



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 9, 2020
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m. Digital Worship

www.facebook.com/SPLutherville and www.stpaulslutherville.org

GATHERING

WELCOME

Welcome to our simple worship service to gather as a community online since we can't gather in person! If you haven't already done so, take a moment to quiet your space by turning down/off other devices, lighting a candle, grabbing your Bible, and breathe a bit before we start.

If you're joining the live feed, comment to "say hello" and connect with one another. Feel free to use the "share" button so others can join in, and to help spread the reach of our ministry!

PRELUDE: *Presence of the Lord* - by Steve Dooley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

GATHERING SONG *His Love Endures Forever* by Bob Wilson

He makes the sun come up each day, He gives the moon and stars their light
He brings the rain to a thirsty land, Oh, the wonders of His hand

He feels the pain of a baby's cry, He hears the prayer of a mother's heart
He dries the tears from troubled eyes, Oh, the wonders of His love

And His love endures forever, unchanging always true
And His love endures forever, forever, for all time
Yes, His love endures forever, love divine

He is the judge of great and small, He is the word called righteousness
He is the risen Lord of all, Oh, the wonders of His name

He is the hope of the captive's heart, He is the pow'r that sets them free
It's in His life that we receive... the wonders of His love

And His love endures forever, unchanging always true
And His love endures forever, forever, for all time
Yes, His love endures forever, love divine

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children of all ages are welcome to come and gather close to the screen to join in a message just for them! After we pray together, they will be invited to rejoin others in their home for the readings.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

A reading from First Kings.

⁹At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13

A reading from the Psalms.

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts, but a gift received in the proclamation of Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Paul writes: ⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " that is, to bring Christ down ⁷"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " that is, to bring Christ up from the dead. ⁸But what does it say?

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" that is, the word of faith that we proclaim; ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew often portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Jesus arrives when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)* by Matt Crocker, Joel Houston, Salomon Lighthelm

You call me out upon the waters ~ The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery ~ In oceans deep my faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name ~ And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise ~ My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters ~ Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me ~ You've never failed and You won't start now

And I will call upon Your name ~ And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise ~ My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

And I will call upon Your name ~ And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise ~ My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine ~ For I am Yours and You are mine
For I am Yours and You are mine

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.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. We pray for leaders throughout the whole Church: for our church-wide bishop, Elizabeth, and our local bishop, William. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the nations and their leaders. In you, steadfast love and faithfulness meet, and righteousness and peace kiss. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. We pray for the service women and men of our country, and for peace-keepers and peace-makers everywhere. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will be saved. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish, and support those who are frustrated in their search for an affordable place to live. We especially pray for those suffering this day. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For our congregation. You have gathered today as your people and we thank you for this gift. We pray for those who are new to this community, for students and teachers planning and preparing for a new school year, especially for our St. Paul's Preschool community. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Continue to guide the work of our LEAD journey: for the community partners your Spirit has led us to, and for the deepening of a relationship with our neighbor. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For what remains in our hearts and minds, and share what we need to hear. Listen to us as we offer these additional prayers, concerns, and thanksgivings to you — with our voices, in our hearts, and within this space... Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

SENDING HYMN *My Life Flows in on Endless Song (ELW 763)*

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain

*No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? [*Refrain*]

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. [*Refrain*]

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? [*Refrain*]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

As you go into the rest of your day...

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

God has given us so much! The Offering is the opportunity for us to share some of those gifts for the work of the church and the needs of the world. Thank you for your generosity!

We encourage you to contribute your offering to help sharing in the ongoing mission and work of the church through making an online offering at www.stpaulslutherville.org. You can also mail your offerings in to the church office - we have a secured mailbox which is checked regularly.

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TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Thank you for helping to lead our worship service this morning!

Reader, First Lesson	Anne South
Reader, Psalm	Penny Graf
Reader, Second Lesson	Penny Graf
Prayer Leader	Anne South
Contemporary Musician, Guitar	Steve Dooley