

# Worship in the time of COVID-19

## An order of worship for Sept 27, 2020

### The Season After Pentecost

**Prelude by Shirley Bergman**

**Welcome by Pastor Kristen**

#### **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you**

#### **Prayer of the Day**

**God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

#### **Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9**

1To you, O Lord,  
I lift up my soul.

2**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

3Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

4**Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.**

5Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

6**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

7Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

8**You are gracious and upright, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

9You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

**Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10**

**2** You were dead through the trespasses and sins **2** in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. **3** All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. **4** But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us **5** even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— **6** and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, **7** so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **8** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— **9** not the result of works, so that no one may boast. **10** For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**Sermon****Instrumental Music****RITE OF CONFIRMATION****PRESENTATION**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these people*, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of *their* baptism.

Parents: We present *Katie Clark, Jacob Leach, and Maisie Niichel*, who *desire* to make public affirmation of *their* baptism.

*The presiding minister may continue with prayer.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for *these sisters and brothers*, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called *them* to yourself,  
enlightened *them* with the gifts of your Spirit,  
and nourished *them* in the community of faith.

Uphold your *servants* in the gifts and promises of baptism,  
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Confirmands:* I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Confirmands:* I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Confirmands:* I renounce them.

*The presiding minister addresses the confirmands and the assembly.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## **AFFIRMATION**

Pastor: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**Confirmands: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God, do you promise to support *these sisters and brothers* and pray for *them* in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.*

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

*The blessing may be repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:*

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in name the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm *her/his* faith, guide *her/his* life, empower *her/him* in *her/his* serving, give *her/him* patience in suffering, and bring *her/him* to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

*Those making public affirmation stand.*

Pastor: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**Congregation: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

*The confirmands may be seated.*

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, using waves or peace signs.*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sins like racism, sexism, and hatred permeate our cultures and institutions, change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Grant wisdom and

compassion to leaders at every level of government, that they might make decisions that work for the good of all people. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

During this time of pandemic, when everything feels strange and difficult, help us to feel your presence. We pray especially for those who suffer from Covid-19, for those who mourn the loss of loved ones who have died from Covid-19, and for those who suffer from the economic effects of the pandemic. Heal the sick, comfort those who mourn, and guide the work of researchers and medical personnel who are seeking treatments, cures, and vaccines. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community; make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Watch over Katie, Jacob, and Maisie, as they affirm their faith in you. We give you thanks for the blessings they have brought and will continue to bring to our congregation. Bless them on this, their Confirmation day, and continue to guide their steps, that they might follow you throughout their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness**

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
 who preached good news to the poor,  
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
 Amen.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Friends of Jesus, receive nourishment for your journey. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Receive the body of Christ, given for you.  
Receive the blood of Christ, shed for you.

*All are invited to eat and drink the communion elements they brought with them. If desired, individuals from the same household may serve each other.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

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.**

### **Blessing**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.  
God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

And have fun doing it.

**We will! Amen!**

### **Postlude by Shirley Bergman**

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# *Congratulations to our 9th graders who are Confirmed in the faith today!*

**Katie Clark** is the daughter of Tracy and Eric Clark. For her Confirmation verse, she has chosen John 3:16-- "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."

**Jacob Leach** is the son of Christa and Travis Leach. For his Confirmation verse, he has chosen Jeremiah 29:11-- "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

**Maisie Niichel** is the daughter of Katey and Jeff Niichel. For her Confirmation verse, she has chosen Isaiah 41:10-- "Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will hold you with my righteous right hand."

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Scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

## **Check Register Balance 9/25/2020**

\$15,217.26

Operating Bank Loan: \$5,112.27

PPP Loan Balance: \$16,984

## **Offering: 9/20/2020**

Current: \$1,170

Benevolence: \$32

Improvement: \$85

Lutheran Disaster Relief: \$200

Lutheran World Relief: \$32

Memorial: \$50

Church Insurance: \$7,539.95

## **EWALU Fall Work Day Oct. 24**

Volunteers are invited to Camp EWALU to help with a variety of outdoor service projects. Day starts at 9:00 a.m. Sack lunch provided. Please RSVP to [camp@ewalu.org](mailto:camp@ewalu.org) or call 563-933-4700.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Lutheran World Relief School Kits:** It is that time of year again when stores have an abundance of school supplies for the coming academic year and parents are busy shopping for these supplies. The Sunday newspapers have sale flyers with their Back to School specials. Although the coming school year may be a bit

different from what we are accustomed to, the need for school supplies remains. The same is true for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. For many years, American Lutheran has prepared many backpack school kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief which we would like to continue again this year. Despite the coronavirus pandemic the need for these does not go away. Therefore, we are asking for donations of supplies to meet a goal of 25 backpacks. The requested items needed are:

- 70 sheet wide or college-ruled spiral bound notebooks (4 are needed per backpack)
- 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with cms on one side & inches on the other (1 per backpack)
- Small pencil sharpener (1 per backpack)
- Pair of blunt scissors (1 per backpack)
- Blue or black ballpoint pens (no gel ink) (5 needed per backpack)
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons (1 per backpack)
- 2 ½ inch pencil eraser (1 per backpack)

Heavy-duty cotton fabric is needed to make the backpacks. If you would like to donate money toward the purchase of this material, you may do so by placing funds in an envelope referencing the Lutheran World Relief School Kit project and given to Mike Waring, Financial Secretary. If more money is collected than needed for the school kits, it will be directed to purchase needed materials for the LWR quilts that are made each year. The Quilters of our congregation will be making the drawstring backpacks in which to place the school kits.

**Since the church building is currently closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, supplies can be dropped off at the home of Mary Adams, 1215 Hawley Street, Jesup. A table will be set up in the garage just inside the walk-in door for drop off. She can be reached at 827-3365 or (319) 269-3478 if you need to call.**

Items will be needed by October 15th and will be packed up and taken to the Fall In-Gathering scheduled for November 7th. Thank you for your continued support of this annual fall project.