



October 18th, 2020 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: God is Here! ELW #526 verses 1 & 4

- 1 God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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Greeting

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

Confession and Forgiveness

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.**

Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

First Reading Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **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.

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

Sermon – Pastor Michael Short

Hymn of the Day - Lift Every Voice and Sing ELW #841 verse 1 sung by Keith Holmquist

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938

Profession of Faith — Apostle's 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

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. Let the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Be with all those affected by hurricanes, floods and wildfires. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, let your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those with the symptoms of Covid-19, those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt, especially: Bill, James, Holly, Geraldine, Bruce and Janet, Karen, David, Peter, Linda, Dennis, Carolyn, Ken, Steve, Marcy, Stan, Sean and Jodi, Family of William Nisbit. Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. Let your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration be known. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion & Words of Institution

Let us pray using the words our Savior gave 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.

Special Music: Come, O Sinners, Poor and Needy

Communion Hymn: Here is Bread ELW #483 *refrain only, verses sung by soloist, Margaret Markey*

Refrain

In this bread there is healing
In this cup is life forever
In this moment by the Spirit
Christ is with us here

Offering

Closing Blessing

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

Dismissal

Live in God's peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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Please remember in your prayers this week:

Bill Davis (hospice)
James Smith (health - cancer)
Holly Schabacker (recovery from illness)
Geraldine Williams (health & recovery)
Bruce and Janet Fuller (comfort and loss due to fire)
Karen Freiheit (health)
David Heise (health)
Peter Berhow (health - cancer)
Linda Garrison (health & recovery)
Dennis Rasmussen (healing)
Carolyn Rasmussen (general health)
Ken Westrud (health)
Steve Pecsenye (health)
Marcy Karsten (health)
Stan Gudmundson (health - cancer)
Sean & Jodi Grafton (mourning the death of Ray Grafton)
Family of William Nisbit

Today's Worship Assistants

Vocalists: Margaret Markey, Keith Holmquist
Ushers: Mike Kolstad, Paul Berhow
Assisting Minister: Julie Palubicki
Acolytes: Cale Bratland and Kallen Pehler

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CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship

Each Sunday at 9:30 AM

We ask you to continue to follow the guidelines you have come accustomed to following: wearing a mask / physical distancing, and sanitizing your hands. Masks are optional outside and in cars but WILL BE mandatory whenever we are inside of the building. No social time will be offered before or after worship. Singing will be limited, but as much as possible we will offer special music to enhance your worship experience. Thank you for doing your part to help others stay safe and well.

For those who are not yet comfortable joining us for in-person worship, we will continue to offer a worship service online at 9:30am each Sunday morning. We will be live streaming when we are inside the building and premiering a video on Sundays when we are outside. Currently we do not have the ability to live stream from outside and provide the quality of service you have come to expect.

Watch for Service Bulletins to be sent via E-news on Saturdays, you will also be able to access them on our website to follow along during services under Worship -Sermon Links. At Central, we are looking to provide as many ways to view our church services from home as possible. We will be live streaming services on our Church Facebook page which can also be found on our Church website.

We also have our Sunday services broadcast on television; Mondays at 7 PM on Spectrum #986; and Wednesday at 5 PM on HBC #20.

All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1

On All Saints Sunday, during our 9:30 am service, we will honor and remember the saints who have passed. The Book of Names will be displayed; please pause to write the names of loved ones to be remembered during the prayers through Nov. 22. If you prefer, you may email the names of your loved ones to aharvey@centrallutheranchurch.org or call the office.

Volunteers Needed! Farmer to Family Food

Box Give-Away

**Friday, Oct. 23rd,
9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Central Lutheran Church will partner with Winona Volunteer Services (WVS) to unload and distribute 400 combo boxes of protein, produce and dairy. Volunteers are needed to help unload boxes, distribute to those in need, and help direct traffic flow. To sign up go to our website at centrallutheranchurch.org and click > Serve > Local Community to find the link or call the church office.



Sunday School 2020-2021

Zoom on over to Virtual Sunday School!

Sunday mornings, 9:00 am, starting Oct. 11

We will send links and information weekly. Virtual Sunday School will include a story, music and a craft. We hope to see you there!



Harvest Contributions

We will gladly accept flowers, pumpkins, gourds, etc, to decorate the area around the altar! If you have something you would like to donate, please contact the office.

Christ in Our Home Devotionals Available at the Church

If you are needing a new devotional they are now available for pick-up at the church, just ring the doorbell. You can also call Kim in the office at (507) 452-5156 if you feel more comfortable having one brought out to you in your car or have no means of transportation.

