

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1100 E. SUPERIOR ST., DULUTH, MINNESOTA

October 18, 2020

10:00 a.m.

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**



*In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.*

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

**PRELUDE** *Trumpet Concerto in Eb: Andante*

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

prerecorded by Bob Boman, trumpet; Karen Sande, organ

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who extends an invitation to the Waters, the Word, and the Meal.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Sometimes we divide our lives between church and world,  
between Sunday and the rest of the days,  
but You, O God, are Lord over all our days.

**Forgive us when we fail to be bearers of Christ in our daily lives.**

**Forgive us when our hands fail to be an extension of your grace.**

**Forgive us when our words hurt rather than heal.**

**Forgive us when we forget that we have been forgiven and set free  
to be your forgiving people in your world.**

Deeply rooted in a boundless God beyond measure,  
Draw sustenance from the truth that God proclaims:  
Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Be renewed in hope and filled with the Spirit

so that you may accept God's invitation to be Christ's body in the world.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN #825 *You Servants of God*



1 You ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a -  
2 As-cend-ed on high, al-might-y to save, yet still he is  
3 Sal-va-tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
4 Then let us a-dore and give him his right, all glo-ry and



broad his won-der-ful name; the name, all-vic-to-rious, of  
nigh, his pres-ence we have. The great con-gre-ga-tion his  
loud and hon-or the Son. The prais-es of Je-sus the  
pow'r and wis-dom and might, all hon-or and bless-ing, with



Je-sus ex-tol; his king-dom is glo-rious and rules o-ver all!  
tri-umph shall sing, as-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus, our king!  
an-gels pro-claim, fall down on their fac-es, and wor-ship the Lamb.  
an-gels a-bove, and thanks nev-er ceas-ing, and in-fin-ite love!

### **APOSTOLIC 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**

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

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

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 45:1-7

*read by John Sippola*

- <sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed:  
<sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,  
<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.  
<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me.  
<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god.  
I arm you, though you do not know me,  
<sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.  
<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

*read by Carlene Sippola*

- <sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.  
<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly  
<sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

Choir: Shine like stars | in the world,\* holding fast to the | word of life. ***Alleluia.***

## GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” <sup>21</sup>They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern

## HYMN OF THE DAY #400 *God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind*



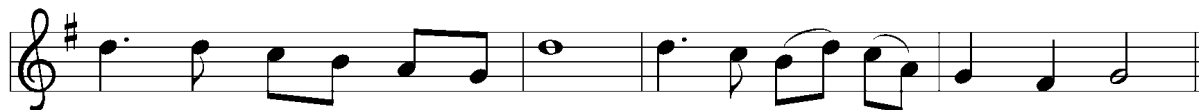
1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -  
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your  
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from  
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;  
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,  
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,  
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,  
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,  
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;  
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!  
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!  
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!  
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

### A SERVICE OF BEGINNING:

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern, and Paul Mclean Strike

Pastor: It is your opportunity as members of this congregation to accept this intern as a partner in God's mission in this place, to welcome Logan and her husband, Paul, and in every way strengthen and encourage her in this year of learning and service.

Congregational leader: Will you receive this servant of God as a laborer in the gospel of Christ and uphold and support her and her family in every way? If so, answer, "Yes, with God's help."

**Congregation: Yes, with God's help.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

*or*

Bless we the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God!**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## GOD EXTENDS AN INVITATION

Liz Raduege

## OFFERING

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to 218-325-9525 with amount you would like to contribute. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

## OFFERTORY MUSIC *Simple Gifts*

Shaker melody, arr. Patricia Sanders Cota

prerecorded by Handbell Quartet: Roberta Maughan, Suzanne Rauvola, Karen Sande, Sarah Climis

## OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,  
You extend an invitation to offer ourselves in response to your goodness.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table,  
and which we share in your world in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

*The LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything. Deuteronomy 2:7*

While we are a scattered community today, we remain one body in Christ, rooted and held together by the ever-present love of God. As with the Israelites in the wilderness, God watches over us even as we are apart, providing what is needed to sustain us on the journey.

It is often through the ordinary work of our lives that God's nourishing presence is revealed and offered. Tear off a piece of bread and hold it in your hand. Give thanks for the many hands that worked separately but in common purpose to produce this food for our bodies. Remember God's presence through hands that create, hands that support and protect, hands that reach out in love, hands that soothe and console, hands that work together for peace and justice. As you eat this bread, pray that your own hands will be strengthened and blessed for service, revealing in all they do the loving presence of God in the world. **Amen.**

**HYMN #715 *Christ, Be Our Light***



3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Nourished by the living God and grounded in this community of faith, we pray:

**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.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

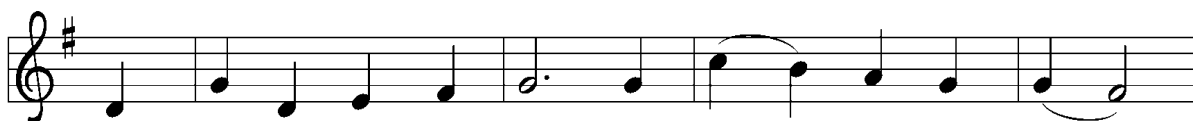
## HUNTERS' BLESSING

## BLESSING

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN #686 *We Give Thee but Thine Own*



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be Christ's hands and feet in the world.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE *God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind*

Welsh tune *Cwm Rhondda*, arr. Paul Manz  
Karen Sande, organ



**MINISTERS** All People of First Lutheran Church  
**PASTOR** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman  
**PASTORAL INTERN** Logan McLean Strike  
**PROGRAM STAFF** Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate  
Karen Sande, Director of Music  
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship  
Rachael Kresha, Apostle Choir Director, Associate Organist  
**MUSICIANS** Suzanne Rauvola, Barb LaMaster, Dave LaMaster, John Sippola, and Michael Fuchs, singers; Bob Boman, trumpet; Roberta Maughan, Suzanne Rauvola, Karen Sande, Sarah Climis, handbells  
**VIDEOGRAPHER** Sam Weston  
**VIDEO EDITOR** Stacie Curnow

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land.  
We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church