



St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Paulding, Ohio
Sunday, May 24, 2020
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Service of the Word
Virtually

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.



PRELUDE & QUIET MEDITATION

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Shine Jesus Shine”

WOV 651

Refrain:

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!**

**Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain***

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain***

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.

(verses 1 & 5)

Refrain:

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth;
He is the king of creation. *Refrain***

**Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING**Acts 1:6-14**

When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(read responsively)*

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Let God arise and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!

In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.

O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”

WOV 783

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.**

Allelu, alleluia.

**Ask and it shall be given unto you; Seek and you shall find;
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.**

Allelu, alleluia.

**We do not live by bread alone,
But by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.**

Allelu, alleluia.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

PRAYER SONG AND PRAYERS *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

WOV 775

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;" and "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace."

Each petition concludes: "Lord, in your mercy,"
The congregation responds: "hear our prayer."

The prayers conclude:

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen

The congregation sings the last line of "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" after the last petition.

OFFERING

Please mail offerings to: PO Box 156, Paulding, OH 45879

OFFERING CANTICLE

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

WOV 673

**I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

THE 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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN

“I Want to Walk as a Child Of The Light”

WOV 660

**I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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