Food Donations

No one should go hungry. Food banks can not do it alone and you can help! Central Lutheran Church is still accepting food donations, you can call and a staff member will come out and grab them from you or ring the doorbell and we will let you in to drop your donated food in the bin. Thank you for contributing to this very important mission!

Support Central's Mission

Just as there are multiple ways to participate in worship at Central (in-person or on-line, live or video), there are multiple ways for you to support the mission and ministry of Central.

Here are the options for you to consider:

- Put your weekly or monthly contribution in an envelope and mail it to the church - Central Lutheran Church, 259 W. Wabasha St. - Winona, MN, 55987.
- Consider signing up for direct deposit of your contribution by either:
 - a. Using the electronic payment setup through the church
 - b. Using the bill-pay option offered by your own bank.
- Going to www.CentralLutheranChurch.org website and click on the give tab.
- Or bring it with you whenever you come to worship in-person.

Thank you for all the ways you support the ministries of Central. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Central Needs your Voice

During this time of virtual worship as well as in-person, we want to include as many voices as possible in worship. At the same time, we know some of you are still hesitant to venture out or to come into the church building. You can record your lesson or song using a smartphone or computer, camera, or voice recorder. We have a camera and a voice recorder to lend you if that would be helpful to you. Your participation is not limited to reading lessons or singing songs. If you play an instrument (piano, guitar, bells, or kazoo). Maybe you like telling stories and would like to record one for the children. You and your family could take turns reading the petitions of the prayers of the people.



The possibilities are only limited by your imagination. So if you are willing to add your voice to the service by participating virtually in the service, please contact Pr. Michael or Aleah.

Preparing Holy Communion at Home

The service of Holy Communion will be included in our worship services, both in-person and online. So if you are at home and plan on participating in sharing communion with us, here are a couple suggestions to prepare a place for this holy meal.



- Create a sacred space by laying out a napkin or placemat.
- Place a candle in that space and light it as the worship service begins
- Prepare the meal by placing some bread and a small cup of wine on a place.
- You may use gluten free or a cracker in place of bread. Also grape juice in place of the wine.

Then as we share Holy Communion in worship, you may serve each other at home.

If you have small children who do not yet participate in the meal, don't forget to bless them at this time. Maybe even invite them to bless each other or to bless you as well. A blessing might be as simple as 'Jesus loves you' or whatever words you might want to use.

WELCA Board

South Lawn of CLC - 2nd Monday of Each Month, 9:00 am - 10:00 am

CLC's WELCA Board meets regularly the second Monday of each month 9 am - 10 am. The Board meets outside (*socially distanced*) on the south lawn of the Church. In the case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held in Grace Hall.

Christmas Sale and Luncheon Cancelled

The members of WELCA regret that we will be unable to hold our annual Christmas Baked Goods and Lefse Sale, as well as the Christmas Luncheon this year, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We look forward to sharing the tastes of the Christmas Season with you in 2021!

150th Anniversary Cookbook

Calling all cooks! Bakers too! While you are planning that Thanksgiving dinner—or dreaming of how it tasted “in olden days” before the COVID-19 shutdown... why not get out those best-ever, mouth-watering family recipes and send copies to the church cookbook?! Yay! Then you’ll have them all in the book so you can find them.

See, it's like this: We know you can find recipes for almost anything online. (But is it as special as Grandma's?)

We know you may not be getting together all at once this year. (Keep grandma safe at home. But we also want to create a tangible keepsake for this 150 year birthday of Central Lutheran Church. (Why “Central”?) And though so much has changed in the world outside our doors, our bellies still need filling and we still cook with love.

So! Please take 10 minutes to copy a favorite and get it to Grace Schueler. Need ideas? Christmas baking, breakfast, kid stuff, gluten-free, potlucks, graduation, parties, picnics, bake sale, eggless, dairy-free, vegetarian, cooking for threshers, the feast, beverages, foreign cuisine, etc.

Do it now, while you think of it! We need it by Thanksgiving in order to get them all typed up in time. A virtual hug to you if you get it to us sooner! Send us as many as you want before Thanksgiving. If you have a comment on the source or history around the food, share that too. We'll try to include as much as we can.

Send recipes and your name and how to reach you to:

Gracelyn@hbci.com

or

Grace Schueler
125 Sunnyside Lane
Winona, MN 55987

We will not publish your contact information. We need it so we can ask you proof-reading questions.



**Sunday, November 1st
at 2:00 am**



Graphics by Teaching in the Tongass, Clever Chameleon, Melonheadz, & K4 Fonts

Your gifts make a difference!

Offering Income October 1st - 12th: \$15,218.00

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