

Service of Holy Communion
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 1, 2021
10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE “Even As We Live Each Day” - Helmut Walcha
 “Sarabande” - Robert Lau
 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” - Jan Bender

WELCOME

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son + of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to turn away from you is to fall, to turn toward you is to rise, and to stand before you is to live forever. Give us at this moment your mercy, that we may confess our sin and receive your forgiveness, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may sit or kneel.

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.

In the mercy of almighty God Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ God gives the power to become the children of God, and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“All Are Welcome” sts. 1-2 Red Book #641

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE WORD

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 11:26--12:13a

God sends the prophet Nathan to rebuke King David for his abuse of power in taking Bathsheba and killing her husband, Uriah. Confronted with his sin, David repents. This sin, however, marks the beginning of troubled times in David's family.

²⁶When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. ²⁷When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, ^{12:1}and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ²The rich man had very many flocks and herds; ³but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." ⁵Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because

he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

⁷Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸I gave you your master’s house, and your master’s wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. ¹¹Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. ¹²For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.” ^{13a}David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-12

read responsively

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,

and blot out all my wickedness.

**¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

**¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

**¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 4:1-16

Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.”

⁹(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as

each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *sung by choir*

GOSPEL **John 6:24-35**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"All Are Welcome" sts. 3-5 Red Book #641

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

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You call your church to be the body of Christ. Awaken all the baptized to the gifts you provide for carrying out the work of ministry. Where the church is divided, knit us together and restore the unity of the faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You summon leaders to respond to the needs of your people. Instill those who govern with patience when confronted with grievances and perseverance in seeking what promotes the well-being of the community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You draw near to those who cry out for help. Feed those who are hungry, reassure those who are despairing, and accompany those who are imprisoned. Rain down the true bread from heaven that gives life to the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You receive all who come seeking a sign of grace. Make this congregation a place of hospitality for those accustomed to rejection. To those who have felt excluded here or elsewhere, prepare us to welcome them in the name of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You provide food that endures for eternal life. Sustain us each day with the bread of life until we are gathered with all the saints and feast together at your heavenly banquet. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

- Paul Bouman

The congregation may stand.

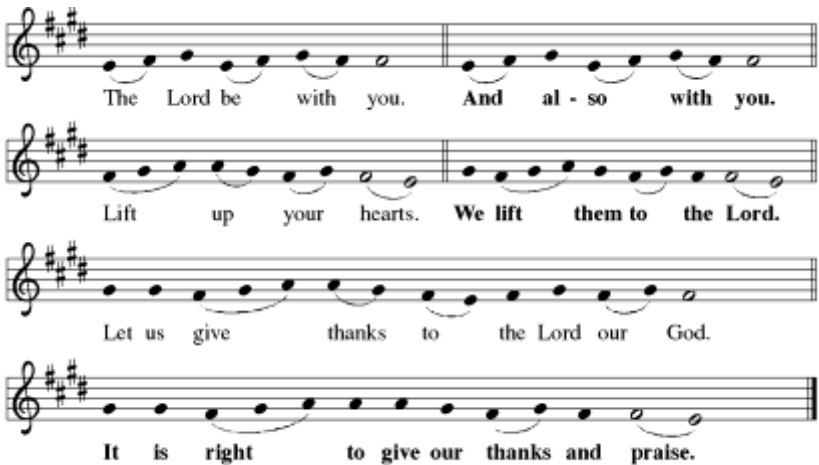
MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding)*...Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one 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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The congregation may be seated.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive; please keep 6 feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

The congregation may stand.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

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 you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" Red Book #618

RECESSION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Toccata on "Father, We Thank Thee" - Charles Callahan

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Gary Roth	Presiding Minister
Sharon Heist Miller	Assisting Minister
Susan Farrell	Reader
Sharon Heist Miller	Crucifer
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Jim Cunningham	AV Assisting Minister
Melody Kamerer	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Dan Morrow and Susan Farrell	Ushers
Jack and Amy Beiler	Counters

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Bob and Karen Domanski,
in celebration of 55 years of marriage.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 8/2	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Wednesday, 8/4	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 8/5	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:30 PM	Choir Practice
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Saturday, 8/7	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Kimberly will be away on vacation until Tuesday, August 3rd. In case of pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Pr. Joel Benson at Trinity Lutheran Church, 724-287-1977 or 724-544-3996. For routine office concerns, please contact the church office.

The Butler VA needs clothing, socks, and shoes to help the Voluntary Services department keep up with the growing demand. Because of Covid, they are only able to accept donations of new items. Their greatest need is for plus-sized men's and women's clothing (XXL and up). Items can be brought to the church and Karen Cranmer will deliver them to the VA.

VBS will be held at Lutherlyn this week on August 5, 6 & 7! If you are willing to donate food or help with VBS, please call or email Sharon at (724) 822-9576 or sharonfelc@zoominternet.net.

Join Us for a Picnic on Sunday, August 29th! Worship will be at First English, then we will gather at the Dogwood Shelter at Lutherlyn for a picnic and swimming! Meat, beverage, and place settings will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Sign-up in the Social Hall or contact the church office (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net.

Social distancing markers have been removed from the two central sections of pews. Please reserve the far right (pulpit side) section of pews for those who wish to mask and keep social distance. Thank you!

PRAYERS

Joe and Linda, Hunter and Sean, Dave Konesni, Raymond Sawyer, Donna, the family of Rita Wagner, the family of Carol Duffus, Judy O. and family, Graham Cannon, Anne Ferguson, Claudia, Karen, Anita, Joyce Hall, Kitty Walker, Nancy Hoehn, Tad & Shirley Sellers, Aryl Bashline, Jenna, Tom Olson, Pam Patterson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

David laments Absalom's death

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. (Ps. 130:1)

Ephesians 4:25--5:2

Put away evil, live in love

John 6:35, 41-51

Christ, the bread of life