

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 6, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Voluntary”

- John Bennett

“Two Little Pieces in the Medieval Style”

- Jean Langlais

“It Is in You, O Christ, that We Are Reconciled”

- G. Norbet, O.S.B. and
M.D. Callahan, O.S.B.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
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.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The congregation may sit, kneel, or adopt another posture appropriate for confession.

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. As a called and ordained minister in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the

entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN

“God Is Here?”

Red Book #526

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.

GLORIA

page 99 in the front of the red book

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN’S SERMON

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” ¹⁹So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the Lord God

had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.”

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8 *(read responsively)*

¹O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;**

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING **Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he

appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hallelujah



Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,



hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

GOSPEL Mark 10:2-16

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, the tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"

Red Book #603

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

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence
for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

The congregation may kneel or sit.

After each petition, the assisting minister bids:

Hear us, O God.

The congregation responds:

Your mercy is great.

The presiding minister concludes:

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your
beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

The congregation may stand.

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The congregation may sit.

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

- Charles Callahan

The ushers present the offerings and gifts of bread and wine for communion.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Come to the Feast”

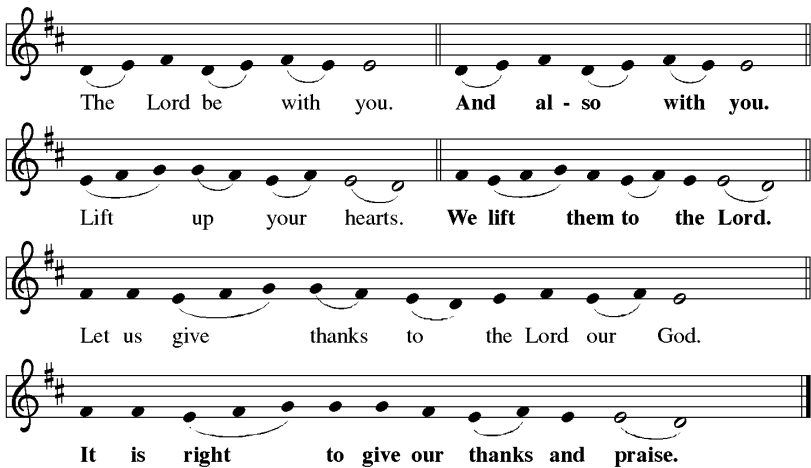
- Mary Kay Beall

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We praise you, all-holy God,
 for you have made this whole creation,
 Even the universe beyond our knowing....*(the prayers continue)*
 And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again...*(the prayers continue)*

We praise you, all-holy God,
 the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,
 today, tomorrow, and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus our Savior has taught us, let us 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.

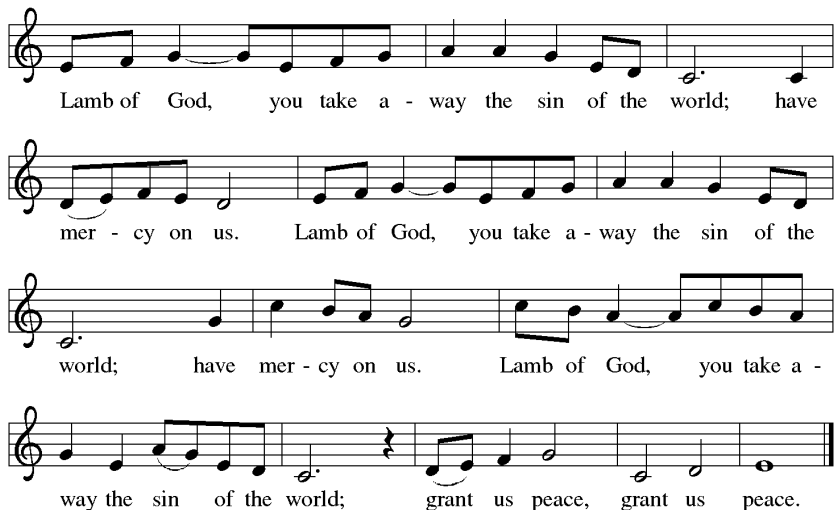
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 sit.

