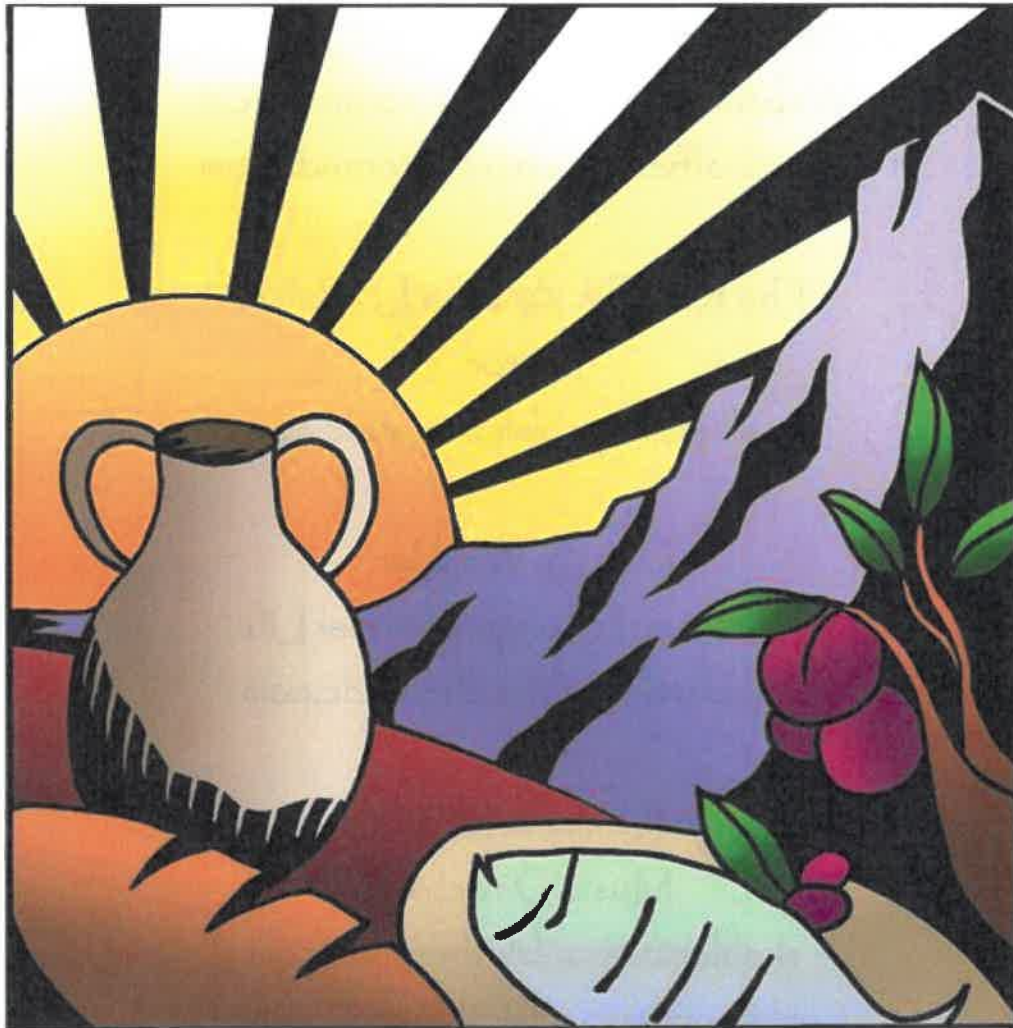


St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Service of the Word
Evangelical Lutheran Worship
October 11, 2020

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

A "Reconciling in Christ"

Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America (ELCA).

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ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

CHORAL PRELUDE

The choir sings today's Psalm—Psalm 23—in hymn paraphrase
(Hymn #778: *The Lord's my shepherd*)

*The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make within
the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.
Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for
thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
My table thou hast richly spread in presence of my foes; my head
thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me, and in
God's house forevermore my dwelling-place shall be.*

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates,
redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving
embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one
another before examining ourselves. We place our own
needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of
salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our
transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through
his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own.
Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in
the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in
freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C Amen.

***GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Lisa Wackler

Today's other readings are:

Isaiah 25:1-9

The feast of victory

Psalm 23

You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (*Ps. 23:5*)

READING

Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,

whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***INSTRUMENTAL GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***GOSPEL**

Matthew 22:1-14

P The Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty second chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Amy Baumgardner

***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**

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill (*especially*). Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OFFERING

(Please remember to send your offering via mail, online giving or by text. Our Text2Give number is 844-262-6943)

OFFERING ANTHEM

The heavens are telling (from *Sacred Songs*)—Ludwig van Beethoven

Arranged by Virgil Thomson (American); text from Psalm 19
Beethoven's 250th birthday is 16 December 2020

The heavens are telling the Lord's endless glory, through all the earth His praise is found.

The seas re-echo the marvelous story: O man, repeat that glorious sound!

The starry hosts He doth order and number, He fills the morning's golden springs,

He wakes the sun from his night-curtain'd slumber; O man, adore the King of kings!

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A Let us pray. 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.
- C **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

- P O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you
illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy
Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
- C **Amen.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

- P Let us pray together the prayer Our Savior taught us:
- C **Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your
kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of
trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

- P Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and
lead you into the way of truth and life.
- C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Remember the poor.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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Today, we pray for those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially; The Settle & Harllee families upon the death of Gloria, Carol Hollar, Tammy Larson, the Revana and Mahan families, Maggie, Jane, JJ, Barb Pitts, Carolyn Boston, Michon, Taquina, Levi, John LeSane, Julie Hamlin, Greg McAllister, Charlie Albert, the Carr family, Pearl Apisson, Gillian Flory, Russell and Stephanie Thomas, Joan Tolbert, Stefanie Skurcenski, Barbara Hostage, Sue Ericsson, Russell Stevens, Glenn Ralph, Betty Mastrobattista, Richard, Dallas Dean, Carolyn Denison, Lois Leland, Bill Jackson, Grace Yin, Ralph Benson, Susan Russo, the Rademacher family, Neal, the Williamson family, and all those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
