

Service of the Word for the Home and for Zoom
14th Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 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)*. "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

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 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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON *zoom/in person worship*

THE WORD

FIRST READING Exodus 12:1-14

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's Supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in

your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149

Read responsively

¹Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song,

God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

²**Let Israel rejoice in their maker;**

let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.

³Let them praise their maker's name with dancing;

let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

⁴**For the LORD takes pleasure in the people**

and adorns the poor with victory.

⁵Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;

let them sing for joy on their beds.

⁶**Let the praises of God be in their throat**

and a two-edged sword in their hand,

⁷to wreak vengeance on the nations

and punishment on the peoples,

⁸**to bind their kings in chains**

and their nobles with links of iron,

⁹to inflict on them the judgment decreed;

this is glory for all God's faithful ones. Hallelujah!

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.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We welcome the gospel:

Alleluia! In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

[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. ¹⁸Truly 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. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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 and help us.**”

Unite your church, O God, and teach all who have been baptized into your name the practices of reconciliation and forgiveness. In your mercy, O God:
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 suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. In your mercy, O God:
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. In your mercy, O God:
Hear us and help us.

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give employment to those who need it. Make our economy fair and just, and help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. In your mercy, O God:
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. Renew our society and curb the violence in our cities. In your mercy, O God:
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. In your mercy, O God:
hear us and help us.

O God, Healer in times of plague, 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. In your mercy, O God:
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.

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
Sharon Heist Miller		Assisting Minister
Susan Farrell		Reader
Sharon Heist Miller		Crucifer
Kevin Mathias		Organist
Susan Farrell, Bill & Judy Vilcheck		Ushers
Jack & Amy Beiler		Counters
Roxanne Glagola		Altar Guild

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Signe Mitchell in honor of all the children in the church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 9/7 Labor Day	12:00 PM	NA Meeting
	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 9/8	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 9/9	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
Thursday, 9/10	10:30 AM	Bible Study

	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Saturday, 9/12	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. This week, she will be working at home on Tuesday, September 8. Fridays remain her regular day off.

Update on church office hours for the week of September 8-11. The church office hours next week will be Tuesday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

Christian Education begins September 13—outdoors at Lutherlyn! All Sunday school students are invited to meet at Dogwood Shelter from 11:30 to 1 p.m. on Sundays September 13, 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.

Family Movie Night at Trinity Lutheran on Friday, September 18 at 7:30 p.m. They will be showing the family movie Dolittle. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to sit on. Because of COVID-19, they are asking all families to bring their own drinks and snacks and social distance your lawn chairs and blankets. The rain date will be Saturday, September 19.

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!

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

Claude, Audrey & Jonah Clark, Beth and Kevin, 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, Aryl Bashline, Kitty Walker, Hope & Bruce Keeler, Gina Ambrosio, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Tad Sellers, Ralph D'Antonio.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Exodus 14:19-31

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Psalms 114

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD. (Ps. 114:7)

Romans 14:1-12

Accepting diversity in the community of faith

Matthew 18:21-35

A parable of forgiveness in the community of faith