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



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

FIRST READING Genesis 2:18-23

¹⁸Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So 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. ²⁰The 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.

²¹So 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. ²²And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then 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

¹¹Then 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, ¹²singing 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!"

¹³Then 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!"

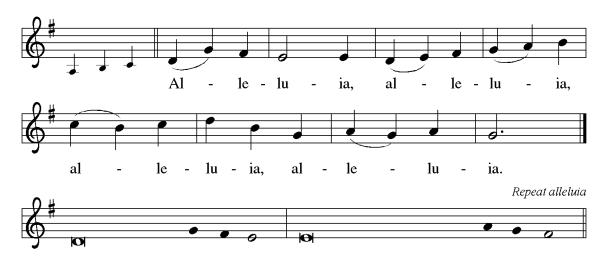
¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

read by Dana Varland

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

read by Tim Climis



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.

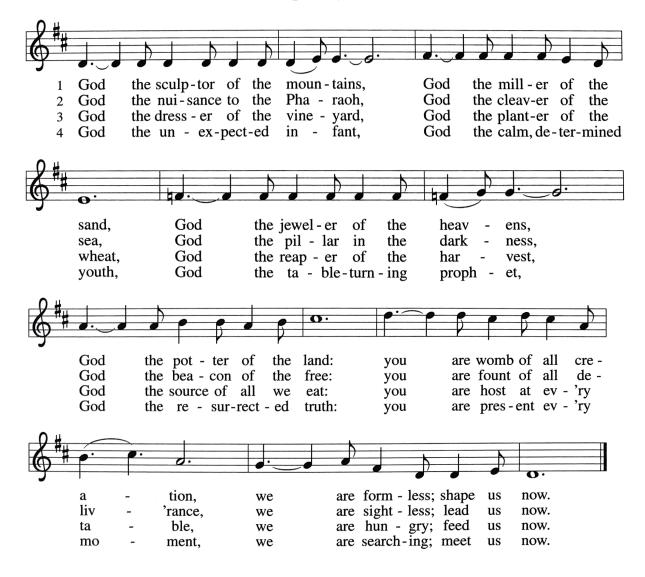
²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly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



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. | or | Bless we the Lord, |
|----------------------|----|--------------------|
| Your mercy is great. | | 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



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



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

| MINISTERS | All People of First Lutheran Church |
|------------------------|---|
| PASTOR | The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman |
| PASTORAL INTERN | Logan McLean |
| PROGRAM STAFF | 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 |
| MUSICIANS | Mary Dontje, Susanna Ojakangas, Andy Frey, Doug Frey, and Michael |
| | Fuchs, singers; Kristin Sande, violin; Byron Klimek, cello |
| VIDEOGRAPHER | Sam Weston |
| VIDEO EDITOR | 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.

