

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ST/JOHN'S



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Sunday, August 23, 2020

9:30 am

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

PRELUDE

+ Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

There Is a Line of Women

There is a line of women, extending back to Eve,
whose role in shaping history God only could conceive,
and though, through endless ages, their witness was repressed,
God valued and encouraged then through whom the world was blessed.

So sing a song of Sarah to laughter she gave birth,
and sing a song of Tamar who stood for women's worth,
and sing a song of Hannah who bargained with her Lord,
and sing a song of Mary who bore and bred God's Word.

There is a line of women who took on powerful men,
defying laws and scruples to let life live again,
and though, despite their triumph, their stories stayed untold,
God kept their number growing, creative strong and bold.

So sing a song of Shiphrah with Puah in her hand,
engaged to kill male children they foiled the king's command,
and sing a song of Rahab who sheltered spies and lied,
and sing a song of Esther, preventing genocide.

There is a line of women who stood by Jesus' side,
who housed him while he ministered and held him when he died,
and though they claimed he'd risen their news was deemed suspect
till Jesus stood among them, his womanly elect.

So sing a song of Anna who saw Christ's infant face,
and sing a song of Martha who gave him food and space,
and sing of all the Mary's who heeded his requests,
and now at heaven's banquet are Jesus' fondest guests.

Music: English Traditional, Text by John L. Bell

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 THE DAY

Let us pray.
O God, with all your faithful followers of every age,
we praise you, the rock of our life.
Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Child,
that we may gladly minister to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

+ **Word** +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,

my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

A reading from Romans.

¹I appeal to you therefore, siblings, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Dearest Jesus, at your word, we have come again to hear you.
Let our thoughts and hearts be stirred, and in growing faith be near you.
As the promises here given, draw us ever t'ward your heaven.

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom

+ **Meal** +

OFFERTORY MUSIC

The offertory time is an opportunity to receive the gift of music and to reflect on how we might practice gratitude and generosity toward one another. With gratitude, we find solace during this time by seeing goodness in the face of despair, hope in the midst of anxiety, and joy in the midst of fear. One aspect of practicing gratitude and generosity is stewarding the financial resources in our care. If you would like to make a gift to the ministry of the church, you may visit stjohnswilmette.org/give to donate online. You may also write a check made out to St. John's Lutheran Church and mail it to 1235 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091. St. John's is deeply grateful for the generosity of our members and supporters, which allows us to be generous to others through our ministry.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father/Mother/Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

+ **Sending** +

CHARGE

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

BLESSING

In the name of Creator, † the Christ, and the Holy Spirit,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

For All Your Brave Disciples

For all your brave disciples,
who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given;
to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness,
proclaimed your pow'r to save.

O God, for saints and servants,
those named and those unknown,
in whom through all the ages
your light of glory shone,
we offer glad thanksgiving
and fervent prayer we raise
that, faithful in your service,
our lives may sing your praise.

All praise to God All-loving!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise to God the Spirit,
who binds the church as one!
With saints who went before us,
with saints who witness still,
we sing glad alleluias
and strive to do your will.

Words adapted from "For All the Faithful Women," ELW 419, by Pr. Allison Bengfort.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

