

WORSHIP, AUGUST 23, 2020

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
whose love does not end,  
whose faithfulness never tires.  
Amen.



Trusting in the unfailing mercy of God,  
let us confess our sin.

**Ministering God,  
you always act as a neighbor to your people,  
never passing us by in our distress, but coming  
ever closer when we are in need.**

**When you have invited us to declare who you  
are, we have, too often, remained silent.**

**We confess that we have created idols,  
re-making you in our own image, seeing you as  
we would like you to be.**

**We have failed to listen patiently to you call,  
seeking instead to find easy answers.**

**You have called us to be the solid foundation of  
your people, but in our hurry to be right, we  
have caused others to stumble.**

**We have not trusted the pleadings and  
yearnings of the Spirit, relying instead on our  
own expectations and experience.**

**We have sinned in thought, word, and deed.**

**But you work through those who are rock and  
stumbling block. You forgive us, choose us, and  
use us, calling us into service for our neighbor  
and the world.**

Siblings in Christ, the promise of the Gospel is yours.

It is given to you freely.

Hear the good news:

Your sins are not held against you.

You are forgiven.

You are loved.

For God does not fail to minister to us.

**Amen.**

*KYRIE (sung by a cantor and minister)*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God,

**with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

## **READING**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Matthew 16:13-20**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

## **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 THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

Gracious God, you are well-spring of life. Your unfailing love never ceases. We praise you for your care poured out on the world.

Especially we thank you for...

This opportunity to gather in your name. For the guidance and direction of public health professionals...

University leaders, seeking to do what is best for the community even when it is difficult...

The healing and hope-giving gifts of Word and Sacrament...

The continued progress of the new Lutheran Center building and the All Things New Campaign...

Those who have been neighbors to us...

*(For whom or what else shall we give thanks?)*

As you have acted as a neighbor to us, you call us to love one another. We dare to pray for others, O God, claiming

your boundless love for all, and committing ourselves to care for those around us in Jesus name.

Especially we pray for...

All who work and study at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln: grant us the courage to navigate new models of instruction, the will to follow protocols to keep everyone safe, and the wisdom to care appropriately for those in need...

Those who are new to campus: help them to find their places, and to build relationships that will help to sustain them in the days and weeks to come...

All who feel called to serve the needs of their neighbor in this time of crisis: give them discernment of appropriate action and grant them joy in the task of sharing your love...

Persons of color who continue to disproportionately experience consequences of the pandemic...

Those who work to help and heal amidst the COVID-19 outbreak: give their hands the power of mending and their lips words of comfort and peace...

Leaders of this nation and the leaders of the world: give them wisdom to make sound decisions for the future of our society, our species, and our planet...

Churches and campus ministries as they wrestle with how best to serve your people throughout this time...

*(For whom or what else shall we pray?)*

You give us the peace that passes all understanding. In this time when need is great and distance is necessary, empower us to be your hands and feet in the world, that we might work the peace for which the world thirsts through our acts of kindness, generosity, and love. Work your peace in our hearts, O God, that we might see its fruits borne out in our love of others.

**Amen.**

**OFFERING** *(At the LC, we believe that God calls us to live generously. As we take this time of offering, consider the following prompts: 1. I give thanks to/for... 2. I lift up prayers for... 3. I seek to be generous this week by...)*

*(As you are able, we also invite you to make financial gifts to the [LC--@Lutheran-Center--through Venmo.](#))*

**PEACE** *(utilizing peace signs rather than handshaking)*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (*sung by a cantor only*)

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

#### **BENEDICTION**

God is with you as in-person classes begin tomorrow.  
God is with you as you walk across campus.  
God is with you as you reconnect with friends,  
and enter into new relationships.  
God is with you amidst this pandemic:  
in moments of isolation,  
in moments of disappointed expectation,  
in moments of justified frustration.  
God is at work within you as you love and serve your  
neighbor.  
God is with you.  
God is blessing you.  
God is ministering to you.  
**Amen.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, you who are both rock and stumbling block,  
declaring the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**