



Sunday, July 26, 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: "Sing Sing Sing"

(We will) sing sing sing
And make music with the heavens
We will sing sing sing
Grateful that You hear us
When we shout Your praise
Lift high the name of Jesus
What's not to love about You
Heaven and earth adore You
Kings and kingdoms bow down
Son of God You are the One
You are the One we're living for
You are the love that frees us
You are the light that leads us
Like a fire burning
Son of God You are the One
You are the One we're living for

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.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

5 That night the Lord appeared to him in a dream and asked him, "What would you like me to give you?" 6 Solomon answered, "You always showed great love for my father David, your servant, and he was good, loyal, and honest in his relation with you. And you have continued to show him your great and constant

love by giving him a son who today rules in his place. 7 O Lord God, you have let me succeed my father as king, even though I am very young and don't know how to rule. 8 Here I am among the people you have chosen to be your own, a people who are so many that they cannot be counted. 9 So give me the wisdom I need to rule your people with justice and to know the difference between good and evil. Otherwise, how would I ever be able to rule this great people of yours?" 10 The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this, 11 and so he said to him, "Because you have asked for the wisdom to rule justly, instead of long life for yourself or riches or the death of your enemies, 12 I will do what you have asked. I will give you more wisdom and understanding than anyone has ever had before or will ever have again.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Acts 10:1-6, 9-18, 23b-36, 44-48

There was a man in Caesarea named Cornelius, who was a captain in the Roman army regiment called "The Italian Regiment." 2 He was a religious man; he and his whole family worshiped God. He also did much to help the Jewish poor people and was constantly praying to God. 3 It was about three o'clock one afternoon when he had a vision, in which he clearly saw an angel of God come in and say to him, "Cornelius!" 4 He stared at the angel in fear and said, "What is it, sir?" The angel answered, "God is pleased with your prayers and works of charity, and is ready to answer you. 5 And now send some men to Joppa for a certain man whose full name is Simon Peter. 6 He is a guest in the home of a tanner of leather named Simon, who lives by the sea." 9 The next day, as they were on their way and coming near Joppa, Peter went up on the roof of the house about noon in order to pray. 10 He became hungry and wanted something to eat; while the food was being prepared, he had a vision. 11 He saw heaven opened and something coming down that looked like a large sheet being lowered by its four corners to the earth. 12 In it were all kinds of animals, reptiles, and wild birds. 13 A voice said to him, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat!" 14 But Peter said, "Certainly not, Lord! I have never eaten anything ritually unclean or defiled." 15 The voice spoke to him again, "Do not consider anything unclean that God has declared clean." 16 This happened three times, and then the thing was taken back up into heaven. 17 While Peter was wondering about the meaning of this vision, the men sent by Cornelius had learned where Simon's house was, and they were now standing in

front of the gate. 18 They called out and asked, “Is there a guest here by the name of Simon Peter?” 23 Peter invited the men in and had them spend the night there. The next day he got ready and went with them; and some of the believers from Joppa went along with him. 24 The following day he arrived in Caesarea, where Cornelius was waiting for him, together with relatives and close friends that he had invited. 25 As Peter was about to go in, Cornelius met him, fell at his feet, and bowed down before him. 26 But Peter made him rise. “Stand up,” he said, “I myself am only a man.” 27 Peter kept on talking to Cornelius as he went into the house, where he found many people gathered. 28 He said to them, “You yourselves know very well that a Jew is not allowed by his religion to visit or associate with Gentiles. But God has shown me that I must not consider any person ritually unclean or defiled. 29 And so when you sent for me, I came without any objection. I ask you, then, why did you send for me?” 30 Cornelius said, “It was about this time three days ago that I was praying[a] in my house at three o'clock in the afternoon. Suddenly a man dressed in shining clothes stood in front of me 31 and said: ‘Cornelius! God has heard your prayer and has taken notice of your works of charity. 32 Send someone to Joppa for a man whose full name is Simon Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner of leather, who lives by the sea.’ 33 And so I sent for you at once, and you have been good enough to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God, waiting to hear anything that the Lord has instructed you to say.” 34 Peter began to speak: “I now realize that it is true that God treats everyone on the same basis. 35 Those who fear him and do what is right are acceptable to him, no matter what race they belong to. 36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, proclaiming the Good News of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came down on all those who were listening to his message. 45 The Jewish believers who had come from Joppa with Peter were amazed that God had poured out his gift of the Holy Spirit on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speaking in strange tongues and praising God's greatness. Peter spoke up: 47 “These people have received the Holy Spirit, just as we also did. Can anyone, then, stop them from being baptized with water?” 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay with them for a few days.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

