



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK WORSHIP

September 2, 2020 - 6:00 PM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

(We sing three times.)

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia!**

OPENING DIALOGUE

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits
who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;
who satisfies your desires with good things.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Let us pray.

Thank you, Creator, for all forms of governments and leaders around the world. Lead them as they determine how best to govern in these uncertain times. Let this be a time of care, not fear. Unite them and us in this time where we are seeing that borders mean nothing. Form their leadership and decision-making with mercy, compassion, and wisdom. Please be with all of the emergency responders, doctors and nurses, and others whose service is essential. We are grateful for all those who stock the shelves at the grocery store and help keep things as normal as possible. Cover all those who are risking their own health to save others. Protect them physically and emotionally. Guide their hands and give them wisdom. Protect their families as they spend extended time away from home. In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.

^{7:45}Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, “Why did you not arrest him?” ⁴⁶The police answered, “Never has anyone spoken like this!” ⁴⁷Then the Pharisees replied, “Surely you have not been deceived too, have you? ⁴⁸Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? ⁴⁹But this crowd, which does not know the law—they are accursed.” ⁵⁰Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them, asked, ⁵¹“Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?” ⁵²They replied, “Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee.” ⁵³Then each of them went home, **8:1** while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, ⁴they said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. ⁵Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” ⁶They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹She said, “No one, sir.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

“Let the stones fall from our hands!”

Pastor Jim Parham



1 When pain of the world sur - rounds us with dark - ness and de -
 2 We see with . . fear and trem - bling our ach - ing world in
 3 The church is a ho - ly ves - sel the liv - ing wa - ters
 4 We praise you . . for our jour - ney and your a - bun - dant



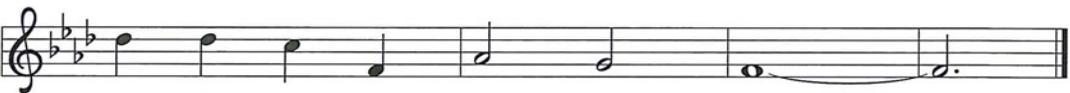
spair, when search - ing just con - founds us with
 need, con - fess - ing to each oth - er our
 fill to nour - ish all the peo - ple, God's
 grace, your sav - ing word that guid - ed a



false hopes ev - 'ry - where, when lives are starved for mean - ing and
 waste - ful - ness and greed. May we with stead - fast car - ing the
 pur - pose to ful - fill. May we with hum - ble cour - age be
 strug - gling hu - man race. O God, with all cre - a - tion, your



des - ti - ny is bare, we are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 hun - gry chil - dren feed. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 o - pen to God's will. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and
 fu - ture we em - brace. We are called to fol - low Je - sus and



let God's heal - ing flow through us.
 let God's jus - tice flow through us.
 let God's Spir - it flow through us.
 let God's chang - es flow through us.

A DIALOGUE OF REMEMBRANCE

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

Let us pray.

O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry; When I have work, help me to remember the jobless; When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all; When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer, And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency; bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help; By word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.

Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty and merciful God, bless, preserve and keep us, this night and forevermore.

Amen.

Acknowledgments

Portions of this service from “Prayers for families affected by the coronavirus” published by Canadian Foodgrains Bank: A Christian Response to Hunger (<https://foodgrainsbank.ca>). The full text of the service can be found at: <https://foodgrainsbank.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Prayers-for-families-affected-by-the-coronavirus.pdf>.

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