

# 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2020



“...giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light”  
(Colossians 1:12).

## Welcome!

For the safety of all, we ask that you please follow the following guidelines and rules. Thank you!

- Masks must be worn at all times even during the worship service
- Outside of family, one must follow social distancing, maintaining a distance of 6 feet.
- Pastor will be practicing safe distancing which means he will not be able to personally greet and talk with you except for maintain safe distance. If you would like to talk with pastor in a more personal setting, please call him.
- The congregation will leave starting with the last row and moving forward.

## + Order of Worship +

### Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P O Lord, be gracious to us and bless us,

C **And make Your face to shine upon us.**

P May Your ways be known upon the earth,  
C **Your saving power among all peoples.**

P Let us now confess our sins to almighty God. Heavenly Father,  
C **You have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have broken Your holy laws and have left undone what we ought to have done. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of Your Son Who died for us, forgive us, cleanse us and change us. By Your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for You; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In response to His call we have acknowledged our sins. God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

P To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;  
C **Good-will from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth!**

P We praise and bless You, Father, our holy name, we shout,  
C **Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heavenly King.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
C **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray: Dear God, Keep us from failing to work for You when asked, and forgive us too for those times when our enthusiasm to serve falters. Give us the strength to keep our words and promises to You. In Jesus' name we pray.  
C **Amen.**

## **First Lesson**

## **Ezekiel 18:25-32**

Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Hear now, O house of Israel! Is My way not right? Is it not your ways that are not right? <sup>26</sup> When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity and dies because of it, for his iniquity which he has committed he will die. <sup>27</sup> Again, when a wicked man turns away from his wickedness which he has committed and practices justice and righteousness, he will save his life. <sup>28</sup> Because he considered and turned away from all his transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup> But the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Are My ways not right, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not right?

<sup>30</sup> "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, each according to his conduct," declares the Lord GOD. "Repent and turn away from all your transgressions, so that iniquity may not become a stumbling block to you. <sup>31</sup> Cast away from you all your transgressions which you have committed and

make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup> For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies,” declares the Lord GOD. “Therefore, repent and live.”

## **Second Lessons**

**Colossians 1:9-14**

For this reason also, since the day we heard *of it*, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup> so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

## **Alleluia**

P Alleluia. Alleluia. Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

**C but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

## **Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 21:28-32**

[Jesus said] <sup>28</sup> “But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in the vineyard.’ <sup>29</sup> And he answered, ‘I will not’; but afterward he regretted it and went. <sup>30</sup> The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, ‘I *will*, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?” They \*said, “The first.” Jesus \*said to them, “Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you. <sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing *this*, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.**

## **Sermon**

## **Prayer of the Church**

- P** Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for His goodness. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You promised through Your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith. Strengthen Your Church, O Lord, that the Church may be faithful in living out the faith You call us to live and show. Forgive our faults and give us the courage and strength to witness in Word and Deeds!
- P** Gracious Father, we say we know that we have an inheritance in the heavenly place, the gift of life with You that begins now and only becomes more real. Help us to always believe and live as if we truly do believe this gift is ours. Let this hope give us courage and strength to do what is right and good. Make us more willing to work with You and others to make this world a place of peace and hope.
- P** We ask Your blessing upon all in authority over us, that they may make wise decisions and act decisively to protect us and maintain the good order of the societies and economies in which we live and work. We ask Your blessing upon our armed forces, police and first responders, and especially upon all who are called professionally and vocationally to give of themselves so bravely and selflessly to heal and care for us should we fall ill: our doctors and nurses, and all who support them.
- P** We pray especially for those who are more vulnerable: the elderly and the infirm, the poor and the homeless, and for all who live alone. We pray for all who are now seriously ill and for the souls of those who have died. May they rest in peace with You.
- P** Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit ...,

**Alexis Duffy**, (Godchild of Greg and Cindy Clem suffering from cancer);

**Pam Brown** (Anne Arundel Hospital Center – Annapolis); **Kathy** (sister of Pam Brown)

**Ray Cannon**, (husband of Susan Cannon, Patuxent River Health and Rehabilitation Center, Laurel) ;

**Ruth Embry** (White Oak Rehabilitation Center, Silver Spring);

**David Shepherd** (Home now); **Robin Beam**, (sister of Susan Lucero);

Give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of Your salvation.

**Birthdays:** Christine Clem (8/2); Maya Francis (8/3); Matthew Burt (8/5); Ed Allinson (8/6); Shirley Lee (8/6); Amuniqu Lee (8/8); Mercy Sowho (8/8).

P Hear us as we come to You with our own private prayers and concerns. (Moment of Silence).

P During this time of physical isolation and continuing distance, help us to keep our relationships and our community strong; bless the love which binds us together and make it stronger. Save us from pride and selfishness, and from the panic and fear which act against your love for us.

Grant us with all Your saints a share in Your eternal kingdom. Rejoicing in the fellowship of all Your saints, we commend ourselves and all Christian people to Your unfailing love.

**C Accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### Offering Prayer

### Holy Communion Liturgy

P At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Good News. Here we receive Christ's body and blood and God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. We receive these blessings through faith for the strengthening of faith. Let us prepare our hearts and minds for this meal of victory.

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

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

P It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give You thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. because by water and the Holy Spirit You have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord; You renew that mystery in bread and wine to show forth Your glory in all the world.

And so with hearts full of love we join with all of heaven proclaiming the eternal hymn.

**C Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your glory, glory be to You, O Lord most high. Blessed be He that has come and is to come. Hosanna in the highest.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**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**

**P** On the night on which our Lord Jesus was given over to suffering and death through the betrayal of a friend, He took bread, and after He had blessed it and given thanks to you for it, O Lord, He gave it to His disciples and said, Take, eat, this is My Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.

After the supper, He took the cup, and after He had blessed it and given thanks to You for it, O Lord, He said, Drink of this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant, which is shed for the remission of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do this in remembrance of Me.

Therefore, as often as we eat this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim His death until He comes again. Amen.

**C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world' have mercy on us and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

### **Distribution of Holy Communion**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**C O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, Who in loving kindness set Your only-begotten son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **Benediction**

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

### **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

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Roberto Vela, Esq., *Organist*

**Please don't forget to bring your plastic shopping bags to church for Homeless mats.**