

Service of Holy Communion
Mary, Mother of Our Lord
August 15, 2021
10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE	<i>“La Fète – Dieu”</i>	- Théodore Dubois
	<i>“Concerto in g minor”</i> Allegro	- G.F. Händel

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 *“Signs and Wonders”* Red Book # 672

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. Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:7-11

The prophet proclaims a hopeful message: God loves justice and will make an everlasting covenant with Israel and her descendants. In response, the prophet sings a joyful song, like Mary many generations later, about God's mercy and salvation.

⁷Because [the] shame [of God's people] was double,
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore they shall possess a double portion;
everlasting joy shall be theirs.

⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:1-9 *read responsively*

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²**I will glory in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear and rejoice.

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God's name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, who answered me**
and delivered me from all my terrors.

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me**
and saved me from all my troubles.

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.

⁸**Taste and see that the LORD is good;**
happy are they who take refuge in God!

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

SECOND READING Galatians 4:4-7

In the promise of the Incarnation, Jesus Christ embodies God's mother-father heart, in love claiming people as adopted children.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *sung by choir*

GOSPEL **Luke 1:46-55**

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary's song, the Magnificat, serves as a thematic anthem for God's work in the world and therefore for the ministry of her son, Jesus. In Mary's praise we hear of a saving God who remembers the humble, scatters the proud, lifts up the lowly, and fulfills all things.

⁴⁶Mary said,

 "My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

 and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him

 from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;

 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

 and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,

 and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” sts. 1 and 4 Red Book #265

The congregation may stand.

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 have revealed your love for people overlooked and cast aside, sending your son to be born among the humble and poor. Send your church to proclaim good news to those who feel abandoned, despised, or rejected and make our congregations places of genuine welcome and hospitality. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All creation longs for healing and restoration. Give us the courage, vision, and the will to live in harmony with the world that you have made, caring for plants, animals, and our climate. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We remember your promise to our ancestors and look to you for justice. Thwart the forces of greed and exploitation. Raise up employers in our community who pay fair wages to their workers, so that work may lead to a decent life, and that households among us may thrive. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Mary's song of praise echoes through this congregation and lands on our hearts in different ways. Attend to expecting a child and console those struggling to conceive. Help those enduring a difficult pregnancy and shower compassion on those who have experienced a miscarriage. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the saints who have found refuge in you, O God, especially Mary, the Mother of our Lord. As you have delivered them from all their afflictions, so save us from all our earthly troubles until that day when we sing your praise together in heaven. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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.

The congregation may stand.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“No Wind at the Window”

- Irish melody
John L. Bell, *arr.*

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

"Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"

Red Book #424

RECESSION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Fugue in g minor"

- J.J. Beauvarlet-Charpentier

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Linda Mathias	Assisting Minister
Amy Beiler	Reader
Sandy Lefebvre	Crucifer
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Brandon Stein	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Susan Farrell and Jan Nieto	Ushers
Bob and Karen Domanski	Counters

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by
the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 8/16	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Wednesday, 8/18	10:00 AM	Finance Committee Meeting
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 8/19	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Saturday, 8/21	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Caitlyn is away on vacation and will return on Tuesday, August 17th.

Social Hour Hosts are Needed! If you would like to volunteer to be a host during our social hour after worship, please sign-up on the sheet in the Social Hall.

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.

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.

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

Eleanor Roth, Joe Roudebush, 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

1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43

Solomon's prayer at the temple dedication

Psalm 84

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD. (*Ps. 84:1*)

Ephesians 6:10-20

Put on the armor of God

John 6:56-69

The bread of eternal life