

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

1100 E. SUPERIOR ST., DULUTH, MINNESOTA

October 4, 2020

10:00 a.m.

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST COMMEMORATION OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI



*We worship this Sunday with the entire living family on Earth.  
We celebrate with birds, animals, reptiles, our pets and all our living  
relatives. We listen to their sounds, watch their movements,  
and wonder with them as they praise their Creator.  
We give thanks for and with all our kin.*

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

**PRELUDE** *Two Settings of "Forest Green"* Paul Manz (1919-2009), Barbara Harbach (b. 1946)  
Karen Sande, organ

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who extends an invitation to the Waters, the Word, and the Meal.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Sometimes we divide our lives between church and world,  
between Sunday and the rest of the days,  
but You, O God, are Lord over all our days.

**Forgive us when we fail to be bearers of Christ in our daily lives.**

**Forgive us when our hands fail to be an extension of your grace.**

**Forgive us when our words hurt rather than heal.**

**Forgive us when we forget that we have been forgiven and set free  
to be your forgiving people in your world.**

Deeply rooted in a boundless God beyond measure,  
Draw sustenance from the truth that God proclaims:  
Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ.

Be renewed in hope and filled with the Spirit  
so that you may accept God's invitation to be Christ's body in the world.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN *O God, Your Creatures Fill the Earth*

sung to the tune *Forest Green*  
text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette



1. O God, your crea - tures fill the earth with won - der and de - light,
2. You made the pets we wel - come in — They're won - drous bless - ings, too.
3. You made the crea - tures on each farm; You know the things they need.
4. Your crea - tures live in ev - ery land; They fill the sky and sea.



And ev - ery liv - ing thing has worth and beau - ty in your sight.  
With paws and whis - kers, wings and fins, They of - fer praise to you.  
May they grow heal - thy, safe from harm, And safe from hu - man greed.  
O Lord, you give us your com - mand To love them ten - der - ly.



So play - ful dol - phins dance and swim; Your sheep bow down and graze.  
O Lord, you call us to em - brace These crea - tures in our care.  
Just as a shep - herd loves the sheep, You know their joy, their pain.  
We're called to have do - min - ion here — To care for them al - ways.



Your song - birds share a morn - ing hymn To of - fer you their praise.  
May we show kind - ness, love and grace To all pets ev - ery where.  
Lord, bless the an - i - mals we keep; May all farms be hu - mane.  
By lov - ing crea - tures you hold dear, We of - fer you our praise.

### **APOSTOLIC 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 ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon;**

**where there is discord, union;**

**where there is doubt, faith;**

**where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light;**

**where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

**FIRST READING** Genesis 2:18-23

*read by Tim Climis*

<sup>18</sup>Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the Lord GOD formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

<sup>21</sup>So the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING** Revelation 5:11-14

*read by Dana Varland*

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup>Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might  
forever and ever!"

<sup>14</sup>And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

Choir: Jesus says, I chose you and ap- | pointed you\* to go and bear fruit | that will last. ***Alleluia.***

## GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-29

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship

**HYMN OF THE DAY #736 *God the Sculptor of the Mountain***



1 God the sculp-tor of the moun-tains, God the mill-er of the  
 2 God the nui-sance to the Pha-raoh, God the cleav-er of the  
 3 God the dress-er of the vine-yard, God the plant-er of the  
 4 God the un-ex-pect-ed in-fant, God the calm, de-ter-mined



sand, God the jewel-er of the heav-ens,  
 sea, God the pil-lar in the dark-ness,  
 wheat, God the reap-er of the har-vest,  
 youth, God the ta-ble-turn-ing proph-et,



God the pot-ter of the land: you are womb of all cre-  
 God the bea-con of the free: you are fount of all de-  
 God the source of all we eat: you are host at ev-'ry  
 God the re-sur-rect-ed truth: you are pres-ent ev-'ry



a-tion, we are form-less; shape us now.  
 liv-'rance, we are sight-less; lead us now.  
 ta-ble, we are hun-gry; feed us now.  
 mo-ment, we are search-ing; meet us now.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Boundless God, remind me:

**I AM Created by an ever-present, loving God,  
 Deeply rooted in Christ Jesus  
 Equipped to be resilient amidst change,  
 Grounded in community,  
 Free to struggle, grow and expand,  
 Compelled to reach out in response,  
 Renewed in hope each day.**

God, speak these words to me today, plant them within me, that I may find my identity in you. **Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God.  
 Your mercy is great.

*or*

Bless we the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God!**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## GOD EXTENDS AN INVITATION

Duane Sieger

## OFFERING

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to **218-325-9525** with amount you would like to contribute. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

## OFFERTORY MUSIC *Five Pieces: Prelude*

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

Kristin Sande, violin; Byron Klimek, cello; Karen Sande, piano

## OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,

You extend an invitation to offer ourselves in response to your goodness.

Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table,  
and which we share in your world in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

*The LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything. Deuteronomy 2:7*

While we are a scattered community today, we remain one body in Christ, rooted and held together by the ever-present love of God. As with the Israelites in the wilderness, God watches over us even as we are apart, providing what is needed to sustain us on the journey.

It is often through the ordinary work of our lives that God's nourishing presence is revealed and offered. Tear off a piece of bread and hold it in your hand. Give thanks for the many hands that worked separately but in common purpose to produce this food for our bodies. Remember God's presence through hands that create, hands that support and protect, hands that reach out in love, hands that soothe and console, hands that work together for peace and justice. As you eat this bread, pray that your own hands will be strengthened and blessed for service, revealing in all they do the loving presence of God in the world. **Amen.**

## HYMN #715 *Christ, Be Our Light*



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the  
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants  
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*  
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the  
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Nourished by the living God and grounded in this community of faith, we pray:

**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.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### BLESSING

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN #881 *Let All Things Now Living*



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who  
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.  
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -  
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as  
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"



## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be Christ's hands and feet in the world.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Psalm 19: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God* Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)  
Karen Sande, organ

<b>MINISTERS</b>	All People of First Lutheran Church
<b>PASTOR</b>	The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
<b>PASTORAL INTERN</b>	Logan McLean
<b>PROGRAM STAFF</b>	Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate Karen Sande, Director of Music Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship Rachael Kresha, Apostle Choir Director, Associate Organist
<b>MUSICIANS</b>	Mary Dontje, Susanna Ojakangas, Andy Frey, Doug Frey, and Michael Fuchs, singers; Kristin Sande, violin; Byron Klimek, cello
<b>VIDEOGRAPHER</b>	Sam Weston
<b>VIDEO EDITOR</b>	Stacie Curnow

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church