

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

A Service of Word and Table

in the 167th Year of the Parish

October 18, 2020. 8:00 & 10:30 am

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Our Mission: "To know Christ and to make Christ known."

PRELUDE

"Cantate Domino"Giuseppe Pitoni (1657-1743)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

(Please stand where there is an asterisk.)

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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 loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

***HYMN**

The God of Abraham Praise**ELW 831**

The God of Abr’ham praise, who reigns enthroned above;

Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love –

“I Am the One I Am” – by earth and heav’n confessed;

I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.

Your promise you have sworn; I on your oath depend.

I shall, on eagle wings up borne, to heav’n ascend.

I shall behold your face; I shall your pow’r adore,

And sing the wonders of your grace forevermore.

Introduction: In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
the LORD do all these things.
The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96:1-9 (*Read responsively*)

¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

THE SECOND LESSON.....1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor
of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers
and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and
with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among
you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of
persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you
became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word
of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in
every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak
about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we
had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true
God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus,
who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***THE GOSPEL.....Matthew 22:15-22**

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope we affirm our faith:

**C 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**

Response: [P] Lord, in your mercy [C] **Hear our prayer.**

***THE PEACE** [P] The Peace of the Lord be with you. [C] **And also with you.**
Please remember to share the peace without physical contact.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P 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.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us.
C **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.**

***THE COMMUNION**

P Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.
C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Announcements:

Thanks to all who walked and/or sponsored walkers at last week's CROP Walk.

You Did It!



Thanks to all our members who donated to the Lutheran World Relief by quilting, or making a kit to send. This year we had 24 quilts - not bad for the time that quilting could be done, 15 personal care kits, 3 fabric kits, 7 baby care kits and 55 school kits (the same as last year!) So, don't think we are done,

now is the time to plan ahead for next year. Watch for the sales (January white sales are good for hand and bath towels cheap). Yard sales are good for gently used baby items and Joann's has great deals on fabric several times a year. If you need directions on what each kit needs, just email me, dabuckman65@gmail.com, or see me at church or call 570-323-1707. Also needed are donations of cash for shipping of items. This can be dropped off at the church office with LWR kits in the memo line. Thanks so much for your work - special thanks for Lou DeSeau and Bob Miller for taking our items to the Synod office. Deb B and Shirley H

The response for Harvest Home was wonderful. Those in need will receive a weeks supply of food. Please remember to bring non-perishable food and hygiene items throughout the year. Thank you for supporting the United Churches Food Pantry.

Worship and Music Committee

Church Council will meet Monday, October 19 at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please remember to wear a mask.

Sunday, October 25:

Reformation Sunday. A time to say, "Thank You" to God for all our blessings through our intended giving to the church in 2021.

Sunday, November 1, All Saints' Day:



A day to remember all believers past and present who are joined to Christ by the waters of holy baptism. The roll of “The Church Triumphant” and “The Servant Church” in 2020 will be read at both services.

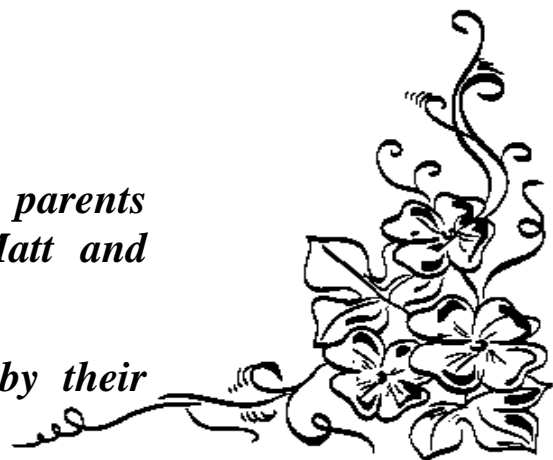
Sunday, November 15:

Confirmation Orientation (Confirmands and Parents), 9:15 am in the “Crossways Room”.

Our flowers today are given to the glory of God:

† *In loving memory of Nathan Young by his parents Sarah and Paul Young and his siblings, Matt and Jessica.*

† *In loving memory of Ed and Mary Gair by their children and grandchildren*



Healing: Liz Ruesskamp, Richard Albright, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Ruth Pile, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Paul Young, Bob Shaible, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Gladys Knauss, Randy Knauss, Patricia Alexander, Diane Osbaugh, Joann Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Pr. Frank Showers, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Esteban Mazer, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Cheryl Williams, Bernadette Jones, Gregg, Kay Poliska, and Steve Dewar.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



Assisting in Worship Leadership 10/18

ALTAR GUILD	Connie Shaible & Sally Bjornstad	
	8:00	10:30
USHERS	Dick Miller and Herb Poff	Matt Fortin (Captain), Glenn Yapple, Bud Doebler and Ruth Serlinski (side door).
LECTORS	Lou DeSeau	Mel Wentzel
PARISH MUSICIAN	Sam Robinson	