

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOURTEENETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 63

L: You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;

P: **I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.**

L: I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

P: **Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.**

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

P: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: “Canticle of Turning”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NQLWnmWNxM>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: 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.

P: **Amen.**

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

P: **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.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: 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.

P: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

P: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So 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. ⁸If 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 the iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But 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.

¹⁰Now 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?" ¹¹Say 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?

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:15-20

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

PREACHING TEXT: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The 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.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides 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; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

SERMON **Pastor Jerome Evavold**

SONG: “By Our Love” by Christy Nockels

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v MD6bBWiAU>

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE 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.

THE OFFERING

Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? We have now launched our Text to Give program. Simply text the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Kathy will also continue to check the mail and make deposits weekly Thank you for your generous giving that enables continued ministries.

OFFERING SONG: “There is Power” Lincoln Brewster

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UoOJwel1CQU>

OFFERING PRAYER:

God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Drawn together by the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need, responding to each petition with the words “Hear us and help us.”

Unite your church, O God. Give to all the baptized the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships and interracial cooperation among the churches. Guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches.

O God, Leader of the church, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways to live that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Give to the animals the habitat they need for life. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution.

O God, Creator of the earth, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Bless the nations, O God. Frustrate the designs of dictators. Give to the military a clear and moral purpose. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward the well-being of all. Infuse the coming election season with honesty and integrity.

O God, Governor of the world, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give employment 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.

O God, Guardian of all peoples, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Guide our civil discourse, O God. Alert us to social evils and show our nation how to end the patterns of racial injustice. Accompany all are endeavoring to bring about a renewed society. Curb the violence in our cities.

O God, Haven of righteousness, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Tend to all in need, O God. Assist all friends and family members who are seeking restored relationships. Give community to the lonely and welcome to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit, especially those we name here before you.

A brief silence.

O God, Physician of the sick, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Receive once again, O God, our plea for the end of the coronavirus. Comfort those afflicted with COVID-19 and uphold our medical workers. Give all a sense of responsibility for others and provide the world a vaccine.

O God, Healer in times of plague, in your mercy,

hear us and help us.

Hear each one of us, O God, as we pray now for ourselves.

A longer period of silence.

O God, Lover of us all, in your mercy,
hear us and help us.

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.

O God, Eternal One, in your mercy,
hear us and help us.

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

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together 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.

BLESSING

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Love the Lord Your God" Lincoln Brewster

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAbEffsqLdc>

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!