

The Divine Service

The Fourth Sunday of Pentecost

June 25, 2023

AS WE GATHER

"Can't see the forest for the trees" is a popular saying that means one can get so involved in details of a matter that the larger scale and situation as a whole is missed. In today's Gospel, a hearer of Jesus' words can get so caught up in other details that one "can't see the forest for the trees." Many of the details in today's Gospel deal with unglamorous parts of the Christian life in this world, even in our closest relationships. Through those "trees," though, we are able to see the "forest" of words of hope and promise from our Savior. As Jesus speaks to the day when "the Son of Man comes" (Matthew 10:23), we look to that day as one of joy as His eternal promises and assurances come to fruition away from this broken world, where we shall dwell with Him as He resurrects, redeems, and restores His new creation.

Prelude

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✝) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: **have mercy on us. We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

Pastor: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in (✝) Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Processional Hymn

"Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"

LSB 900, verses 1, 2 & 4



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Kneel-ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
When the cup of hu-man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

Greeting

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

People: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Cantor: In peace, in peace...

Refrain

Assistant:

Congregation:



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,



Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Cantor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,

all of cre - a - tion sings for joy

to the God of life and love and

free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
 slain, whose blood has freed and u -
 nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
 God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
 for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
 make us peo - ple of God; to make
 all things new. *to Refrain*

Salutation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our refuge and our strength and ever-present hope in times of need, grant Your abiding presence as we walk through this wayward world that, as You come to us still today, we walk in faith following You until the Last Day when the Son of Man comes and makes all things new; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Today's Scripture Readings

The Old Testament

Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. ⁸For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! "Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" say all my close friends, watching for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him." ¹¹But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 6:12-23

¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Processional (Stand as you are able.)

Congregation:

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

Optional Repeat

Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the tenth chapter.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, . . .

²¹"Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²²and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. ²⁴"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

²⁶"So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.

Sermon

"The Son of Man Comes"

Frank Ahrens

Apostles' Creed

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "Hear our prayer"

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given us and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen. From *Sundays and Seasons*, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress.

A word about Holy Communion: *We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.*

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

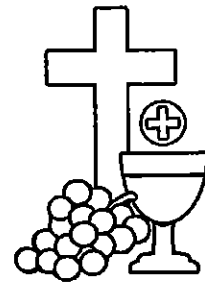
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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.**

Words of Institution

The Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord).

Agnus Dei

(Congregation may be seated following the Agnus Dei)



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Hymns during Distribution:

"Life Every Voice and Sing"

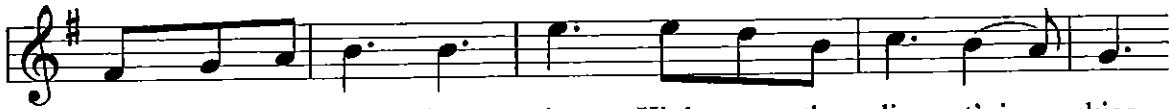
LSB 964



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing Till earth and heav - en ring,
2 Ston - y the road we trod, Bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



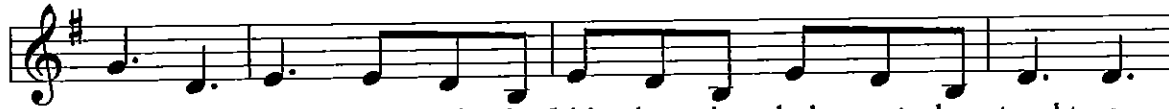
Ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
Felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise High as the lis - t'ning skies,
Yet with a stead - y beat, Have not our wea - ry feet
Thou who hast by Thy might Led us in - to the light,



Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
Come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
Keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met Thee;



Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get Thee;



Fac - ing the ris - ing sun Of our new day be - gun,
Out from the gloom - y past, Till now we stand at last
Shad - owed be - neath Thy hand, May we for - ev - er stand,



Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

LSB 783



- 1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Closing of the Table

Post-Communion Canticale:

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O
God of mer - cy. Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


Announcements

Benediction


Recessional Hymn

"Lift High the Cross" *LSB 837 verses 1 & 4*


Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,



Refrain

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans)

Are you an empty nester?
Looking to connect with others?



Owls is a group of St. Paul members and friends 55+ who meet on the second Friday of every month. Typically they meet at St. Paul for a potluck dinner or at a hosts home or a restaurant to share a meal and fellowship. Please consider coming out for this fun gathering. You will be glad you did!

The next meeting will be on Friday, July 14 in rooms 201/202 at 7:00 PM. Contact Denise Scudo to RSVP at 954-599-8723.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 943-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth : 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving

St. Paul
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& PRE-SCHOOL