

Pentecost 20

October 18, 2020

9:30 a.m.



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
Lancaster, PA

Welcome to worship!

Welcome to worship in the time of both COVID-19 and fire recovery. Having worship in the narthex presents challenges that are unique. The most noticeable challenge is the one of spacing. While families may sit close together, the effort to maintain distance with others must be attempted as much as possible. That includes, if necessary sitting in the entrance area between the sets of doors.

Within the liturgy, we will maintain the following practices for the sharing of the peace and the distribution of the sacrament of Holy Communion.

When sharing the peace of Christ, remain at your seat, make eye contact with someone and wave and say “peace.” Your smile is visible beneath your mask.

As regards the Holy Communion, the Pastor and Assisting Ministers will bring the sacrament to you. The pastor will drop the host into your hand, followed by the assisting minister with the chalice of wine, followed by the other assisting minister with the receptible for your used cup. Those persons not receiving communion are welcome to receive a blessing.

At the conclusion of the service, if you took a paper bulletin, keep your bulletin with you, and exit the building by way of the designated exit doors. The pastor will greet you outside. Because of the spacing requirements if you wish to have a conversation with someone, *do so outside*.

Thank you for your attendance and consideration as we all work to keep each other healthy.. As the weeks go by you may notice some other changes in order to make our Sunday experience both worshipful and as safe as possible.

Stay well.

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Music

The Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand.

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. Make us humble, forgive our sin, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Friends in Christ, God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The Apostolic Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Children's Message

The children remain at their seat as the pastor shares a message with them.

First Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from First Thessalonians: ¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon

Silence for reflection follows.

The Prayers of the Church

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

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, Gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

The Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Without leaving your seat offer a wave to your neighbor, sharing God's peace, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

Music as the Table is Prepared

Please stand.

The Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

P 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.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Fraction

P Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

C Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices open table hospitality. Baptized communicants of other Christian denominations, of all ages, are welcome to receive the sacrament. Today we will bring the sacrament to you. The pastor will drop the host into your hand, followed by the assisting minister with the chalice of wine, followed by the assisting minister with the receptible for your used cup. Those persons not receiving communion are welcome to receive a blessing.

After all have communed, please stand for the prayer and blessing.

The Post Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

The Post Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Blessing

P 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. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sending Music

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. We will!

Postlude

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The flowers today are sponsored by
Frank Rosol in memory of Bill Filling, Jr.

Acknowledgments

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Special Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, October 18
following worship

The purpose of the meeting is to act upon two recommendations of the Congregation Council. The Council is recommending approval of contracts for the following projects:

- 1) Replacement of a portion of the roof on and near the Spirit Center

- 2) Upgrade of the lighting in the Sanctuary

The agenda and copies of the recommended bids will be emailed to you and/or mailed to you.

Voting members may attend in-person or via Zoom. If you wish to attend via Zoom, please contact the church office to indicate your attendance by this method. The log-in code will be sent a couple days before the meeting.

Please mark your calendar in order to participate in this important meeting.

Thank you.

The Gratitude Tree

*Celebrate this years' stewardship pledge campaign
by putting a leaf on the Gratitude Tree. Take a "leaf"
and write down one thing you are grateful for at
Holy Spirit and attach it to a branch of the tree.*

The tree will be up through October.

And pledges are still being accepted.

We are grateful to Linda Rogers for creating the Gratitude Tree.



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