



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Sexuality and Holy Living

November 8, 2020

10:30 Service of the Word

What is a human body? A collection of atoms that is “alive”? A shell that carries our souls? Different philosophies have answered these questions differently over the millennium. In Paul’s writing to the Corinthians he tells them that a body is a temple of the Lord. His thinking calls on us to treat our bodies with respect, and also treat others bodies with the same respect. Ultimately a body is God’s dwelling place.

Welcome to worship today!

We are worshipping both in-person and online today. Everything you need for worship is included in this bulletin. For those in the sanctuary please remember to fill out the attendance sheet so that contact tracing can be done if necessary.

† GATHERING †

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge that we fall short of what we have been created to be.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Holy One,

C: we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn Lord, Be Glorified

(For music turn to Hymn 744 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. In my Life, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord,
be glorified today.**
- 2. In our song, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified;
in our song, Lord,
be glorified today.**

**3. In your church, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified;
in your church, Lord.
be glorified today.**

**4. In your world, Lord,
be glorified, be glorified;
in your world, Lord,
be glorified today.**

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, Music: Bob Kilpatrick

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

God of all, with wonderful diversity of languages and cultures you created all people in your image. Free us from prejudice and fear, that we may see your face in the faces of people around the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good..

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 90:1-12 (read responsively)

A: You have been our haven, Lord,
from generation to generation.

**C: Before the mountains existed,
before the earth was born,
from age to age you are God.**

A: You return us to dust,
children of earth back to earth.

**C: For in your eyes a thousand years
are like a single day:
they pass with the swiftness of sleep.**

A: You sweep away the years
as sleep passes at dawn,

**C: Like grass that springs up in the day
and is withered by evening.**

A: For we perish at your wrath,
your anger strikes terror.

**C: You lay bare our sins
in the piercing light of your presence.**

A: All our days wither beneath your glance,
our lives vanish like a breath.

**C: Our life is a mere seventy years,
eighty with good health,
and all it gives us
is toil and distress;
then it breaks
and we are gone.**

A: Who can know the force of your anger?
Your fury matches our fear.

**C: Teach us to make use of our days
and bring wisdom to our hearts.**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

[Paul writes] “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not

know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.”¹⁷ But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.¹⁸ Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself.¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?²⁰ For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (1 Corinthians 2:12)

C: Alleluia. We have received not the spirit of the world, but that Spirit that is from God. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Matthew 12:46-50

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁴⁶While [Jesus] was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him. ⁴⁷Someone told him, “Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” ⁴⁸But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” ⁴⁹And pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us
(For music see Hymn 707 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Lord of glory, you have bought us
with your lifeblood as the price,
never grudging for the lost ones
that tremendous sacrifice;
and with that have freely given
blessings countless as the sand
to the unthankful and the evil
with your own unsparing hand.**

2. **Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you
gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness
melt our thankless hearts of stone
till our cold and selfish natures,
warmed by you, at length believe
that more happy and more blessed
'tis to give than to receive.**

3. **Wondrous honor you have given
to our humblest charity
in your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to me."
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry-
in the least, your face we view,
saying by your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you."**

4. **Lord of glory, you have bought us
with your lifeblood as the price,
never grudging for the lost ones
that tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly,
hope, to stay our souls on you:
but, oh, best of all your graces,
with your love our love renew.**

Response to the Word

A: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

A: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

A: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *(Jude 20)*

A: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(Jude 21)*

A: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!** *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with messages of Christ's peace.

✠ PRAYER ✠

Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings.

Holy Peacemaker, give peace to our conflicted nation. Quell all attempts at violence and halt the desire for retribution. Cure our nation from prejudice of every kind. Teach us how to abide together as one diverse people. Restore families and friendships torn apart by political differences. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

Holy God, rouse us to prayer and praise, both when we gather for worship and when we cannot. Be with the missionaries we support: the Rev. Matthew Nickloff and the Rev. Karen Anderson. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

Holy Protector, bless the observance of Veterans Day. Bring armistice to areas of conflict and keep safe the military who serve in harm's way. Give to all the armed forces a dedication to defend the common good. Heal the wounds, both physical and emotional, experienced by active and retired service members. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

Holy Healer, bring health and wholeness to those who are sick, those who live with chronic pain, and the thousands who daily contract COVID-19. Console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Protect those living in resettlement camps. Uphold medical care workers, especially in third-world countries. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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**

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: Nurturing God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Bless you and lead you into the ways of truth and life.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn God Be with You Till We Meet Again
(For music see Hymn 536 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

Refrain

**Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again**

**2. God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain***

**3. God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain***

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904; Music: William G. Tomer, 1833-1896

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**



campbell

"Do you have anything with moral fiber?"

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