

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L: Holy, living and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: Carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

A: Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

A: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

COMMUNION MUSIC VIDEO

"My Jesus" by Anne Wilson

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

SENT FOR WORK AND WITNESS

BLESSING

L: God all mighty, God most merciful ✝ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

A: Amen.

SENDING HYMN-

"A Mighty Fortress" (words on screen) (Vs. 3&4)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

A: Thanks be to God!

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Presiding Minister: Pastor Christine McNeal

Worship Steward: Mark Mackinson

Greeters: Dawn Boitnott & Pat Lund

Ushers: Mark Mackinson & Judy Sykes

Lector: Nathan Joerndt

Communion Prep: Mark Mackinson

Comm. Asst: Nathan Joerndt & Marv Miller

Hospitality: Judy Sykes & Karen Hoegger

Musician: Sandy Erickson

SS Teacher: Blayne Dixon

Counters: Denny & Cody Leach

Livestream: Louis Kehinde



St. Paul Lutheran Church

October 27, 2024

Reformation Sunday

Introduction: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMNS

"Jesus, Name Above All Names" (Words on Screen)

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" (Words on Screen) (Vs 1&2)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

A: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Gracious God,

A: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

A: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Message

Dismissal to Children's Chapel

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading- Jeremiah 31:31-34

L: A reading from Jeremiah

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

L: A reading from Psalm

1God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

3though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

4There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

5God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

6The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

7The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

9behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

10“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

11The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

L: Holy wisdom; Holy Word.

A: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Romans 3:19-28

L: A Reading from Romans

19Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. 21But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of

God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. 27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

A: Thanks be to God.

Please rise, as you are able, for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” (Words on Screen)

Gospel - John 8:31-36

L: The Holy Gospel according to John

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

31Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’” 34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Christine McNeal

HYMN OF THE DAY :

“By Grace We Have Been Saved” (Words on Screen)

APOSTLE’S CREED

L: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

A: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end “God of Grace.” and the congregation will respond “Hear our prayer”.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with your neighbors by turning to the people near you saying, “Peace be with you.”

OFFERING “Special Music”

Offerings can also be sent by mail or given online. You can send a check to St. Paul Lutheran Church 210 Deerfield Rd Pontiac, IL 61764 or give online at stpaulpontiac.org

Offering Prayer

L: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: Amen.

MEAL

All are welcome at Christ’s table. Communion is distributed in front of the altar by intinction. Please dip the wafer into the lighter colored liquid which is grape juice or the darker liquid which is wine. If you prefer not to receive communion you may come forward with your hands crossed over your chest to receive a blessing or you may remain in your seat.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death; And by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy (music on screen)