

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

June 7, 2020



## GATHERING

### WELCOME

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

### CONFESSING RACISM: A LAMENT FOR THE CHURCH

As church, we confess the sin of racism and condemn racist rhetoric and the ideology of white supremacy. **God, have mercy.**

As church, we confess, repent, and repudiate the times when this church has been silent in the face of racial injustice. **God, have mercy.**

Racism is deeply ingrained within the ELCA, a predominantly white church. It is deeply embedded within the individual congregations whose members continue to foster stereotypes and support policies that actively hurt people of color. **God, have mercy.**

As church, we declare that the enslavement of black bodies and the removal of indigenous peoples established racism in the United States, a truth this nation and this church have yet to fully embrace. **God, have mercy.**

Rooted in slavery, racism is manifested through the history of Jim Crow policies, racial segregation, the terror of lynching, extrajudicial killings by law enforcement, and the disproportionate incarceration of people of color. **God, have mercy.**

As church we lament the institutional racism of discriminatory treatment within the call process; inequitable compensation of clergy of color; racial segregation; divestment from black communities and congregations; systemic policies and organizational practices; and a failure to fully include the gifts of leadership and worship styles of black people, indigenous people, and people of color. **God, have mercy.**

Confessions are empty promises without meaningful actions—actions that are grounded in prayer, education, and soul-searching repentance. The sin of racism separates us from one another. Though we trust that we are reconciled to God through Christ's death and resurrection, we seek such life-giving reconciliation with one another. As we repent, let us not turn back to ideologies that promote white supremacy. We trust that God can make all things new. **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

## 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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1--2:4a

A reading from Genesis.

1In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. 4And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

6And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” 7So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. 8God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

9And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. 10God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together God called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 11Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. 12The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. 13And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, 15and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. 16God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. 17God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, 18to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” 21So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. 22God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. 25God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

26Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

27So God created humankind in the divine image, in the image of God humankind was created; male and female God created them.

28God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living

thing that moves upon the earth.” 29God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. 30And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. 31God saw everything that had been made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2:1Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2And on the seventh day God finished the work that had been done, and God rested on the seventh day from all the work that had been done. 3So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that God had done in creation.

4aThese are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 8

LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

**You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:**

all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,

**and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

A reading from Second Corinthians.

[Paul writes:] 11Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

13The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL:**

**Matthew 28:16-20**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw Jesus, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Thomas Mutz

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our  
salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered  
death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no  
end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the  
prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the  
dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gathered into the mystery of the Trinity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's  
creation.

God of community, you form us as your church. Guide our bishops, pastors, and deacons as they  
lead the church in these trying times. With all the baptized, may they be strengthened to share the  
good news of Jesus Christ, and in prayer and action, strive for peace and justice in all the earth. Hear  
us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of creation, you called everything into being. Sustain this world with your renewing care. Instill  
in us a deeper wonder for the created world you've called good, and a greater humility for our place  
within it. Kindle in us a creative and resilient spirit as we care for the earth and its creatures. Hear us,  
O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of counsel, all authority belongs to you. Encourage leaders to seek wisdom and respond with  
courage and compassion to those most in need. We pray for community leaders across the US in  
this time of unrest, especially in Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York City, Los Angeles, Atlanta, and  
Washington DC. Further the work of advocates who pursue justice in often ignored communities.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of care, you created us in your image; we are your beloved children. May we recognize your likeness in one another. We pray for all mourning the death of your beloved child, George Floyd. Hold in your loving embrace all experiencing trauma, fear, uncertainty, and loss (*especially*). Protect vulnerable children and adults from violence or neglect; provide what is needed for those lacking access to food, shelter, and other services. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, you accompany us in sickness and suffering. Bring relief to all afflicted with the coronavirus and all those isolated now more than ever, especially those in prison or care facilities. Strengthen caregivers, health workers, and all whose work ensures the safety and well-being of others. Console, heal, and nourish all in need this day, especially Debra, Suzanne, Diane, Shane, Norma, Robert, Dorothy, Linda, Jack, Raymond, Steve, Frances, Khloe, Adrienne, Marie, Elfren, Jimmy, Johnny, Don, Dorthy, Meredene, Jerry, Enedina, Cody, and Norma. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of connection, you call us to make your presence known. Accompany people of faith as they nurture relationships in new ways. Where the sin of racism fractures our relationships, bring repentance and reconciliation. Free us for the difficult work ahead in our congregations and communities. Open our hearts for attentive listening so that our places of connection are filled with your Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of compassion, you comfort us in our grief with the promise of the resurrection. We give you thanks for the saints of all time and in our lives, especially Patricia Coffee. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.  
Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into

darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.  
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.  
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.  
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.  
Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

The holy Three, the holy One increase your hope, strengthen your faith,  
deepen your love,  
and + grant you peace. **Amen.**

### **HYMN**

### **DOXOLOGY**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honor all people;  
love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## FOR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

*Ill, Injured or Otherwise Struggling:* Debra Buehring, Suzanne Dietzel, Diane Dziuk, Shane Edens, Norma Foreman, Robert Fudge, Ada Garza, Dorothy Gross, Linda Henning, Jack Hockey, Raymond Jenkins, Steve Kelly, Frances Kempe, Khloe Martinez, Adrienne Meyer, Marie Meyer, Elfren Moczygamba, Jimmy Moore, Johnny Perez, Dorthy Rippstein, Don Roberts, Meredene Shockome, Jerry Vajdos, Enedina Vasquez, Cody Zaiontz, and Norma Zamzow

*For those in the military:* Nick Adams, Anthony Alvarez, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Dominic Cruz, Isaac Cruz, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, James Skinner, Chris Sustaita, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva

*Our condolences and prayers for the family and friends of Patricia Coffee.*

## WELCOME!

We have all come to St. Paul's by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul's. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us. If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance, please signal an usher

