



Sunday, October 11, 2020 - 9:00 am
Theme: The Book of Acts – The Holy Spirit Moves!
Drive-In/ Outdoor/ Online Worship
Usher: Dave H., Reader: Neil G.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome & Worship Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of

Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn: “Raise A Hallelujah” Pat Clearence

I raise a hallelujah in the presence of my enemies
I raise a hallelujah louder than the unbelief
I raise a hallelujah my weapon is a melody
I raise a hallelujah Heaven comes to fight for me

Chorus

I’m gonna sing in the middle of the storm
Louder and louder you’re gonna hear my praises roar
Up from the ashes hope will arise
Death is defeated the King is alive

I raise a hallelujah with everything inside of me
I raise a hallelujah I will watch the darkness flee
I raise a hallelujah in the middle of the mystery
I raise a hallelujah fear you lost your hold on me

Bridge

Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)
Sing a little louder (Sing a little louder)

Bridge

Sing a little louder in the presence of my enemies
Sing a little louder louder than the unbelief
Sing a little louder my weapon is a melody
Sing a little louder Heaven comes to fight for me
(REPEAT)

Sing a little louder

I raise a hallelujah

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

First Reading: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

3 he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Acts 21:27 - 22:10

27 But just when the seven days were about to come to an end, some Jews from the province of Asia saw Paul in the Temple. They stirred up the whole crowd and grabbed Paul. 28 "People of Israel!" they shouted. "Help! This is the man who goes everywhere teaching everyone against the people of Israel, the Law of Moses, and this Temple. And now he has even brought some Gentiles into the Temple and defiled this holy place!" (29 They said this because they had seen Trophimus from Ephesus with Paul in the city, and they thought that Paul had

taken him into the Temple.) 30 Confusion spread through the whole city, and the people all ran together, grabbed Paul, and dragged him out of the Temple. At once the Temple doors were closed. 31 The mob was trying to kill Paul, when a report was sent up to the commander of the Roman troops that all of Jerusalem was rioting. 32 At once the commander took some officers and soldiers and rushed down to the crowd. When the people saw him with the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. 33 The commander went over to Paul, arrested him, and ordered him to be bound with two chains. Then he asked, "Who is this man, and what has he done?" 34 Some in the crowd shouted one thing, others something else. There was such confusion that the commander could not find out exactly what had happened, so he ordered his men to take Paul up into the fort. 35 They got as far as the steps with him, and then the soldiers had to carry him because the mob was so wild. 36 They were all coming after him and screaming, "Kill him!" 37 As the soldiers were about to take Paul into the fort, he spoke to the commander: "May I say something to you?" "You speak Greek, do you?" the commander asked. 38 "Then you are not that Egyptian fellow who some time ago started a revolution and led four thousand armed terrorists out into the desert?" 39 Paul answered, "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of an important city. Please let me speak to the people." 40 The commander gave him permission, so Paul stood on the steps and motioned with his hand for the people to be silent. When they were quiet, Paul spoke to them in Hebrew: 22 "My fellow Jews, listen to me as I make my defense before you!" 2 When they heard him speaking to them in Hebrew, they became even quieter; and Paul went on: 3 "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up here in Jerusalem as a student of Gamaliel. I received strict instruction in the Law of our ancestors and was just as dedicated to God as are all of you who are here today. 4 I persecuted to the death the people who followed this Way. I arrested men and women and threw them into prison. 5 The High Priest and the whole Council can prove that I am telling the truth. I received from them letters written to fellow Jews in Damascus, so I went there to arrest these people and bring them back in chains to Jerusalem to be punished. 6 "As I was traveling and coming near Damascus, about midday a bright light from the sky flashed suddenly around me. 7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul! Why do you persecute me?' 8 'Who are you, Lord?' I asked. 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you persecute,' he said to me. 9 The men with me saw the light, but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me. 10 I asked, 'What shall I do, Lord?' and the Lord said to me, 'Get

up and go into Damascus, and there you will be told everything that God has determined for you to do.'

