



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Sept. 13, 2020
8:15 am

Confession and Forgiveness

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
(Pause for reflection)

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.

For by Grace you have been saved. Out of great mercy, Jesus Christ was sent to die for your sins on the cross. As he lives victorious from the grave, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven.

Gathering Hymn: #834 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Apostolic 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.**

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christe eleison: **Christ, have mercy.**

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Reading

Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Before the gospel is read:

The holy gospel according to Matthew.... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the reading:

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Rob Myallis

Hymn of the Day: #606 – Our Father, We Have Wandered

Our Father, we have wandered
and hidden from your face;
in foolishness have squandered
your legacy of grace.

But now, in exile dwelling,
we rise with fear and shame,
as, distant but compelling,
we hear you call our name.

O Lord of all the living,
both banished and restored,
compassionate, forgiving,
and ever-caring Lord,
grant now that our transgressing,
our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
in pardon, and in peace.

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
again 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

Lord, Listen to your children praying,
Lord send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, Listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Announcements and Offering

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thankful hearts and voices raise;
tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice
and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises, O God,
and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

Blessing

Sending Hymn #835 – All Creatures Worship God Most High

All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Peace and Sending

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

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Today's musicians: Sue Long and Jane Brye

Sunday School

Sunday school begins today!

Have questions about where you are meeting?

Children's classes, contact Deacon Emily (deaconemily@stpaulsitiz.net).

Adult classes, contact Kim Todd (ktodd@stpaulsitiz.net).

Sunday School Teachers NEEDED!

St. Paul wants to keep our kids Sunday School classes as small as possible. This means, we need more teachers! Please contact Deacon Emily if this special teaching ministry is tugging at your heart - your gifts have a place!



Food Drive: The St. Paul Mission and Outreach Committee will be collecting donations for the annual food drive for the Lititz Warwick Community Chest today & Sunday, Sept. 20. Donations can be dropped off in the back parking lot between 9:15 - 10:45 am at a designated collection point. Needed are shelf stable canned and boxed foods, personal care items and paper goods. Cash donations are also accepted. Please no expired items. Last year 1983 lbs. were donated. Let's top that total in this year of economic challenges for our community! To have your donations picked up at your home call Phyllis Frankhouser, 717-626-4200.

Personal Care Kits

We are collecting personal care kits from Sept. 6-27 for Lutheran World Relief. Donation lists are available on the outdoor table at the 10 am service. The items can be returned to the Personal Care Kit bin. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Weiss at 626-0994 or Deb Herr at 627-1829.

Worship Volunteers Needed: Please sign up online (timetosignup/stpaulworship)
Lectors (8:15 & 10:45) / Equipment Moving Crew / Worship Hosts

Women's Bible Study will be held Monday, September 14th at 6:30 pm in the church pavilion. "Holy Time: Remembering the Past" will be led by Phyllis Frankhouser. Join other St. Paul women to explore the concept of "faithful memory". Masks and social distancing will be practiced.

Save the Date: October 3 & 4 we will be planting trees for our Sacred Grounds project. More information will be following!

Medan Initiative is a nonprofit organization that provides medical care to children in Ethiopia through partnerships with local schools. They are holding a fundraising event on Saturday, Sept. 26. The event is a pulled pork meal. Email info@medaninitiative.org to order your meal.

Week of Sept. 13

Mon: TeleCare 1 pm

Children's Chimes 4:30 pm

Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm

Jubilate Bells 7 pm

Oula 7pm

Tues: Staff Mtg 10 am

Cub Scouts 6:30 pm

Wed: Sewing Group 10 am

Boy Scouts 6:30 pm

Devotion Rehearsal 7pm

Thu: Bible Study 9:30/10:30 am

Bible Study 7pm