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IN OUR PRAYERS

- † Pastor Bob Stout, former pastor of the Abudayeh family, in hospice care
- † Cam Wise, for physical and emotional health
- † Ken Kastman, healing from broken ribs after a fall
- † Janet Rassenfoss and Alan Swanson, on the birth of their first grandchild, Molly Francis Wilka, on 7/6/20
- † The family and friends of Bob Anderson who died 6/8/20
- † The family and friends of Matt Dossa, nephew of Jim Dossa, who died 6/7/20
- † Pastor Mike Flowered and family as they mourn the death of Mike's mother, who died on 6/12/20
- † Chad Johnson, recovering from a bike accident on 5/30/20
- † The family and friends of Helene Tadros, Olga Domchenko's sister, who died 4/6/20, and especially for William Sciarrino, Helene's caretaker
- † Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing
- † Sylvia Cushing, cousin of Olga Domchenko, in need of healing
- † Doris Regan, mother of Jan Wendel & Sharon Regan, recovering from cancer surgery
- † Janet Witt, cancer diagnosis
- † Michael Rager, brother of Christi Wise, in need of healing
- † Virginia Milnikel, broken arm
- † Bob Oakes, recovering from hospitalization
- † Lani Miller
- † Doug Peters, managing cancer and recovering from surgery
- † The family and friends of Jean Olan, cousin of Bill Kaspar, who died 6/11/20
- † Linda Bengfort, mother of Pastor Allison, ongoing back pain
- † Greyson Nester
- † Margaret (Maggie) Oxland
- † Marty Anderson
- † Linda Basnik, wife of Chad Johnson, in need of healing
- † Ellie Basnik, mother-in-law of Chad Johnson, cancer diagnosis
- † Ross Johnson, brother of Chad Johnson
- † The family of Paul Escamilla, friend of Elias & Stephanie Abudayeh
- † Sydney Johnson, her work
- † Mark Voosen
- † Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- † Ed Price, friend of Sarah Rink
- † Jodi Kretzman, friend of Peter Knobel
- † Jessica Sandoval, friend of the Radde family
- † Fred Rudolphi, friend of Bill Kaspar, in need of healing
- † Steve Aschbacher, friend of Bill Kaspar, in need of healing
- † the officers of the Rogers Park police district

SERVING TODAY

<i>Preaching & Presiding Minister:</i>	The Rev. Allison Bengfort
<i>Music Director & Pianist:</i>	Dr. Robert McConnell
<i>Cantor:</i>	Hannah McConnell
<i>Ministers of the Word:</i>	Jim Dossa Cindi Rachowicz
<i>Virtual Usher:</i>	Luke Rasmussen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW Outdoor Contemplative Service

We are now gathering for a socially-distanced, contemplative worship service on Saturday evenings at 5:00 pm in the beauty of the outdoors! The new service structure includes 10 minutes of contemplative prayer (silent, sometimes guided meditation) as well as scripture, discussion, and communion. We gather on the grass on the Park Avenue side of the church building, and attendees are asked to bring their own chairs or blankets to sit on, their own communion elements, and their own mask to be worn at all times. Upon arrival, all attendees must participate in a pre-screening process, which includes a touch-free temperature check, a verbal screening for symptoms, and collection of information for contact tracing purposes. Those who would like to participate in the service virtually may do so via our regular worship Zoom link.

Poor People's Campaign Local Cluster Meeting

Join our local cluster on Monday, August 24th at 7:00-8:15 pm as we continue to ground ourselves in our understanding of the Poor People's Campaign. This meeting will focus on the "We Must Do MORE Campaign" (Mobilizing, Organizing, Registering, and Educating People for a Movement that Votes), an expansive effort of base-building, voter registration and protection, town halls and forums, and nationally coordinated days of action. This is a great opportunity to build relationships with local PPC folks, learn about upcoming actions, and get involved. [Register here](#), and you will immediately have access to the Zoom link.

Soup Kitchen Donations Needed

We have an upcoming Soup Kitchen on Sunday, August 30th. As with so many things in this time of Covid, Soup Kitchen is being done differently this year. The goal is to eliminate as much person-to-person contact, while still serving our community. Instead of making and serving meals indoors at St. Paul's, each sponsoring church is asked to buy prepared meals from a list of local restaurants that are working with Soup Kitchen to supply meals at about \$5 to \$7 per meal. St. Paul's is then bagging up the meals and handing them out at a table outside of the church. They are requesting that no more than three volunteers come from each church. Therefore, we are asking for donations of money, rather than food and time. About \$400 will cover what is needed. Not only is this getting food to our community, but it is supporting our local restaurants. If you would please make a donation to St. John's designated for Soup Kitchen, it would be so much appreciated. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

9:30 AM

Online Worship with Children's Message

THURSDAY

12:00-1:00 PM

Men's Group Online

7:00-8:30 PM

Rooted in Relationships Team Meeting

SATURDAY

5:00 PM

Outdoor Contemplative Service

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

9:30 AM

Online Worship with Children's Message

ST/JOHN'S

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