

Service of the Word for the Home and for Zoom
12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Are You Online? Join Zoom Worship!

Please email Caitlyn in the office at officefelc@zoominternet.net to be added to the email list for a link to the service

Not Online? Join Us Over the Phone!

+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 956 305 5281
Password: 408299

If you are planning to return to in-person worship services, please let Caitlyn know that you no longer need to receive the bulletin in the mail.

GATHERING

If you are not online and worshipping at home with more than one person, the parts may be divided up responsively or may be prayed in unison.

WELCOME

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son + 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.**

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

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.

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.

HYMN *(see next page)*. "The Church's One Foundation"



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word,
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schisms . . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued,
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song,
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Let us pray: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON *zoom/in person worship*

THE WORD

FIRST READING Exodus 1:8--2:10

The brave Hebrew midwives defied Pharaoh to save many infants from death. When the mother of Moses placed him in a basket in the Nile, the daughter of Pharaoh found him, adopted him, and raised him. Moses' sister and mother also played crucial roles in this drama.

⁸Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." ¹¹Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, ¹⁴and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, ¹⁶"When you act

as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.”¹⁷ But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.¹⁸ So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?”¹⁹ The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.”²⁰ So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong.²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.²² Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

²³Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.²⁴ The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months.²⁵ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.²⁶ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

²⁷The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.²⁸ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said.²⁹ Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?”³⁰ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother.³¹ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it.³² When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

PSALM 124 *Read responsively*

¹If the LORD had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;

**²if the LORD had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us,**

³then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;

**⁴then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;**

⁵then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.

**⁶Blessed be the LORD
who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**⁸Our help is in the name of the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

SECOND READING **Romans 12:1-8**

In response to God’s merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit’s renewing work. God’s grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function,⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We welcome the gospel:

Alleluia! You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *online*

CHILDREN'S CHURCH IDEAS

Exodus 1:8 -2:10 Moses is born

*Use the playfoam to make a basket. Use the flat spoon to make baby Moses.

Romans 12:1-8 We are part of the Body of Christ

God gives each of us gifts

*Draw your gifts.

Matthew 16:13-20 He sends us help

*Draw a picture of you giving or receiving help.

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

Nurtured by the word of God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of those in need.

Loving God, Bless the church throughout the world, that we may stand firm in Christ through the hardship of this pandemic. Make us wise and creative in our worship planning. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless the earth, that it be saved from ecological harm. Save those suffering the effects of destructive summer storms and scorching heat, especially those fleeing fire in California and dealing with the aftermath of the storm in Iowa. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless the leaders of nations, that they govern their people with integrity and attend to the needs of the poor. Guard the United States from violence. Give clear purpose to protestors and to police. Inspire our political parties to conduct the election season with honesty and respect for all. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless our various means of communication, our phones, the internet, our postal service, and delivery businesses, that our communities be sustained for fruitful life together. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless students, that whether in class or at home they be kept safe and able to learn. Uphold faculty and families and protect all who will be affected by the opening of schools. Form college students to conduct themselves with maturity. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless all who are in need; all who have tested positive for the virus; the sick and the dying. We pray for the unemployed; for medical workers; for those seeking a vaccine; for those who are overwhelmed with anxiety about the future. We pray for those we name here (*Pause*)...Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We praise you for the lives of all your faithful people. We mourn the death of those we have loved, especially Edgar. Bring us at the end, we pray, into the joy and gladness of life together in you. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding)*

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;

gather into one all who share this bread and wine;

fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,

that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;

through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,

with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Finally, let us pray in the words that 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.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

Grant us your peace, Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God!

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord's face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. **Amen.**

HYMN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sue Morrow	Assisting Minister
Susan Farrell	Reader
Sue Morrow	Crucifer
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Marlin Boltz, Ron Huey, Jan Nieto, Jack Rudzki	Ushers
Jim & Jeanette Cunningham	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Carol Sawford in loving memory of her husband Brian Sawford, and his twin Betty Sawford, and her dad Paul Kirkwood, on their birthday.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 8/24	12:00 PM	NA Meeting
	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 8/25	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
Thursday, 8/27	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	Choir
Saturday, 8/29	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting
Sunday, 8/30	10:00 AM	Worship and Picnic at Lutherlyn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We weep with the family of Edgar Nieto, who died on August 20th. Arrangements are pending. Rest eternal grant him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.

In-person worship on August 30th will be held at Lutherlyn at 10 a.m. followed by a boxed-lunch picnic. The service will be also be zoomed. Here is some important information:

- Both worship and the picnic will take place at the amphitheater at camp.
- ***Rain plans: we will meet at Dogwood Picnic Shelter. Please bring a chair and an umbrella.***
- Please bring a mask to wear during the service; family groups will be seated at a 6 ft distance from one another.

- A small group will provide singing for the service at a considerable (26 ft) distance from the gathered congregation.
- We'll celebrate the baptism of Spencer Stein.
- We'll offer a blessing of backpacks and devices for the 2020 school year for students and teachers.
- The church will provide a boxed lunch and a bottle of water. A freewill offering will be received to offset the cost.

Zoom worshipers are asked to turn *off* their cameras for the worship on August 30 to allow the livestream to go as smoothly as possible.

Reminder: Please turn in your non-photo directory update form no later than Monday, August 31st. You can mail your form to the church office (241 N. Main St. Butler, PA 16001) or email it to officefelc@zoominternet.net.

Do you wish to receive communion but are staying home for health reasons? Communion elements can also be brought to you at home—please call Pr. Kimberly at 724-283-2378 so she can speak with you about how best to do that.

Are you or anyone you know suffering particular stress with the quarantine? There is a listening ear available. Please call Pr. Kimberly on her cell phone or at the church office (724-283-2378) to arrange an appointment.

As you are able, please continue to support First English's ministry financially during this time. Your gifts allow our ministry to continue. You can mail offerings into the church office (241 N. Main Street, Butler PA 16001) or give online at <http://firstenglishbutler.org/giving/>.

PRAYERS

The family of Edgar Nieto, the family of Marjorie Ellis, Anita, the family of Frances Cypher, Jamie and Kaitlin Sprague, Graham Cannon, Becky Wyckoff, Larry Hamil, Jan Nieto, Jim Templet, Gene and Myra Fozard, Cindy Regis & family, the family of Mildred Dollhopf, Sandy Snyder, David and Emma Lee Hartle, Edna Hartman, the family of Hailey Matheson, Ryan, Forest and Marietta White, Christine Pflugh, Audrey Fleeger, Asyiah, the family of Nancy, the family of Jean Purvis, Joyce Hall, Bruni Bilowich, Karen Vavro, Doug Horner, Sandy, Lisa, Wendy, Rhonda, Judy M., Mary Ellen, Claudia, Karen, Aryl Bashline, Kitty Walker, Hope & Bruce Keeler, Gina Ambrosio, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Tad Sellers, Ralph D'Antonio.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Exodus 3:1-15

From the blazing bush God calls Moses

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

Make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples. Hallelujah! (*Ps. 105:1, 45*)

Romans 12:9-21

Live in harmony

Matthew 16:21-28

The passion prediction and rebuke to Peter