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus again used parables in talking to the people. 2 "The Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a king who prepared a wedding feast for his son. 3 He sent his servants to tell the invited guests to come to the feast, but they did not want to come. 4 So he sent other servants with this message for the guests: 'My feast is ready now; my steers and prize calves have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!' 5 But the invited guests paid no attention and went about their business: one went to his farm, another to his store, 6 while others grabbed the servants, beat them, and killed them. 7 The king was very angry; so he sent his soldiers, who killed those murderers and burned down their city. 8 Then he called his servants and said to them, 'My wedding feast is ready, but the people I invited did not deserve it. 9 Now go to the main streets and invite to the feast as many people as you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, good and bad alike; and the wedding hall was filled with people. 11 "The king went in to look at the guests and saw a man who was not wearing wedding clothes. 12 'Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' the king asked him. But the man said nothing. 13 Then the king told the servants, 'Tie him up hand and foot, and throw him outside in the dark. There he will cry and gnash his teeth.'" 14 And Jesus concluded, "Many are invited, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Children's Sermon

Message

Hymn of the Day: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" ELW 807

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,

call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer:
"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Prayers of intercession: Response "Hear Our Prayer"

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving Dialog

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

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.

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.

(All take communion at the same time)

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion Blessing

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

St. Paul Lutheran Transition Prayer

God of hope,

We are treading the path of transition. We praise you and ask you to make straight our path.

As we seek to call a new pastor, surround and ground the Ministry Site Profile Team and paperwork, the Call Committee, and the Synod staff in your Holy Spirit.

Give the Pastor you are preparing for us clarity of call and joy in finding us. Sustain in this congregation, and in each of us, trust in your Holy Spirit, patience in the process, and generosity for the future of your church. Resolve any conflict and break down any barriers that remain among us.

Give us open minds and hearts as we welcome our new pastor and a new season of this congregation's ministry.

Through the abundant love of your Son, Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

Announcements

Blessing

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

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God

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*Raise A Hallelujah: CCLI Song # 7119315
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October 11, 2020 – News & Updates

Worship

- **Worship will continue to be outdoors through October**, weather permitting. The Council and COVID 19 Response Team met on October 4th to discuss where and how to worship as we move into the fall and winter months. We agreed to continue to meet outside through October. Please read Tyler's letter, which was mailed this week, for more information.

Education and Faith Formation

- **Family Devotions:** You can still sign up for weekly family devotions. While the general nature of the series is geared toward kids, we would love to have children of God of all ages join us. Devotions will be emailed or mailed weekly. Please email SundaySchool@sharingchristslve.org or call Melissa in the main office at 651-462-5212 to be on the distribution list and note if you would like the devotions via email or regular mail.
- **Sunday School: Today!!** Kids ages 4 years – 6th grade are invited to outdoor Sunday School immediately following worship on the following dates:
 - **October 25, 2020**
 - **November 8, 2020**If worship is cancelled due to weather, Sunday School will also be cancelled and rescheduled for the next week. For more information,

email Chris and Katie at SundaySchool@sharingchristslve.org or call the office at 651-462-5212.

- **Confirmation Class:** Confirmation Class meets each week on Wednesday at 6pm outside as long as the weather cooperates! A plan for a hybrid model is in the works.
- **Weekly Wednesday Bible Study at 1pm** in person, outside. In case of inclement weather, Bible Study will move inside to the Fellowship Hall and be on-line via Zoom.

Fellowship

- **Walking Club – Tuesdays at 7:00 am & 7:00 pm!** Meet in the church parking lot! For questions, please call AM Group Pat Clearence 651-285-9348, PM Group Brandy Timmons at 651-319-3255.

Service Opportunities

- **Building Cleaning:** Please sign up to clean our church building! Sign up at www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d48a9ad28a5fc1-church or call the office at 651-462-5212. Special COVID 19 cleaning instructions will be given to you.
- **Communications Team:** Do you have web design or other communications skills? Could you give a little time to your church? If so, please contact Pastor Sarah! pastor@sharingchristslve.org.
- **How can you serve on Sunday?** We need readers, ushers, hospitality ministers at the Hospitality Station. Please call Melissa 651-462-5212, or email admin@sharingchristslve.org to sign up.

Information

- The **SPLC COVID Response Team** Look for the completed Preparedness Plan at <https://www.sharingchristslve.org/covid-19-update.html>. If you have any questions for the Covid Response Team, email safety@sharingchristslve.org or call the office.
- **Office hours** are T, W, Th 9am-4pm and F 9am-12pm. Pastor Sarah and Melissa work remotely most days. You can reach Melissa at 651-462-5212 and Pastor Sarah at 517-902-3977. You can also email pastor@sharingchristslve.org and admin@sharingchristslve.org.

This week we are praying for:

Arnie	Jan B.	Karen R.'s Aunt
Vicki & Her family	Fran D.	Wendy & her mom
Amanda	Georgia B.	Fire & EMS professionals
Larry	Cyndi	COVID medical/frontline staff
Andre	Greg	Military members
Bob	Cahill	Chad O.
Bill C.	Pam H. & Family	Katie E. & Family
Frank	Paul	