

St. Paul's and St. Matthias Lutheran Churches

Sunday Worship



**Sunday, June 26, 2022
Lectionary 13, Year C**

Introduction

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

Welcome

Prelude: “Let Us Break Bread Together” - Renfrow

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

ALL: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

All recite together

we confess that we have not followed your path

but have chosen our own way.

Instead of putting others before ourselves,

we long to take the best seats at the table.

When met by those in need,

we have too often passed by on the other side.

Set us again on the path of life.

Save us from ourselves

and free us to love our neighbors.

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins

but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

ALL: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Lift High The Cross" - ELW #660

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

A Reading from the first book of Kings

¹⁵Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

¹⁹So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again; for what have I done to you?” ²¹He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah and became his servant.

The Word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 16

Women: Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."

Men: ²All my delight is in the godly that are ¹in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.
³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

Women: ⁴I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.
⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

Men: ⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

Women: ⁸I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

Men: ¹⁰For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.
¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God

Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.”

⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON: “He Set His Face to Go to Jerusalem” – Pr. Anne

Hymn of the Day: I Want Jesus To Walk With Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

Apostles' 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Please respond: Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

A Sign of Peace and Reconciliation

The peace of Christ be with you always.
ALL: And also with you.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please be seated.

OFFERING

All that we have, physically and spiritually comes from God.
Our offering, of time, talent and treasure is a response to our awareness
that God is the creator of all things and that we are redeemed
through life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Your support of this ministry and the faith life of this community is
appreciated.

Offering Prayer

God of abundance:
you have set before us a plentiful harvest.
As we feast on your goodness,
strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,
in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Dialogue:

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

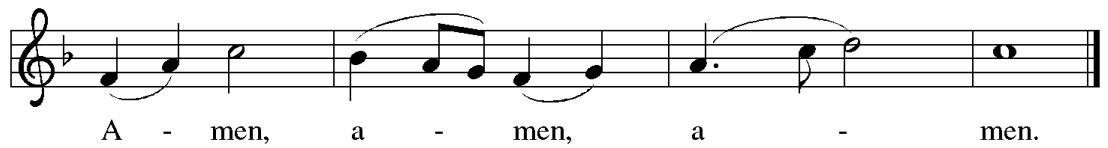
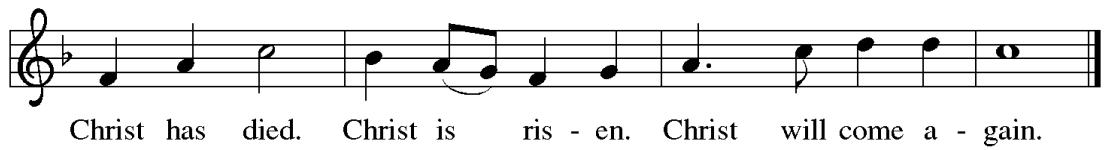
ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



LORD'S PRAYER

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

Communion Hymn: Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal ELW 464



1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.
2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.
3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—
4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.



Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.
for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.
Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: JESUS, FEED US, Ray Makeever

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Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God,

through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,

that all may come to know your love.

This we pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

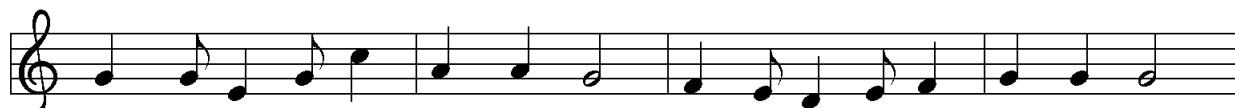
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing

The God of peace,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ – ELW #674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Refrain
Je - sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a - bound!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
Thanks be to God.

Announcements:

There will be no fellowship after worship this morning.

Please join us for Vicar Teresa's ordination this afternoon at 2:00. We have taken a collection to purchase a 12 -volume set preaching commentary, "Feasting on the Word" as a gift from both congregations. If you would like to contribute to this gift, please see Lenny B after the service today.

Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM on Zoom using the business link. All are welcome. This is a wonderful way to allow the Word for Sunday to speak into our entire week. Come bring your insights, your questions, and a desire to hear God speak to YOU.

Vision Fund – Final Report

The Vision Fund drive was a huge success. We received \$14,925 in pledges. The original donor will round up the match adding another \$15,000. With the original \$25,000 gift, we have raised \$54,925. The first project will be new video/sound equipment. Conversations with vendors to support this project begin this coming week.

Thank you to our anonymous initial donor whose gift generosity sparked the "vision" for this fund drive. Thank you to all who made pledges and donated to the fund. And thank you to the Stewardship Committee from both congregations who worked together on this project.

Expect an email this week with a detailed update on the work of the Together In Mission Task Force and their work to blend our congregations.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

is a Reconciling in Christ congregation

Worshipping with our siblings in Christ from
St. Matthias Lutheran Church

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