Let us prayerfully consider our offerings.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Bless This House" *(Sung by Miguel Acta)*

OFFERING

*To give your offering to St. Matthias, mail your offering to 417 Plaza Drive Dunedin, FL 34698.
To give your offerings to St. Paul's mail your offering to 407 S. Saturn Ave. Clearwater, FL 33755 or give online at www.stpaulsclearwater.org*

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD *(VC: Read by La Delle Daly)*

P: Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

VC: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

VC: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

VC: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

VC: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

V: Let us pray.

(Read by Matthew Brockmeier)

**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.**

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.

Amen.

(Played by Will Goetze)

V: *You are invited to sing along while muted at home.* ELW #855

SENDING SONG "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.
2. Crown him the virgin's Son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won
which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose,
yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows,
the babe of Bethlehem.
3. Crown him the Lord of love--
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes
at mysteries so bright.
4. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.
5. Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

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.
Thanks be to God.

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