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. 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.

After all have received, the congregation may stand.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“That Priceless Grace”

Red Book #591

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

led by the assisting minister

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look with favor upon you and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Red Book #840

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

- Russell Schulz-Widmar

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Lois Trimbur	Assisting Minister
Sharon Heist Miller	Communion Assistant
Chuck McMichael	Reader
Sharon Heist Miller	Crucifer
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Sr. Choir Director
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Karen Boltz	PowerPoint Minister
Bob and Karen Domanski; Brenden Stevens	Ushers
Bob and Karen Domanski	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Judy and Bill Vilbeck
in memory of loved ones.*

All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 10/7	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Tues., 10/8	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wed., 10/9	9:30 AM	Hymn Pick
Thurs., 10/10	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Social Hall)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 10/12	10:30 AM	ACA Meeting (Downstairs)
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 10/13	9:00 AM	Bible Study (Pastor's Office)
	10:00 AM	Worship
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday, October 13, First English will host Pr. Brian Bennett, pastor of the Lutheran University Center of Greater Pittsburgh. Founded in 1946, the Lutheran Campus Ministry in Greater Pittsburgh has served students, faculty and staff at Pitt, Carnegie Mellon, Chatham and Carlow universities. Housed in the Lutheran University Center in the heart of Oakland, the campus ministry provides opportunities for fellowship,

service, worship and education. All of these opportunities seek to deepen relationships with God and neighbor. The campus ministry welcomes all students to participate. Pastor Bennett will preach in worship and then share more about his ministry at coffee hour. Please plan to attend!

PRAYERS

Cindy Regis & all those affected by Hurricane Helene; Hunter & Sean; Laura Warmbrod's mother; Rob; Jamie Maluk & family; David Fisher & family; Tommy, Jenny, & Aspen Zarnick; Sinead; family of Richard Daller (brother of Betty Turner); Scott Tammaro; George Schaney; Stephen Wright; Steve; Jim Chapin; family of Beth Chambers; Don Eckels; Valerie Kurth; family of John Mileski; Cindy Halin; Mike Gibson; Dennis; Debra Williamson; Amy Waldron; Evelyn Shaulis; Bill Brown; Ben & the Keeler family; Tracy Tucci; Iman; Aryl Bashline; Jack and Amy Beiler; Julie, Greg & family; family of Kenneth Mathias; Nissa Rappaport & family; Pr. Jim Dollhopf & family; Bruce Solomon; Tracy Gullickson; family & friends of Walter Szcurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Turn from injustice to the poor, that you may live

Psalm 90:12-17

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. *(Ps. 90:12)*

Hebrews 4:12-16

Approach the throne of grace with boldness

Mark 10:17-31

Teaching on wealth and reward

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OCTOBER 2024

ELCA.org/hurricanes

In late September, Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane, ravaging communities in the southeast, from Florida to Virginia. As the floodwaters have started to recede, the extreme devastation — especially in North Carolina and Tennessee — has become clearer. Entire towns, roads and bridges have been washed away, and millions are without power and cell service.

Whatever unfolds because of this storm, Lutheran Disaster Response will be there. Lutheran Disaster Response has strong relationships in the region and is already at work on the ground. Working alongside synods and other partners,

Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to provide support throughout the impacted region. We anticipate that our greatest impact will be reaching those in underserved and rural areas.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to those affected by hurricanes and related disasters, such as mudslides, severe storms and flooding. These gifts also empower us to respond to disasters whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts to “Hurricane Response” will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.

.....
YES, I WANT TO HELP!

- Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where needed most* \$ _____ DDG0010
- Lutheran Disaster Response: *Hurricane Response* \$ _____ DDG0087

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Scan to
give online



Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA
22116-8009** and write “*Where needed most*” or “*Hurricane Response*” on your check’s memo line.