



Sunday, July 12, 2020 - 9:00 am

**Theme: The Book of Acts – The Holy Spirit Moves!
Drive-In/ Outdoor/ Online Worship**

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: “Who You Say I Am”

Who I am that the highest King would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh, His love for me
Oh, His love for me.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am

Free at last, HE has ransomed me, His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me.
Yes, He died for me.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am

In my Father's house there's a place for me
I'm a child of God, yes I am

I am chosen, not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are form me, not against me
I am who You say I am

I am chosen, not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are form me, not against me
I am who You say I am

Oh I am who You say I am

Yes, I am who You say I am

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God, yes I am
In my Father's house, there's a place for me.

I'm a child of God, yes I am

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.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ “My word is like the snow and the rain that come down from the sky to water the earth. They make the crops grow and provide seed for planting and food to eat. ¹¹ So also will be the word that I speak— it will not fail to do what I plan for it; it will do everything I send it to do. ¹² “You will leave Babylon with joy; you will be led out of the city in peace. The mountains and hills will burst into singing, and the trees will shout for joy. ¹³ Cypress trees will grow where now there are briars; myrtle trees will come up in place of thorns. This will be a sign that will last forever, a reminder of what I, the LORD, have done.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get ready and go south to the road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This road is not used nowadays.) ²⁷⁻²⁸ So Philip got ready and went. Now an Ethiopian eunuch, who was an important official in charge of the treasury of the queen of Ethiopia, was on his way home. He had been to Jerusalem to worship God and was going back home in his carriage. As he rode along, he was reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ The Holy Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to that carriage and stay close to it.” ³⁰ Philip ran over and heard him reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. He asked him, “Do you

understand what you are reading?” ³¹The official replied, “How can I understand unless someone explains it to me?” And he invited Philip to climb up and sit in the carriage with him. ³²The passage of scripture which he was reading was this: “He was like a sheep that is taken to be slaughtered, like a lamb that makes no sound when its wool is cut off. He did not say a word. ³³He was humiliated, and justice was denied him. No one will be able to tell about his descendants, because his life on earth has come to an end.” ³⁴The official asked Philip, “Tell me, of whom is the prophet saying this? Of himself or of someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak; starting from this passage of scripture, he told him the Good News about Jesus. ³⁶As they traveled down the road, they came to a place where there was some water, and the official said, “Here is some water. What is to keep me from being baptized?” ³⁸The official ordered the carriage to stop, and both Philip and the official went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip away. The official did not see him again, but continued on his way, full of joy. ⁴⁰Philip found himself in Azotus; he went on to Caesarea, and on the way he preached the Good News in every town.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus left the house and went to the lakeside, where he sat down to teach. ²The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it, while the crowd stood on the shore. ³He used parables to tell them many things. “Once there was a man who went out to sow grain. ⁴As he scattered the seed in the field, some of it fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some of it fell on rocky ground, where there was little soil. The seeds soon sprouted, because the soil wasn’t deep. ⁶But when the sun came up, it burned the young plants; and because the roots had not grown deep enough, the plants soon dried up. ⁷Some of the seed fell among thorn bushes, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸But some seeds fell in good soil, and the plants bore grain: some had one hundred grains, others sixty, and others thirty.” ⁹And Jesus concluded, “Listen, then, if you have ears!” ¹⁸“Listen, then, and learn what the parable of the sower means. ¹⁹Those who hear the message about the Kingdom but do not understand it are like the seeds that fell along the path. The Evil One comes and snatches away what was sown in them. ²⁰The seeds that fell on rocky

ground stand for those who receive the message gladly as soon as they hear it. ²¹ But it does not sink deep into them, and they don't last long. So when trouble or persecution comes because of the message, they give up at once. ²² The seeds that fell among thorn bushes stand for those who hear the message; but the worries about this life and the love for riches choke the message, and they don't bear fruit. ²³ And the seeds sown in the good soil stand for those who hear the message and understand it: they bear fruit, some as much as one hundred, others sixty, and others thirty."

The Gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Children's Sermon

Message

Hymn of the Day: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" ELW 608

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.
See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain

"Come home, (Come home,)
come home! (come home!)
You who are weary, come home."
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?

Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*

Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!

Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. *Refrain*

Prayers of intercession

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 in their cars)

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 Breakthrough Prayer

O God of hope and love,
Thank you for your people of St. Paul Lutheran Church.
Move us by the Holy Spirit to live for you alone.
Take us outside ourselves, make us open, and remind us that
you are our center and our purpose.
Break down barriers of anger, fear, grief, hurt, and whatever
else is holding me back from being open, and
holding us back as a congregation.
Use me to do your work.
Use each of us for the plans you have for your church.
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.

Liturgical texts and graphics copyright Augsburg Fortress License number SAS007053

Scripture is from the Good News Translation in Today's English Version- Second Edition

Copyright © 1992 by American Bible Society. Used with Permission.

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909

"Who You Say I am" is a song performed by Australian praise and worship group Hillsong Worship. Written by Reuben Morgan and Ben Fielding,



July 12, 2020 – News & Updates

- The SPLC COVID Response team is up and running! They research, evaluate, and make recommendations for safe and healthy use of the building, grounds, and personal interactions. See Covid-19 Updates on the website for more information. <https://www.sharingchristslove.org/covid-19-update.html>
- Due to the Stay Safe Minnesota Order, Pastor Sarah and Melissa continue to work from home most days. Beginning this week when you call the office phone number during regular business hours, your call will be forwarded to

Mellissa. The phone number is 651-462-5212. Office hours are T, W, Th 9am-4pm and F 9am-12pm. You can also email pastor@sharingchristslove.org and admin@sharingchristslove.org.

- A new Hospitality Station is available Sunday mornings. A limited number of masks, gloves, and individual, pre-packaged communion kits and bulletins are available for those who need them. Hand sanitizer is also available.
- If you have a reason to be in the building, please sign in/ out on the building sign in sheet located in the Narthex.
- Please join us for **Book of Acts Bible Study** Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f45a8ab22a7fc1-book>.
- We need volunteers to clean our church. Sign up is available on sign up genius here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d48a9ad28a5fc1-church>. One household per date.
- Please join us for Zoom Coffee Hour Sundays at 11:00 am, Zoom Bible Study on Sunday's readings is on Wednesdays at 12:00 pm

This week we are praying for:

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Arnie | Jan B. | Carrie R. |
| Vicki & Her family | Mitchell | Wendy & her mom |
| Amanda | Brian S. | Mgoli and Mtera parishes |
| Larry | Kim O. | COVID medical/frontline staff |
| Andre | Greg | Military members |
| Tilly E. | Jessica & her family | Law enforcement |
| Cyndi | Fran D. | Fire & EMS professionals |
| Bill E. | Katie E.'s mom | |