31 Jesus told them another parable: “The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man takes a mustard seed and sows it in his field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it grows up, it is the biggest of all plants. It becomes a tree, so that birds come and make their nests in its branches.” 33 Jesus told them still another parable: “The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A woman takes some yeast and mixes it with a bushel of flour until the whole batch of dough rises.” 44 “The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man happens to find a treasure hidden in a field. He covers it up again, and is so happy that he goes and sells everything he has, and then goes back and buys that field. 45 “Also, the Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man is looking for fine pearls, 46 and when he finds one that is unusually fine, he goes and sells everything he has, and buys that pearl. 47 “Also, the Kingdom of heaven is like this. Some fishermen throw their net out in the lake and catch all kinds of fish. 48 When the net is full, they pull it to shore and sit down to divide the fish: the good ones go into the buckets, the worthless ones are thrown away. 49 It will be like this at the end of the age: the angels will go out and gather up the evil people from among the good 50 and will throw them into the fiery furnace, where they will cry and gnash their teeth. 51 “Do you understand these things?” Jesus asked them. “Yes,” they answered. 52 So he replied, “This means, then, that every teacher of the Law who becomes a disciple in the Kingdom of heaven is like a homeowner who takes new and old things out of his storage room.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Children's Sermon

Message

Hymn of the Day: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ELW 618

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

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 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.

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Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer: Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.



July 26, 2020 – News & Updates

- The **SPLC COVID Response Team** is working on the COVID 19 Preparedness and Response Plan. In addition to outlining Phases of building reopening, it also covers procedures for building use, cleaning, staff, and volunteers. Please review the latest information on our website.
<https://www.sharingchristslove.org/covid-19-update.html>
- **Now, when you call the office phone number during regular business hours, your call will be forwarded directly to Melissa. The phone number is 651-462-5212.** Office hours continue to be T, W, Th 9am-4pm and F 9am-12pm. Pastor Sarah and Melissa work remotely most days. You can also email pastor@sharingchristslove.org and admin@sharingchristslove.org.
- **Sunday morning volunteers** are needed: readers, ushers, hospitality ministers at the Hospitality Station, and set up and take down. Please call Melissa 651.462.5212, or email admin@sharingchristslove.org if you are able to help.
- **Book of Acts Bible Study** is Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom. July 29th is the final session. We will look at Chapters 24 and 28. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/528018344> Password: 5212. Or call: 312-626-6799. Meeting ID: 528 018 344 and Password: 5212.
- Please join us for **Zoom Coffee Hour** Sundays at 11:00 am, **Zoom Bible Study** on Sunday's readings is on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/528018344> Password: 5212. Or call: 312-626-6799. Meeting ID: 528 018 344 and Password: 5212.

- **Golden Opportunity: Things We Are Learning in Lock Down.** Share with us what you've learned about in these 5 months! From the silly to the meaningful and everything in between! All ages welcome! Please share yours at www.sharingchristslove.org
- **COMMUNICATIONS TEAM!** Are you interested in joining a communications team for your congregation? Or are you interested in learning more about it? If so, please email Pastor Sarah pastor@sharingchristslove.org
- Please **sign in and out** on the building sign in sheet located in the Narthex if you are in the building for any reason.

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	Paul H.	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	Georgia B.