

Order of Service for Worship in the Home and for Zoom
17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Reminder: we are meeting in person in the building following Covid-19 precautions.

Starting this Sunday, September 27, Zoom will require a password to join the worship service.
The password for First English's worship is 408299.

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). "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crating to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
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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: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON *zoom/in person worship*

THE WORD

FIRST READING Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the LORD among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted

there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16

Read responsively

¹Hear my teaching, O my people;

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

²**I will open my mouth in a parable;**

I will declare the mysteries of ancient times—

³that which we have heard and known, and what our forebears have told us,

we will not hide from their children.

⁴**We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD,
and the wonderful works God has done.**

¹²God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors,

in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan,

¹³**splitting open the sea and letting them pass through;**

making the waters stand up like walls;

¹⁴leading them with a cloud by day,

and all the night with a glow of fire;

¹⁵**splitting the rocks in the wilderness**

and giving them drink as from the deep;

¹⁶bringing streams out of a rock,

making them flow down like a river.

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

All Glory to Jesus, Begotten of God
RIDGEMOOR ~ John W. Peterson (1957)

All glory to Jesus, begotten of God,
The great I AM is He;
Creator, sustainer but wonder of all,
The Lamb of Calvary.

To think that the guardian of planets in space,
The Shepherd of the stars,
Is tenderly leading the church of His love,
By hands crimson scars.

The King of all kings and the Lord of all lords,
He reigns in glory now;
Some day He is coming earth's kingdom to claim,
And ev'ry knee shall bow.

Look, Ye Saints! The Sight is Glorious
REGENT SQUARE ~ Henry Smart (1867)

Sinners in derision crowned Him,
Mocking thus the Savior's claim;
Saints and angels crowd around Him,
Own His title, praise His name:
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Spread abroad the Victor's fame.

Hark, those bursts of acclamation!
Hark, those loud triumphant chords!
Jesus takes the highest station,
O, what joy the sight affords;
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious!
See the Man of Sorrows now;
From the fight returned victorious,
Every knee to Him shall bow:
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crowns become the Victor's brow.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John

came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

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

SERMON *online*

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

With all the people of God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. After each petition, the congregation may respond, “**Hear us, O God.**”

For the church, that God may use us to share even just a sliver of God's love in this time and place, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

For the social fabric of our country, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

For those for whom our justice system brings no justice, that God would relieve their despair, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

For veterans who have served our nation and now experience suicidal desperation, that they would be rescued from hopelessness, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

For those who are struggling financially, especially those facing eviction or medical debt, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

For those who are ill or injured in body, mind, or spirit, let us pray: **Hear us, O God.**

For those who are experiencing temptation of any kind, that they may not be tempted beyond their strength, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

For those who are working on a vaccine for the coronavirus, for those who care for the suffering, and for those whose lives have been disrupted by the pandemic, let us pray: **Hear us, O God.**

For those who are dying, and for those who grieve, that resurrection hope may burn brightly within their hearts, let us pray:
Hear us, O God.

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

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

“NOW, LORD...” *read responsively*

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

**My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared**

in the sight of ev'ry people:

a light to reveal you to the nations

and the glory of your people Israel.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, 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
Jeanne Graff	Reader
Sue Morrow	Crucifer
Jim Cunningham	AV Assisting Minister
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Stan Graff, Dan Morrow and Ed Wadding	Ushers
Bob and Karen Domanski	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Ramona Schmidt, in loving memory of Bill Schmidt.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 9/28	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 9/29	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
Thursday, 10/1	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Saturday, 10/3	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jesus Christ and the Dividing Wall: Race and God's Mission—Online lecture and learning series (October 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 7:30 p.m.) through the World Mission Initiative at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Co-sponsored by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA and many other churches, these lectures invite us to have truthful conversations with one another and people all over the nation on how our understanding of race impacts the way we engage in God's mission. A group of First English folks are interested in having “watch parties” and weekly discussion. If you are interested in joining us, please email Pr. Kimberly at pkfelc@zoominternet.net. For more information, see: <https://www.pts.edu/wmi-conference>.

Update on Pastor Kimberly's office hours. With all of the life and school shifts because of the pandemic, Pr. Kimberly will be working from home one or two days a week. Fridays remain her regular day off.

Christian Education - Outdoors at Lutherlyn! All Sunday school students are invited to meet at Dogwood Shelter from 11:30 to 1 p.m. on Sundays September 27, October 4, 18 and 25. If you are in worship in person we will caravan out together. Please wear playclothes, outdoor shoes, and a mask. A bagged lunch will be available. Please RSVP to Sharon at sharonfelc@zoominternet.net.

Corn Hole Tournament – Fundraiser for Relay for Life: Trinity Lutheran is sponsoring a corn hole tournament on Saturday, October 3 at 1:00 p.m. Medals will be given to the winning team. If you are interested in participating, call Rhonda Pilarcik at 724-841-9170 or e-mail trinityliveofc@gmail.com with your team name, names of persons on your team (2 people), and an e-mail or phone number where you can be reached. The entrance fee is \$25.00 and it can be paid the day of the tournament. Some snacks and drinks will be provided. Social distancing will be practiced. Rain date for the tournament will be on Sunday, October 4 after the 10:00 a.m. service. This event is open to all ages!

Take Out Dinner to Benefit Butler Meals on Wheels. On Tuesday, Oct. 20th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Anglican Church (218 E. Jefferson St., Cliff St. entrance), Butler Meals on Wheels will offer a Take Out Dinner for \$10. Choices are Beef Pot Roast and Biscuit or Cream Chicken and Biscuit. Bot dinners include coleslaw and pie.

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

Aryl Bashline, Mary Maloney, the family of Ryan Warheit, Christiaan van Driel, the family of Scot Taylor, Claude, Audrey & Jonah Clark, Ed Beck, the family of Jim Templet, all those affected by the wildfires in California and Colorado, 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, 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, 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, Kitty Walker, Hope & Bruce Keeler, Gina Ambrosio, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Tad Sellers, Ralph D'Antonio.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

The commandments given at Sinai

Psalm 19

The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart. (Ps. 19:8)

Philippians 3:4b-14

Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ

Matthew 21:33-46

The parable of the vineyard owner's son