Sunday, September 6, 2020  
Fourteenth 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: Make Me a Servant by Kelly Willard

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESION AND FORGIVENESS
Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. Amen.

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

Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God’s work in the world. Amen.
GATHERING SONG  *We Are An Offering (ELW 692)*

We lift our voices ~ We lift our hands  
We lift our lives up to You ~ We are an offering  

Lord use our voices ~ Lord use our hands  
Lord use our lives they are Yours ~ We are an offering  
All that we have ~ All that we are  
All that we hope to be ~ We give to You ~ We give to You  

We lift our voices ~ We lift our hands  
We lift our lives up to You ~ We are an offering  

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, give us grace to set a good example to all among whom we live, to be just and true in all our dealings, to be strict and conscientious in the discharge of every responsibility; pure and temperate in all enjoyment, gracious and generous and courteous towards all; so that the mind of Jesus Christ may be formed in us and all may know that we are Jesus’ disciples; in whose name we pray.  
*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: Ezekiel 33:7-11

*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.  

7 So 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. 6 If 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. 9 But 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.
Now 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?” Say 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?

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40

A reading from the Psalms.

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.
34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.
35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.
36 Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.
37 Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.
38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.
39 Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.
40 Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

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 Paul’s letter to the Romans.

Paul writes: Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The 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.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides 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; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and
licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. 13 He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

15 “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles —
16 the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”
17 From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.
22 Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION

Siblings in Christ, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you continue in the covenant of baptism that God made with you at the font, in water and Word:

- to live among God’s faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- and to strive for just and peace in all the earth?

I will, and I ask God to help me.
Will you support your sibling in Christ in this life of faith, praying for one another, our community, world, and all of Creation?
I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ’s name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY The Family Prayer Song (As For Me and My House) by Morris Chapman

Come and fill our homes with Your presence; You alone are worth of our reverence
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, we will serve the Lord

Lord we vow to live holy, bowing our knees to You only
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, we will serve the Lord

Staying together, praying together any storm we can weather, trusting in God’s word
We need each other, fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers in harmony and love
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, we will serve the Lord

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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. 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.

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all. We pray for the service women and men of our country, and for peacekeepers and peace-makers everywhere. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. 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.

Be present with 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 remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.
MEAL

PREPARING THE TABLE
If you will be joining in sharing the Meal of Holy Communion in your own home, now is the opportunity to prepare your home table with bread and cup.

GATHERING AROUND THE TABLE
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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE
Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us
and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.
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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

SHARING THE MEAL
If you are sharing in the Meal of Holy Communion by yourself or with others in your home, use the words “The body of Christ, given for you.” as you share the bread with one another, and “The blood of Christ, shed for you.” as you share the cup. You may choose to dip your bread into the cup, or to consume the bread and then drink from the cup.

If you are not sharing in the Meal today, please join in reflection and prayer as the music is offered, until we all gather back together.

REFLECTIVE MUSIC Draw Me Close by Kelly Carpenter

SENDING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
Let us pray.
We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING
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.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Lord, I Lift Your Name on High by Rick Founds

Lord, I lift Your name on high; Lord, I love to sing Your praises
I’m so glad You’re in my life; I’m so glad You came to save us
You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
   From earth to the cross, my debt to pay
   From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
   Lord, I lift Your name on high

Lord, I lift Your name on high; Lord, I love to sing Your praises
I’m so glad You’re in my life; I’m so glad You came to save us
You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
   From earth to the cross, my debt to pay
   From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
   Lord, I lift Your name on high

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

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!*

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reader, First Lesson</td>
<td>Anne South</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reader, Psalm</td>
<td>Mary Anne Karmann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reader, Second Lesson</td>
<td>Mary Anne Karmann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prayer Leader</td>
<td>Anne South</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Musician, Guitar</td>
<td>Steve Dooley</td>
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