



St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

"A Legacy of Worship and Outreach in San Antonio since 1857"

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12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

June 21, 2020

Welcome! God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. In fact, Jesus even speaks of sharp divisions that can arise as a result of following him in more than name alone. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. We may experience rejection, frustration, division, and even death, but God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the Cross and strengthened with holy bread, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in all we do.



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

Bells

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the ✝ Holy Trinity, the Source of life, the Word of salvation, the Spirit of promise. **Amen.**

Confident of God's mercy and grace, let us confess our sins to God and one another.

(A brief silence for reflection)

God of compassion:

We confess that we have failed to reflect your image upon us. We have thought ill of those who differ from us. Our love for others has not been genuine. We have neglected opportunities to welcome the stranger, to feed the hungry, and to mend broken relationships. Forgive our sins, O God, that our hearts may burn with love for you and for all in need, that our lives may point to your never-failing love for all the world. Amen.

Brothers and sisters, buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, your sins are forgiven. The death Christ died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also, by the power of the Holy Spirit, are dead to sin and alive to God in ✝ Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Choir

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

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

God of strength and courage,
in Jesus Christ you set us free from old ways of thinking and doing,
and call us to risk new steps of faith.
Give us the grace to follow him who gave himself for others,
that we, too, may live the life he came to bring. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture and preaching; we respond in profession of faith and prayer

First Reading

Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

The good news of Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵[*Jesus said to the twelve:*] ²⁴"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

³⁹"Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor James Dew

Anthem/Solo

"All My Trials" by Luboff

Apostles' Creed

With the whole Church in heaven and on earth, we confess our faith...

**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

As a people gathered, empowered, and then sent to serve, we pray for the Church, the world, and all people who seek God's mercy and care:

We pray for the Church, gathered here and elsewhere, that we may live as God's holy people in all we do, and allow God to shape us into communities of radical hospitality, authenticity, and mission. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who struggle with sins that will not let go, that God's amazing grace free them and open them to new opportunities, new behaviors, and fullness of life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own growth in holiness, that we may hear Christ's challenge, fulfill the work he calls us to do, and be drawn ever deeper into intentional discipleship. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those working to curtail the coronavirus, that God will give them insight, slow the spread of the virus, and protect all who are caring for the sick. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray God's comfort and strength to fill the lives of those who are ill, and those who find themselves in some hard places in life, including *Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Claudine Michalek, Arlene Schirmer, Kim Friesenhahn, Kenny Knippa, Bill Rickrim, Frances Franz, Alwin Schaefer, Bill Brewer, Paul Mason, Bonnie Eckhardt, Deleyce Tietze, Samuel Alvarado, Rosa Yañez, Paul and Gloria Boenisch, Nat Castillo, Ron Olson, Bill Witte, Beth Knox, Tom Bartholomew, Maury Deaver, Paula Goles, Cliff Imken, the family of Jane Stillmann, the family of Paul Wilson, the family of Richard Collier, Jr.* and those whom we also name, that God will bring them to wholeness and newness of life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O Lord, and grant us all we need for this day, as we trust in your grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please verbally greet those nearest you these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")

MEAL

*We bring our "first fruit" offerings to the Table of the Lord
where we are strengthened and nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ*

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Holy, Mighty, and Merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

For on 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 to remember me.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await his coming in glory:

Christ has died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again.

In this holy bread, our Lord Jesus empties himself on our behalf, saying to us: Those who strive to keep their lives to themselves will lose them, but those who give away their lives out of love for God and neighbor will find true life.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remember us, Lord, in your kingdom, and help us to 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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. **Have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. **Have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. **Grant us peace. Amen.**

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and we welcome all who wish to receive the Holy Sacrament. Believing as well that Christ is fully present in either of the eucharistic elements, the consecrated bread alone will be offered to you by the Pastor during this early phase of our re-gathering. Please follow the direction of the ushers. A gluten free host is also available upon request.

Communion Blessing / Prayer

Our Lord Jesus, you invite us Sunday after Sunday to come to your table and to be your guests. As you welcome us in this Holy Sacrament, so teach us to also offer ourselves, that as we share the gifts you give to your people, together may we be the body of Christ. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Announcements

Benediction

The Spirit of the Lord rest upon you...
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding
The Spirit of counsel and might
The Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord
The Spirit of joy in God's presence

And the blessing of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit
Be among you, and shine through you. **Amen.**

Choir

"Let All Things Now Living"

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.
Amen. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship is central to who we are as a people of God. Every time we gather to hear and respond to the Word, to offer up our prayers for the needs of many, and to receive Christ's living presence in the consecrated bread and wine, we seek to "become what we receive", namely, the Body of Christ for the sake of the life of the world. As we are gathered, fed, and then sent back out in mission, God empowers us to be bearers of blessing and vessels of grace, commissioning us to intentionally live out the reign of God throughout the course of our weekly living.

This Week at St. John's

Today, June 21 @ 8:30am	Pastor's Class
Today, June 21 @ 10:00am	Worship
Wednesday, June 24 @ 12:15pm	Word, Silence, and Prayer (online)
	Web link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6348984768
	Meeting ID: 634 898 4768

(Please see our online calendar at www.stjohnssa.org for other events.)

*For prayer requests, please contact the church office
(210) 223-2611 or info@StJohnsSA.org
The Prayer List is updated monthly (or as needed).*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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