



Sunday, September 6, 2020 - 9:00 am
Theme: The Book of Acts – The Holy Spirit Moves!
Drive-In/ Outdoor/ Online Worship
Usher: Marc M., Reader: Kathie M., Hospitality: Zella O.

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: "Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suff'ring and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

Chorus

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

O the old rugged cross so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary

In the old rugged cross stained with blood so divine
A wondrous beauty I see
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true
Its shame and reproach gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where His glory forever I'll share

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.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

7 “Now, mortal man, I am making you a lookout for the nation of Israel. You must pass on to them the warnings I give you. 8 If I announce that an evil person is going to die but you do not warn him to change his ways so that he can save his life, then he will die, still a sinner, and I will hold you responsible for his death. 9 If you do warn an evil person and he doesn't stop sinning, he will die, still a sinner, but your life will be spared.” 10 The Lord spoke to me. “Mortal man,” he said, “repeat to the Israelites what they are saying: ‘We are burdened with our sins and the wrongs we have done. We are wasting away. How can we live?’ 11 Tell them that as surely as I, the Sovereign Lord, am the living God, I do not enjoy seeing sinners die. I would rather see them stop sinning and live. Israel, stop the evil you are doing. Why do you want to die?”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Acts 16:16-34

16 One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a young servant woman who had an evil spirit that enabled her to predict the future. She earned a lot of money for her owners by telling fortunes. 17 She followed Paul and us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God! They announce to you how you can be saved!” 18 She did this for many days, until Paul became so upset that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I order you to come out of her!” The spirit went out of her that very moment. 19 When her owners realized that their chance of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them to the authorities in the public square. 20 They brought them before the Roman officials and said, “These men are Jews, and they are causing trouble in our city. 21 They are teaching customs that are

against our law; we are Roman citizens, and we cannot accept these customs or practice them.” 22 And the crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas. Then the officials tore the clothes off Paul and Silas and ordered them to be whipped. 23 After a severe beating, they were thrown into jail, and the jailer was ordered to lock them up tight. 24 Upon receiving this order, the jailer threw them into the inner cell and fastened their feet between heavy blocks of wood. 25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was a violent earthquake, which shook the prison to its foundations. At once all the doors opened, and the chains fell off all the prisoners. 27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he thought that the prisoners had escaped; so he pulled out his sword and was about to kill himself. 28 But Paul shouted at the top of his voice, “Don't harm yourself We are all here!” 29 The jailer called for a light, rushed in, and fell trembling at the feet of Paul and Silas. 30 Then he led them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your family.” 32 Then they preached the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in the house. 33 At that very hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; and he and all his family were baptized at once. 34 Then he took Paul and Silas up into his house and gave them some food to eat. He and his family were filled with joy, because they now believed in God.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

15 “If your brother sins against you, go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back. 16 But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that ‘every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,’ as the scripture says. 17 And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector. 18 “And so I tell all of you: what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven. 19 “And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Children's Sermon

Message

Hymn of the Day: "Lord, you give the great commission" ELW 579

Lord, you give the great commission
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:

Refrain

With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community: Refrain

Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body, this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty: Refrain

Lord, you show us love's true measure:
"Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.

May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society: Refrain

Lord, you bless with words assuring:
"I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity: Refrain

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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September 6, 2020 – News & Updates

- **Family Devotions:** Sunday School is inviting the entire congregation to join us for weekly family devotions. Our Sunday School curriculum provider has provided us a fun and thought provoking devotional series. While the general nature of the series is geared toward kids, we would love to have kids of all ages join us. Devotions will be emailed or mailed weekly. Please email SundaySchool@sharingchristslve.org or call Melissa in the main office to be added to the distribution list and please note if you would like the devotions via email or regular mail.
- **Sunday School:** If you have a child who is between 4 years old and 4th grade and they are interested in participating in Sunday School for the 2020 - 2021 school year, please let Chris and Katie know by emailing your Child's name and age to SundaySchool@sharingchristslve.org. We are still working out what the format will end up being like (in-person/online). Additional information will be distributed in the coming weeks.
- **Sunday School** invites children from ages 4 through 4th grade to join us for an outdoor Sunday School lesson to be held on Sunday, September 13, 2020, immediately following the outdoor service. Please meet at the outdoor altar space. We do ask that children 5 and over wear masks and for everyone to practice social distancing. If the outdoor service is cancelled due to weather, we will reschedule for a later date. In addition to the lesson, we would like to have a brief meeting with the parents to discuss what Sunday School is going to look like for this fall.
- **Confirmation Class:** Parent and Student Orientation is September 9, 2020 at 6pm. We will meet outside at church. Confirmation Class meets each week on Wednesday at 6pm outside as long as the weather cooperates!
- **Weekly Wednesday Bible Study at 1pm** resumes in person, on the lawn September 9th. We'll keep meeting outside for as long as the weather cooperates!
- **Golden Opportunity: Last Chance!!** Don't forget to share what you are learning during these months of lockdown. From the silly to the meaningful and everything in between! All ages welcome! All entries will be shared anonymously. Please share yours at www.sharingchristslve.org
- **Communications:** 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.

- **Bring Your Own Picnic Nights - Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm outside at our church! The dates are: September 16, and 30th.** BYO picnic dinner, drink, mask, and a lawn chair or blanket and plan to sit physically distanced. Brandy Timmons at 651-319-3255 or at brandyhtimmons@gmail.com This event will be cancelled if it is raining.
- **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.
- **Bible Study – Isaiah: In the Days to Come...** Join Pastor Sarah and other curious minds to study the readings from Isaiah that we read during Advent. We meet via Zoom at **7:30pm on Wednesdays through September 23rd**. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d48a9ad28a5fc1-isaiah>. Or simply join us on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/528018344> Password: 5212. Or call: 312-626-6799. Meeting ID: 528 018 344 and Password: 5212.
- The **Finance Team** is currently looking for volunteers. Please contact Chris Timmons at treasurer@sharingchristsllove.org if you have questions or are interested.
- The **SPLC COVID Response Team** Look for the completed Preparedness Plan at <https://www.sharingchristsllove.org/covid-19-update.html>. If you have any questions for the Covid Response Team, email safety@sharingchristsllove.org or call the office.
- **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@sharingchristsllove.org to sign up.
- Please join us for **Zoom Coffee Hour** Sundays at 11:00 am. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/528018344> Password: 5212. Or call: 312-626-6799. Meeting ID: 528 018 344 and Password: 5212.
- **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@sharingchristsllove.org and admin@sharingchristsllove.org.

This week we are praying for:

Arnie

Jan B.

Karen R.'s Aunt

Vicki & Her family

Fran D.

Wendy & her mom

Amanda

Larry

Andre

Katie E.'s Family

Fire & EMS professionals

Georgia B.

Cyndi

Greg

Bob

Mgoli and Mtera parishes

COVID medical/frontline staff

Military members

Law enforcement