



Sunday, September 13, 2020

****This week, we welcome you to join us for speaking softly in unison as noted in **bold** in the bulletin. However, following the recommendation of the Christ Lutheran Church Re-opening Task Force and CDC guidelines, worship this week will **not** include singing.****

PRELUDE

*Sonata in A Major, No. 3 Op. 65
-Andante tranquillo*

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME

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.

HYMN *Please refrain from singing at this time.*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray:

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.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON 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, ¹⁷'Say 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.

P The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM 103:[1-7] 8-13

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECOND LESSON 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.

P The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

P The holy gospel according to Matthew the 18th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Wes Smith

HYMN *Please refrain from singing at this time.*

Music next page.

In Thee Is Gladness



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



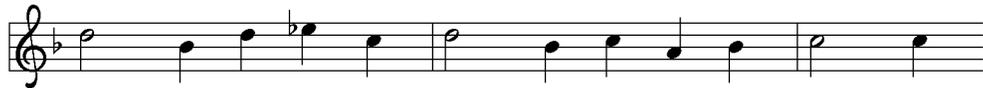
true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

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APOSTLES' CREED

P Gathered together by the power of the Holy Spirit we confess our common faith:

C 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

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

A brief silence.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries – in person, or online. Nurture ministries of education and growth *especially the Christ Lutheran Church Preschool*. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P The heights of the heavens show us the scope of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your good creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we tempted with violence. Bring about understanding, before assumption. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. This day we pray especially for **Craig, LuAnn and Dennis, Pat N., Theresa, Martin, Candice, Rayce, Sarah, Dorothy, and Phyllis**. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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

C Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE

P The peace of the Lord is with you always.

C And also with you.

In this age of social-distancing, you are invited to leave a word of peace in the comment section of the worship broadcast. Send greetings to a church member, a person you don't recognize, or simply like or love someone else's post. In all things spread peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please see the weekly eNews for full details.*

-Today is Day of Service

-The policies and practices for social distancing amongst staff in our office have been effective at maintaining a healthy work environment and business operations. The church office staff will continue to rotate days in-person in the office with the balance of work being completed remotely. Comm Admin, Julia, will continue to be in the office on Tuesdays and Office Admin, Laura, will be in the office on Thursdays. Laura and Julia will be using the old Preschool office (room 105) to keep them 6 ft from preschool staff who need to use the copy machine and other common items in the main church office. Pastor Wes will be in the office on Mondays and Wednesday at minimum. Meetings with staff outside of these times can be scheduled as needed. Office phone messages and emails are checked remotely on a regular basis during office hours. The building will still be closed to non-essential people.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

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

HYMN *Please refrain from singing at this time.*

Music next page.

Rise, Shine, You People!



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.
Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, 1934-2003
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SENDING

P Go in peace. Remember the poor

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sonata in A Major, No. 3 Op. 65
Con moto maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

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This Sunday's altar flowers are sponsored by:

Kathy Landschulz,
Blessing of 35th Wedding Anniversary