



**Sunday, September 20, 2020 - 9:00 am**

**Theme: The Book of Acts – The Holy Spirit Moves!**

**Drive-In/ Outdoor/ Online Worship**

**Usher: Dave H., Reader: Zella O., Hospitality: Darlene P.**

### **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 <sup>†</sup> 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: “Death Was Arrested”**

**Verse 1**

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin  
Lost without hope with no place to begin  
Your love made a way to let mercy come in  
When death was arrested and my life began

**Verse 2**

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains  
My orphan heart was given a name  
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance  
When death was arrested and my life began

**Chorus**

Oh Your grace so free washes over me  
You have made me new now life begins with You  
It's Your endless love pouring down on us  
You have made us new now life begins with You

**Verse 3**

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more  
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore  
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend  
When death was arrested and my life began

**Verse 4**

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross  
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost  
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand  
That's when death was arrested and my life began

**Bridge**

Oh we're free free forever we're free

Come join the song of all the redeemed  
Yes we're free free forever amen  
When death was arrested and my life began

### **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 and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants.  
Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment,  
and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and  
Lord.

**Amen.**

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

### **First Reading: Jonah 3:10-4:11**

10 God saw what they did; he saw that they had given up their wicked behavior.  
So he changed his mind and did not punish them as he had said he would.  
4 Jonah was very unhappy about this and became angry. 2 So he prayed, "Lord,  
didn't I say before I left home that this is just what you would do? That's why I did  
my best to run away to Spain! I knew that you are a loving and merciful God,  
always patient, always kind, and always ready to change your mind and not  
punish. 3 Now then, Lord, let me die. I am better off dead than alive." 4 The Lord  
answered, "What right do you have to be angry?" 5 Jonah went out east of the  
city and sat down. He made a shelter for himself and sat in its shade, waiting to  
see what would happen to Nineveh. 6 Then the Lord God made a plant grow up  
over Jonah to give him some shade, so that he would be more comfortable. Jonah  
was extremely pleased with the plant. 7 But at dawn the next day, at God's  
command, a worm attacked the plant, and it died. 8 After the sun had risen, God  
sent a hot east wind, and Jonah was about to faint from the heat of the sun  
beating down on his head. So he wished he were dead. "I am better off dead than  
alive," he said. 9 But God said to him, "What right do you have to be angry about  
the plant?" Jonah replied, "I have every right to be angry—angry enough to die!"

10 The Lord said to him, “This plant grew up in one night and disappeared the next; you didn't do anything for it and you didn't make it grow—yet you feel sorry for it! 11 How much more, then, should I have pity on Nineveh, that great city. After all, it has more than 120,000 innocent children in it, as well as many animals!”

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading: Acts 18:1-11**

After this, Paul left Athens and went on to Corinth. 2 There he met a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, for Emperor Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, 3 and stayed and worked with them, because he earned his living by making tents, just as they did. 4 He held discussions in the synagogue every Sabbath, trying to convince both Jews and Greeks. 5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul gave his whole time to preaching the message, testifying to the Jews that Jesus is the Messiah. 6 When they opposed him and said evil things about him, he protested by shaking the dust from his clothes and saying to them, “If you are lost, you yourselves must take the blame for it! I am not responsible. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” 7 So he left them and went to live in the house of a Gentile named Titius Justus, who worshiped God; his house was next to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, who was the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with all his family; and many other people in Corinth heard the message, believed, and were baptized. 9 One night Paul had a vision in which the Lord said to him, “Do not be afraid, but keep on speaking and do not give up, 10 for I am with you. No one will be able to harm you, for many in this city are my people.” 11 So Paul stayed there for a year and a half, teaching the people the word of God.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16**

“The Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a man who went out early in the morning to hire some men to work in his vineyard. 2 He agreed to pay them the regular wage, a silver coin a day, and sent them to work in his vineyard. 3 He went out again to the marketplace at nine o'clock and saw some men standing

there doing nothing, 4 so he told them, ‘You also go and work in the vineyard, and I will pay you a fair wage.’ 5 So they went. Then at twelve o'clock and again at three o'clock he did the same thing. 6 It was nearly five o'clock when he went to the marketplace and saw some other men still standing there. ‘Why are you wasting the whole day here doing nothing?’ he asked them. 7 ‘No one hired us,’ they answered. ‘Well, then, you go and work in the vineyard,’ he told them. 8 “When evening came, the owner told his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with those who were hired last and ending with those who were hired first.’ 9 The men who had begun to work at five o'clock were paid a silver coin each. 10 So when the men who were the first to be hired came to be paid, they thought they would get more; but they too were given a silver coin each. 11 They took their money and started grumbling against the employer. 12 ‘These men who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘while we put up with a whole day's work in the hot sun—yet you paid them the same as you paid us!’ 13 ‘Listen, friend,’ the owner answered one of them, ‘I have not cheated you. After all, you agreed to do a day's work for one silver coin. 14 Now take your pay and go home. I want to give this man who was hired last as much as I gave you. 15 Don't I have the right to do as I wish with my own money? Or are you jealous because I am generous?’” 16 And Jesus concluded, “So those who are last will be first, and those who are first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Children's Sermon**

**Message**

**Hymn of the Day: “Be Thou My Vision” ELW 793**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

### **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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*“Be Thou My Vision” Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931*



September 20, 2020 – News & Updates

### Worship

- **Worship Survey:** Please be sure to complete the Worship Survey to give your input on where and how to worship during the fall and winter months. Find it here:  
<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ehaersf8kenj08c2/start> or complete a hard copy and give to Pastor Sarah.

### 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@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:SundaySchool@sharingchristslove.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:** Kids ages 4 years – 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to outdoor Sunday School immediately following worship on the following dates:
  - **September 27, 2020**
  - **October 11 and 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@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:SundaySchool@sharingchristslove.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!

- **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.
- **Bible Study – Isaiah: In the Days to Come...** Final meeting via zoom on **September 23<sup>rd</sup>**. 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.

### **Fellowship**

- **Bring Your Own Picnic Nights - Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm outside at our church! The next date is: September 30<sup>th</sup>.** 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](mailto: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 Clarence 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](https://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@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:pastor@sharingchristslove.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@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:admin@sharingchristslove.org) to sign up.

### **Information**

- The **SPLC COVID Response Team** Look for the completed Preparedness Plan at <https://www.sharingchristslove.org/covid-19-update.html> . If you have any questions for the Covid Response Team, email [safety@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:safety@sharingchristslove.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@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:pastor@sharingchristslove.org) and [admin@sharingchristslove.org](mailto:admin@sharingchristslove.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.	Mgoli and Mtera parishes
Larry	Cyndi	COVID medical/frontline staff
Andre	Greg	Military members
Bob	Law enforcement	Fire & EMS professionals