

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST OCTOBER 11, 2020**



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Blessed be God, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

C: All creation sings your praises.

GREETING

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

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG: “Earth and All Stars”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTIH8IAqGAQ>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the beginning, the Spirit moved over the deep; new life daily unfolding at God’s call.
Darkness and light: Good.

Skies, lands and seas: Good.

The earth and all that fills it – plants and rocks, the finned, the feathered, the furry: Good.

At the last, humankind in God’s image: Very Good.

Yet we have failed to draw from that goodness in care for God’s creation.

P: Forgive us, God, for the ways we have exploited earth and its creatures.

L: We have misunderstood our calling to be protectors of God’s creation.

P: Forgive us, God, for the ways we have explored earth and its creatures.

L: We long for new relationship with God’s creation that has been entrusted to us.

P: Help us, God, to make a new community with all that lives alongside us.

L: May the merciful God who calls us to tend earth and all its creatures, deepen our knowledge of creation’s interweaving, so that our lives are shaped in wholeness and peace with all living things.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: 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.

P: Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SONG: “One Thing Remains”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_KXsMCJgBQ

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And the LORD will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸the LORD will swallow up death forever.

Then the LORD GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of the chosen people God will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God, for whom we have waited; so that God might save us.

This is the LORD from whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in the salvation of the LORD.

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:1-14

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The dominion of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴“For many are called, but few are chosen.”

MESSAGE

Shivon Miller

SONG: “In You Alone”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymvSuZXgoLs&t=89s>

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE OFFERING

Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? 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: “Prayer of St. Francis” Sarah McLachlan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agPnMxp5Occ>

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

Joined together in confidence of God’s grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need, responding to each petition with the words “receive our prayers.”

A brief silence.

That even through global sorrows the church can rejoice in your salvation,
that bishops, pastors, deacons, and church leaders be sustained for their ministries,
that churches find strength in ecumenical and interracial collaboration,
that church members resolve their conflicts in peace,
and that all the baptized find ways in this difficult time to uphold what is honorable and just:
We pray for the church, O God our Shepherd:
receive our prayers.

That the damaged places on earth be restored to fruitfulness,
that animals in the wild be safeguarded,
and that we humans will be dedicated to a commendable use of your creation,
We pray for the earth, O God our Creator:
receive our prayers.

That national conflicts be resolved without warfare and destruction,
that the work of diplomats and international peace workers be honored,
that leaders of nations attend to the needs of the poor,
that our country be preserved from discord and violence,
that the election process will be just,
that prejudice based on ethnicity, skin color, and economic status be ended,
and that justice will prevail in our laws and through our courts,
We pray for peace and justice, O God our Ruler:
receive our prayers.

That the plague of the coronavirus will subside,
that all who are sick with the virus, from rulers to refugees, be healed,
that people living with fear be comforted,
that medical workers be supported and medical supplies be made everywhere available,
and that a vaccine be developed and fairly distributed,
We pray during this pandemic, O God our Healer:
receive our prayers.

That those who suffer from want be assisted,
that those without work find jobs,
that children be educated,
that ministries of care be strengthened to feed those who hunger and those without homes,
that extremism be lessened and a spirit of cooperation be nurtured,
and for all who are sick, whose names we call out here. . . :

brief silence

We pray for all in need, O God our Guardian:
receive our prayers.

That in mercy you welcome our personal petitions,

A longer period of silence.

We pray for ourselves, O God our Mother:
receive our prayers.

That you receive our thanks for all those who have died in the faith,
that when facing our own death, you give us hope,
and that you grant us your peace throughout our days,
We praise and pray to you, O God our Homeland:
receive our prayers.

Into your hands, merciful God our Father, we offer ourselves and all the world,
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.

SONG: "All God's Critters"

Chorus:

All God's critters got a place in the choir
Some sing low, some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands, or paws or anything they got now

Well, listen to the bass, it's the one on the bottom
Where the bullfrog croaks and the hippopotamus
Moans and groans with a big to do
And the old cow just goes, 'Moo'

Well, the dogs and the cats they take up the middle
The honeybee hums and the crickets fiddle
The donkey brays and the pony neighs
The old coyote howls

Well, listen to the top where the little bird sings
The melody with the high voice ringing
The hoot owl hollers over everything
And the jaybird disagrees

Singing in the nighttime, singing in the day
The little duck quacks and he's on his way
The 'possum don't have much to say
And the porcupine talks to herself
Everybody here is a part of the plan
We all get to play in the great critter band
From the eagle in the sky to the whale in the sea
It's one great symphony

THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

L: Lord, make us instruments of your peace,

C: **Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

L: Where there is injury, pardon;

C: **Where there is doubt, faith;**

L: Where there is despair, hope;

C: **Where there is darkness, light;**

L: Where there is sadness, joy.

C: **O Divine Master, Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;**

L: to be understand as to understand;

C: **to be loved as to love.**

L: For it is in giving that we receive;

C: **It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

L: And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

C: **Amen.**

L: Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless these animals. By the power of your love, enable them to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

Bless, O Lord, _____, and this pet's family. May they know your presence and protection.

BENEDICTION:

L: May our relationships with God's creations mirror God's love. May our care for all creation be an example of God's bountiful mercy. Creator God, send forth these animals, their families and all who gather in health and peace, strengthened to love as Christ loves us. Amen.

SENDING SONG: “All Creatures of Our God and King” Group VBS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aeHBczYCA4>

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!