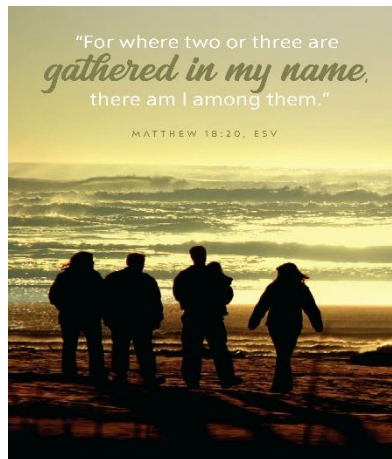


THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Digital Worship



September 6, 2020

Rev. Christopher Buresh

*As we enter this time of digital worship, we do so alongside the Body of Christ in a spiritual space while we abstain from doing so in a physical space. Please participate by reading aloud along with the leader the parts of the service which are **bolded** and standing where you find the + symbol.*

We will also be sharing virtually in Holy Communion. We would invite those who desire to partake to prepare by setting up a space with elements suitable for eating and drinking. Suggestions for these elements include bread, crackers, wine, juice or water.

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

+ THE 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.

+ THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we 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.

THE FIRST READING FOR THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Lector: Victoria Puttkammer

First Reading: Romans 13:8-14

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.

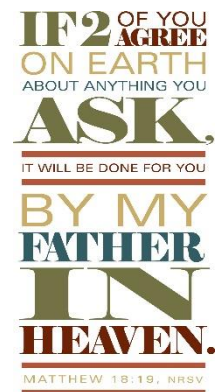
¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably 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.



Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

[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."

Here ends the Holy Gospel.



THE SERMON: "Hard Work"

THE HYMN: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Vocalist: Aaron Basch Pianist: Adam Basch

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

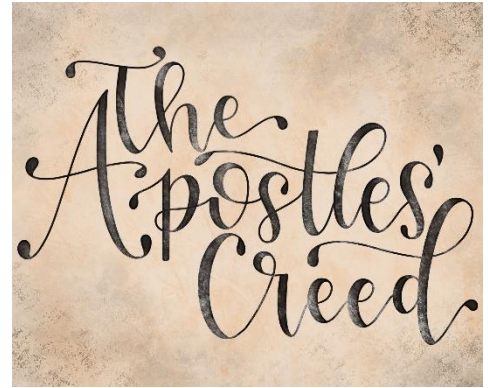
Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887
Public Domain

+ THE 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.



+ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community and across the world especially in Coronationville. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.



Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

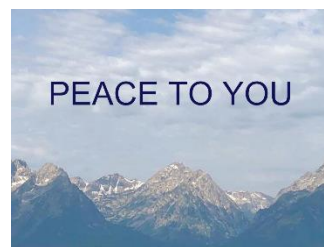
Here other intercessions may be offered.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



THE OFFERING

We invite you to continue in your faithful support of God's work by contributing electronically during our season of meeting in a virtual world. Please see our website homepage for further instructions on how to participate in electronic giving.

+ THE 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.

+ THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ THE 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.



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.



+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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 BLESSING AND SENDING

The Lord bless us and keep us.
The Lord's face shine upon us with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon us with favor and ☩ give us peace.
Amen.

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God



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Service Notes:

Today's chancel flowers are given by the Joritz family in celebration of Susan and Dave's 30th wedding anniversary. The flowers are also given by Helen and Ron Nelson in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

the hospitalized: Beth Wetzig (LaGrange), Betty Holke (Palos)

the bereaved: the Traverso family upon the death of Kristie's father, Jerry Lockwood; Pamela Pyka upon the death of her brother, Barry Bell; the Webber and Plahm families upon the death of Bill's nephew, Greg; the Walton and Cody families upon the death of Betty Walton

Mission Offerings for this past week and this week have been designated to help those suffering from the devastation of the recent hurricanes.

If you are interested in donating flowers to beautify the chancel, please call the church office. The following dates are open: October 25, November 15 and November 22.

There is a ***Youth and Education meeting*** on Tuesday, September 8 at 7:00 PM over Zoom.

Good Shepherd responds to the needs presented by COVID

At their recent meeting, members of the Missions Committee expressed great concern about how best to provide for people near and dear to Good Shepherd who have experienced financial hardship due to the challenges of COVID-19. In that spirit, funding was set aside to assist people who are struggling financially due to loss of their expected income. If you are in need, please call the church office and we will make arrangements to discuss the situation and how we can help.

As a community of faith, we strive to stay connected as we together journey through life. Good Shepherd has the following virtual experiences scheduled outside of Sunday Worship Services and Sunday School to help us come together as one Body of Christ. These offerings are based on the feedback received from the survey sent out last week. Thank you to all those who responded and we look forward to these efforts helping us all to "Be the Church."

Tues. at 10:30 am Bible Study

Did you know that the lectionary we use (the three-year cycle of readings that are shared during worship) are not limited to only readings for Sunday? Join us as we begin a journey of sharing in the daily lectionary and reflecting on God' s Word together on the Good Shepherd Facebook Page.

Wed morning Hymn of the Week

Michelle Podewell will be on the page playing a hymn and sharing the gift of music. Check in the late morning to enjoy celebrating the gift of music God has granted us.

Thur. at 7:00 pm Where is God? A time of processing, prayer and conversation

A time to gather and be. The Good Shepherd Facebook Page will again be the platform for people gathering to reflect. This will be a time of conversation where you are invited to participate by typing questions or thoughts as we together explore God' s presence during this unique time.

Also, know that Pastor Chris is happy to set up a zoom meeting or phone call with anyone who wants or needs to chat during this time. You are not alone! May you see God at work in and around you this week ahead.