



St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

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

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14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

July 05, 2020

Welcome! The mystery of God's ways is often hidden from those who consider themselves both wise and right. In fact, Jesus' sharpest criticisms were often saved for the religiously arrogant. And his words and acts of welcome were mostly offered to those who were considered unworthy by them. May God enable us to gather for worship today with humble and gentle hearts.



+ LITURGY OF THE WORD +

Prelude

Medley on National Hymns

Bells

Welcome

Thanksgiving for the Word

Praise and thanks to you, Holy God, for by your Word you made all things:
you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey,
a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:
renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Choir

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

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.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised.

You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.

Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

[Paul writes] ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Psalmody

Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**Lord, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O Lord, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The good news of Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

Sermon

Pastor James Dew

Anthem

***“Just a Closer Walk With Thee”* by Lojeski**

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, we pray for the Church, the world, and all who are in need:

Lord of all, we pray for your Church, gathered here and elsewhere, that we might be continually renewed by your Holy Spirit to live-out the whole reign of God. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray, O God, for the wisdom to know our real need for you in our daily living, that as we intentionally place our entire selves into your hands, our priorities and our choices, we may discover new peace and quiet strength. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who carry heavy burdens each day, often unseen, that you, Lord, will lead other people, including ourselves, to help ease their loads. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace, in our families, and in our communities, and in every corner of our world, that our hearts may turn away from fear, blindness, and retaliation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, we continue to lift up to you the well-being of *Bob Cauble, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Claudine Michalek, Kim Friesenhahn, Kenny Knippa, Bill Rickrim, Frances Franz, Alwin Schaefer, Bill Brewer, Paul Mason, Bonnie Eckhardt, Albert and Deleyce Tietze, Paul and Gloria Boenisch, Nat Castillo, Ron Olson, Bill Witte, Beth Knox, Tom Bartholomew, Ashleigh Montague, Becky Coffey*, and those whom we also name, that your Spirit will rest upon them and touch their lives with strong and healing love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your good hands, O God, we place ourselves and our prayers, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

Announcements

Benediction

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, protect you, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Choir

"Faith of Our Fathers"

Dismissal

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

Postlude

***"Variations on America"* by Charles Ives**

This Week at St. John's

Today, July 05 @ 8:30am	Pastor's Class
Today, July 05 @ 10:00am	Worship
Wednesday, July 08 @ 12:15pm	Word, Silence, and Prayer (Online) (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83125337944)
Saturday, July 11 @ 9:30am	Funeral for Arlene Schirmer

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

Ministry Opportunities at Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM)

CAM Annual Back-to-School Program

If you are interested in "adopting" a child by purchasing the school supplies they need for the school year, contact Nora Oyler at noyler@cam-sa.org or call 210-223-4099.

Clothing Needs

CAM is accepting gently-used clothing items for both adult men and women. Items needed are casual wear, jeans, khakis, t-shirts, tennis shoes, and athletic shoes. Currently, CAM is not accepting any slacks, suits, heels, men's dress shoes, prom dresses, or business wear. Contact Sarah Kory at skory@cam-sa.org or call 210-223-4099 with any questions.

Help Feed the Hungry

Every other Tuesday, we deliver sandwiches to CAM around 11:00am. If you would like more information about this ministry and how you can lend support, please contact Bea Imken at 210-887-2217.

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.

*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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