

Immanuel Lutheran Church 122 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

212-289-8128 www.immanuelnyc.org www.facebook.com/ImmanuelLutheranChurchNYC

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

11 AM, Sunday, September 6, 2020

Setting One, LBW

WELCOME

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- @ Amen.
- P 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.
- G Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Stand/kneel

- P Most merciful God,
- we confess that we are in bondage 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.
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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 the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

The Entrance Rite

HYMN LBW 480 Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways

EVAN

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **G** And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the Highest

Pages 58-59

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sit

FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 33:7-11, RSV

The Lord GOD appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, the LORD— who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

7"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8If I say to the wicked, O wicked man, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. 9But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way; he shall die in his iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰"And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?' ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

A The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:33-40 (Read responsively, by whole verse)

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; I shall keep it with all my heart.

³⁵Make me go in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; give me life in your ways.

³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant, which you make to those who fear you.

³⁹Turn away the reproach which I dread, because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments; in your righteousness preserve my life.

SECOND LESSONRomans 13:8-14, ESV

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time,

A The word of the Lord.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 18:15-20, ESV

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th Chapter.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

f your brother sins against you, go A and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile

that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. 12The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

G Thanks be to God.

and a tax collector. 18Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

After the reading the minister may say: "The Gospel of the Lord."

© Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (Sit, after the invocation.)

SOLO, WOV 703

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

UNION SEMINARY

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

THE PEACE

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

Let us offer a sign of peace to our neighbors: "Peace be with you."

THE OFFERING

Donate now: Donate

Here are some other options for giving: Ways to Give

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (spoken)

- P The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Preface for Sundays after Pentecost

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

- Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
- EUCHARISTIC PRAYER III (This prayer is based on ancient models from the Liturgy of St. James, the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Apostolic Constitutions, the Roman Missal, and the Liturgy of St. Basil. Its only congregational response is at the end, "Amen," which the congregation is encouraged to say loudly and boldly as the principle Amen of the service. See 1 Corinthians 14:16.)
- P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

C Amen!

THE 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.

THE FRACTION (The Bread is broken)

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

- + Holy Communion is offered to all baptized Christians who continue in the faith of the Church. If you would like to receive the Eucharistic Wine, please receive the small glass by the top edge, trying not to touch the minister's fingers. After communing, place the small glass on the tray, upright if possible.
- → If you should desire to pray quietly before or while receiving the Holy Sacrament, as many Christians do, here is one of Luther's prayers for that purpose:

Lord, it is true that I am not worthy that you should come under my roof. Yet I am in need and desire your help and grace. So I come with no other plea except that I have heard the gracious invitation to come to your altar. I am unworthy, but you have assured me I shall have forgiveness of all sins through your body and blood which I eat and drink in this sacrament. Amen, dear Lord; your Word is true. I do not doubt it. Let happen to me whatever you say. Amen.

- + If you should desire to pray quietly after receiving the Holy Communion, here is a possible such prayer. It is based on a prayer of St. Basil the Great (329-379):
 - O Master, Christ our God: I thank you for all the good things which you have bestowed upon me, and for this partaking of your life-giving Sacrament. And I pray: keep me, my loved ones, and this congregation under your protection, and in the shadow of your wings. For you are the Bread of Life, the Fountain of holiness, the Giver of good things, and unto you we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
- + If you are home during this pandemic, worshiping online with us, here is a possible "Prayer for Spiritual Communion" lifted up in a recent *Forum Letter* (May 2020). *Forum Letter* is a respected Lutheran newsletter published by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN LBW 551 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

© Thanks be to God.

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- + NEW TO PRAYER LIST: Olga Beloded (John Imhof's wife), Serge Volpe (friend of Domingo Quilems), LyAsia and Lykelle Beltre, Susan Hermann (friend of Maria van der Merwe), Mary Ann Grant (Deirdre's mother), Jennie Dunn, Ann Chomko, Rob Moss, Paul Lee, Celia Cabrera, Steven Chin (Priscilla O'Carroll's brother), Luis Cartagena, John Bradosky (Bishop Emeritus of the NALC), David Kiehl, Ivan Sanchez (Luz Ortiz's brother), Caroline Magnotta (Ruth Wendland's granddaughter).