**Worship Plan for Sunday, October 11, 2020**

Lectionary 28

Proper 23

19th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Four

Sunday, October 11, 2020

**Introduction to the day**

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus’ parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Greeting**

Welcome to worship today, we are glad to have you with our Faith Lutheran Church community. I'm Pr. John Barton and I will be leading our service today.

This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! Praise Christ, no cloudy day, no isolation, no fear can darken the light which Jesus shines in our lives!

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.**

**Announcements**

Monday: Exec. 1pm

Tuesday:

Wednesday: Anti-harassment training for council members and Sunday school volunteers 12pm

Thursday: Worship and Music meeting for Ushers and Greeters, 9:30am. Stewardship 1:30pm

Other: Finally, our hope is to resume in person services at a limited capacity next Sunday, October 18th. This is dependent on whether our county continues to allow in door services, which is somewhat up in the air because of COVID case numbers. But if we stay in the tier where we are able to, services will resume on the 18th while adhering to state health guidelines. Those include social distancing at all times including in the pews, wearing facial covering at all times, limiting attendance to 25% of capacity, and others which you will be receiving in the guidelines we send out to you by mail. To adhere to the 25% policy, we will have the congregation go into two groups, alternating Sunday to attend. Group 1 will start next week and will be those with the last name starting with letters A-K. Group 2, those with last names starting with letters L-Z, will stay home on the 18th and will attend the next Sunday, the 25th, while Group 1 stays home. The groups will then continue to alternate. As a reminder if you do not wish to attend in person services, that is completely fine, we want you to do whichever worship experience makes you most comfortable and where you feel safe. Finally, if you feel sick at all or think you may have been exposed to COVID, we urge you to stay home until you have confirmed you are negative for the disease.

If you have any questions, please call the office or refer to the guidelines being sent out to you.

For more information and a complete monthly calendar, contact the church office. Thank you!

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**First Reading:**

A reading from Isaiah.

 1O Lord, you are my God;
  I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
 for you have done wonderful things,
  plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
 2For you have made the city a heap,
  the fortified city a ruin;
 the palace of aliens is a city no more,
  it will never be rebuilt.
 3Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
  cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
 4For you have been a refuge to the poor,
  a refuge to the needy in their distress,
  a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
 When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
  5the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
 you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
  the song of the ruthless was stilled.

 6On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
  a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
  of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
 7And he will destroy on this mountain
  the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
  the sheet that is spread over all nations;
  8he will swallow up death forever.
 Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
  and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
  for the Lord has spoken.
 9It will be said on that day,
  Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
  This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
  let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:**

A reading from Philippians.

1My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

  2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
  4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

  8Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel:**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Blessing of the quilts**

Let us pray. O Lord our God, maker of all things, you have blessed us with so many gifts—a good eye for color, the ability to make fine stitches, the skills to develop ever-new and exciting patterns. Now we offer the fruits of our quilters’ labors, the quilts we have made, to you.

We dedicate these quilts to your service, trusting that your love will go wherever each item is sent, making it more than just a piece of material, a collection of items—making each piece we have created an expression of love.

There is no way for us to imagine the power and effect an act of love can have on a person’s life—how you can use something as small as a quilt to radiate your love from us to the world.

May these be used in your service and become blessings for all those who receive them.

Lord, we know that all we possess comes from your loving hand. Give us grace to honor you with all of our being: draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours.Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people. Amen.

**Creed**

**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.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Prayers of Intercession**

With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill (especially). Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community (local ministries can be named). Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Prayer List**

Gloria Anderson;  Nancy Blackmer; Julie Chevraux; Vicki Crow; Bob Eury;Sonja Gautsche; Jim & Joni Gray; Francis Key; Iver & Lois Linge; Pat Myers; Ron Neumen; Tina Peteroski & Peggy Wharton & family; Jan Simon; Amy Sinclair; Earlean Wagner; Mary Yturralde; the homebound; the Emergency responders; and those grieving and anticipating surgery/tests.

If you would like your name added to our prayer list, please contact the church office.

**Prayer in Pandemic**

Merciful God, you give us the grace that helps in time of need. Almighty God, your love never fails. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence.

God of health and healing, surround us with your steadfast love and lighten our burden. We especially pray for those affected by COVID-19 and those who have lost loved ones.

We also hold in prayer our healthcare providers, first responders, essential workers, and all who continue to serve so that others can maintain safety. By the power of your Spirit, free us from distress and give us a new mind and a heart made whole in the name of the risen Christ.

Amen

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering**

At this time, we remember that the giving of our offering is an authentic part of worship.

In this time of the offering, in place of passing around the offering plate, we ask that you continue to mail your offerings to the church or to drop them off during office hours. We will emphasize this time of offering as a time for us to also give thanks for God’s gifts. One of those gifts is our community of Faith Lutheran Church and the gift of keeping us together through the work of the Holy Spirit and the work of our Faith family. So thank you for the phone calls to each other, for your prayers for each other, for all the ways you have been giving your gifts to God’s church and one another.

Thank you so much!

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Meal**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**INSTRUCTING OF COMMUNION AT HOME**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care:

As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread,

be present with those who partake and share your word and sacrament

at home. We remember you in the celebration of the sacrament and remember that you unite us as the body of Christ whether we are together in-person or together while apart.

In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament,

and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence

through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

At this point in the service, please bring bread and drink for communion, preferably wine or grape juice but it can also be water.  If you have communion elements gathered, I'd invite you to share with anyone present, and if you do not, know that the restoration and healing found in this sacrament still reaches you wherever you are. During our time of worshiping apart, we will be instituting communion at home. These Words of Institution bless the eucharistic elements where you are, trusting in the all-reaching power and grace of God to provide the complete and total sacrament to us in these extraordinary times where we are unable to come to Christ's table together in-person. Once you have your eucharistic elements of bread and drink, and after the words of institution, you may commune yourself along with anyone else in your household saying:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

And so,

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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.

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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Communion**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Music Reminder**

Be sure to watch our separate prelude and postlude music selections if you haven't already. Those videos can be found above and below this worship video on our website.

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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