

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 4, 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316
www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

Where responses are indicated, please respond quietly.

PRELUDE "All Creatures of Our God and King" L. Larson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us now confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

O Merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have walked away from you as though you did not even exist.

We have railed against the sins of others, while ignoring our own wickedness.

**We have wrapped both our arms around our treasures,
and pushed away those in need.**

**Humble our hearts, strip away our masks of deceit, and transform our minds,
so that we can return to you and find new and abundant life,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Our Heavenly Father knows us better than we know ourselves, and yet he loves us.
By the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, know that your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“All Creatures of Our God and King” vs. 1 & 5

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
5 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor-ship him in hum-ble-

sing Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en
ness, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa-ther, praise the

beam, and sil-ver moon with soft - er gleam, O praise him, O
Son, and praise the Spir - it, Three in One, O praise him, O

praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

A Reading from Isaiah

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

(Isaiah 5:1-7)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:7-15 (Read Responsively)

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved.

⁸You brought a vine out of Egypt;

you drove out the nations and planted it.

⁹You cleared the ground for it;

it took deep root and filled the land.

**¹⁰The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches;**

¹¹it sent out its branches to the sea,

and its shoots to the River.

**¹²Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?**

¹³The boar from the forest ravages it,

and all that move in the field feed on it.

¹⁴Turn again, O God of hosts;

look down from heaven, and see;

have regard for this vine,

¹⁵the stock that your right hand planted.

A Reading from Philippians

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:4b-14)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.

³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. (Matthew 21:33-46)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

vs. 1 & 4



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED (Read in Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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

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

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice. Refresh your church, that we
may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless those whose hands bring the
food to our tables. May the words and deeds of Francis of Assisi, whom we
commemorate today, continue to bless us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Curb our greed and pride. Grant that world leaders seek the fruits of the kingdom
for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sustain all who suffer in any way. Lessen our pain and comfort us in our suffering.
We pray for all who grieve or carry a great burden. We also pray for everyone
whose names are on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all employers in our community and for all who seek honest labor. Open a better future to those who lack work, those who have been abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We thank you for all the saints who have taught us the joy of faithfully working in your vineyard. May our good work join theirs until all labor is complete. 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.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 him thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Read in Unison)

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

The banquet has been prepared. Christ gives himself as food and drink!

[INSTRUCTIONS

The Sacrament will be distributed by the Pastor and the Communion Assistant while the congregation is seated.

If a person wishes to receive a bread wafer, he/she will extend a hand. The Pastor will use small stainless-steel tongs to pick up the wafer and drop it into the person's hand. The person will then pull up his/her face mask and place the wafer in his/her mouth. After the wafer has been received, the Pastor will proceed to the next person in the pew.

When the Pastor has returned to the center aisle, the Communion Assistant will go up the same vacant pew until he/she comes to the next person. If this person wishes to receive a cup of wine, he/she will extend a hand. The Communion Assistant will allow the person to pick up a cup from the tray. He/she will then pull up his/her face mask and drink from the cup.

If a person seeks a blessing instead of the Sacrament, the Pastor will give a blessing to him/her without making any physical contact.

Empty cups should be placed in the plastic bags found in the pews. These bags will be removed from the pews once the service has ended.]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with heavenly food. Lead us from this place nourished and forgiven, to do what is right and good, following the example of our Lord and Savior, and guided by the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

the LORD look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”

vs. 1 & 4



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Praise Him with Trumpets"

G. Blake

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Altar flowers are presented in honor of Jeff's and Cindy's 45th anniversary, Jeffrey's and Amanda's 6th, and Joel's and Cristi's 3rd.

Chancel flowers are presented in honor of Jeff and Cindy Ritschel's Sapphire anniversary TODAY by Sue, Kurt, and Juli Schenck.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Aubrey and Minnie Glover, parents of Gwen Wehr, by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

SERVING SUNDAY (10/4/20)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Ruth Ann Withers; GREETER: Amy Dewald

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: TBA

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Bob Schuld II; USHER: Jerry Goessel; GREETER: Chris Long

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Schenck

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (10/11/20)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Gail Rarick; GREETER: Amy Dewald

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Doug Travor; USHER: Barb Sterner; GREETER: Greg Sklar

ALTAR GUILD: Jean Premich and Joyce O'Rourke

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst

WELCA

WELCA will meet on Tuesday, October 13th at 1:00 PM at Albright's Woods Pavilion. In case of bad weather, we will meet in the Church Sanctuary. Your In-Gathering offering designated for Rainbow Friends (special needs adults) and your regular offering will be received.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, October 4	8:00 AM 10:30 AM 4:00 PM	Worship w/ Holy Communion Worship w/ Holy Communion Blessing of the Animals at Albright's Woods Pavilion
Tuesday, October 6	6:00 PM	Evangelism
Wednesday, October 7	6:00 PM 7:05 PM	Bell Choir Men of St. Paul's
Thursday, October 8	7:00 PM	Adult Forum via ZOOM
Saturday, October 10	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, October 11	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Worship Worship

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