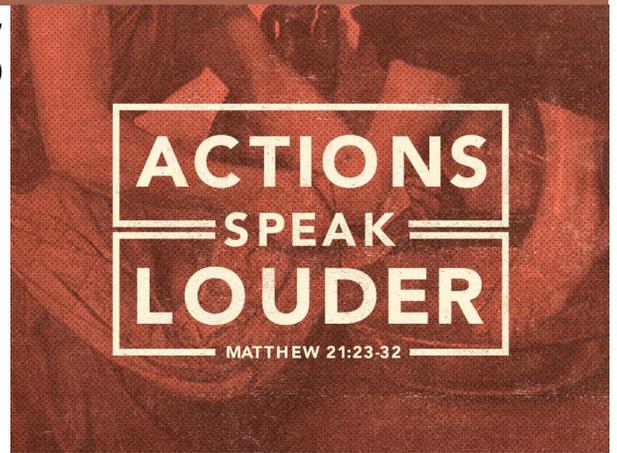




Pentecost 17
Sunday, September 27, 2020



Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**

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

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 pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

Dearest Jesus, at your word we have come again to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in glowing faith be near you as the promises here given draw us wholly up to heaven.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded till your Spirit breaks the night, filling us with light unclouded. All good thoughts and all good living come but by your gracious giving.

Radiance of God's glory bright, Light of Light from God proceeding, Jesus, send your blessed light; help our hearing, speaking, heeding, that our prayers and songs may please you, as with grateful hearts we praise you.

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, praise to you and adoration! Grant us what we need to most: all your gospel's consolation while we here on earth await you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Greeting & Prayer

Prayer of the Day

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.

God of love, giver of life, **you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Scripture Readings

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

L: Word of God; word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness’ sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

L: Word of God; word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L: Word of God; word of life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 21st Chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

Message: Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Hymn of the Day: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth
and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go to the child,
the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

Prayers

P: Lord, in your mercy. C: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

Blessing

Mothering God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn: In Christ Called to Baptize

In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace and gather a people from each land and race.
In deep, flowing waters, we share in Christ's death, then, rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.

In Christ called to banquet, one table we share, a haven of welcome, a circle of care.
Although we are many, we share in one bread. One cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our head.

In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach the life giving gospel; God's love we will teach.
By grace may our living give proof to our praise in costly compassion reflecting Christ's ways.

Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love, for you are within us, around us, above.
Equip us for service with gifts you bestow. In Christ is our calling. In Christ may we grow.



PRAYERCARE Rose Anderson, Gail Johnson & the rest of David Clow’s family, Yutaro Nakanishi, the family of Annie Lindgren, the families of the St. Croix Falls students: McKinley Erickson and Kegan Koshiol, the family of Andrew Dorsing, Cheryl Slattengren, the family of John Solheim, the family of Gail Peterson, Cheri, Cara, Emily, Tammi, Shawna, Aunt Bobby, Aunt Barb, Uncle Jerry, Amanda’s foster Mom, Amanda’s Dad & brother Mike, Vicki Ford, the family of Gordon Fick, Dave Danberg, Marilyn Burnes, Geri Swenson, the family of Andy Swenson, the family of Duane Rudquist, Don Grover, Caroline Greene, Nia Glynn, Doris Fors, Ann Rue, Helen Swanson, Jolene, Maggie, the Hackmann Family, Rose Anderson & the family of Joe Mallery, Dan Peterson, Julie Valez, the family of Margaret Dale, Marcielle Rogers, Cleo Stomberg and the family of Brian Maloney, Leo Nelson, and Caren Carlson.

Announcements

Outdoor Worship: We plan to continue Outdoor Worship on Sunday mornings into October, weather permitting. Please watch your email and we will keep you updated. Our website will also be updated weekly.

Intergenerational Faith Formation: Please check out the Faith Formation Table for the following:

- Autumn Gratitude Tree: Pick up directions & supplies to make your own gratitude tree!
- Prayer Partner Sign Up: Our goal is for each youth member to have someone sign up to be their prayer partner. Please check out the list for any youth that do not yet have a partner. Thank you!
- Food Donation Collection Bin (Goal for our church: 1000 lbs)
- Food4Kids Backpack Program Donation Bin

Next week: Game Day - watch for an email this week with more details!!!

Steeple Repair Project: The steeple repair project starts Monday, Sept. 28th and will take about 3 weeks to complete. We will try to update with pictures as the repair is in progress.

Steeple Fundraiser: Saturday, October 10th 8am to 9:30am. Breakfast Sandwich To Go with coffee or water. This event will be drive through, similar to the last fundraiser. Free will offering. We’d appreciate if you pre-ordered your sandwich for food accuracy! We have included an insert for you that lists out the information we need for your order! Please hand this back to Angie, email your order to parishc@tflutheran.org or call the church office at 651-465-5265. If you have any questions, call Angie in the church office! Maple Syrup will also be for sale: 1/2 Pint \$6, Pint \$10, Quart \$17 and Half Gallon \$30.

Confirmation Class: If you are interested in attending Zoom Online Confirmation Classes and have not received a letter regarding dates/times, please call Angie in the office for more information. Classes start in October.

Check out our website: www.tflutheran.org for more information about our church.

Need Pastoral Care?

Call Pastor Dwight 651-829-4884

Have questions or in need of something?

Church Office: 651-465-5265

Office Hours:

Monday 8:30am - 1:30pm

Tuesday 8:30am - 12:30pm

Thursday 8:30am - 11:30am

Email: parishc@tflutheran.org
(this email is checked daily)

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Wendy Szczepanski	Craig Loen
Miriam Flysjo	Becky Hulden
Rose Anderson	

Video Credits

Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Toni Brekke: Organ

Becky Hulden: Vocals

Becky Hulden: Lecter

Carli Linngren: Photography

Angie Linngren: Photography, Filming & Editing