



## The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost—July 25, 2010

9:00 A.M. Holy Communion

The Rev. A. Elisabeth Aurand preaching and presiding

Cindy Pavano, guest musician

### Welcome!

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Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

We are glad you are worshipping with us. All baptized Christians are invited to Holy Communion. Those not yet baptized are also welcomed for a blessing (cross arms when approaching).

This morning we commune at the rail in continuous fashion. Take an empty cup from the tray at the head of the aisle or if you prefer grape juice, take a pre-filled cup from the center of the same tray. Ushers will guide you to an empty space beginning at the back of the rail. You are free to return by the side aisles as soon as you are ready.

After worship, please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall for coffee.

### Gathering

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THE PRELUDE

Piano Solo

Cindy Pavano

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, . . . whose mercy endures forever.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

☞ Gracious God,

☞ **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

☞ God, . . . that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. ☞ **Amen.**

THE OPENING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

#654

THE 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.**

📖 Let us pray.

📖 **Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Word

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### THE FIRST READING

Genesis 18:20–32

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom, for the sake of the few righteous people who are in it, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

📖 A reading from Genesis:

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?" <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the LORD. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the LORD be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

📖 The word of the Lord. 📖 **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM 138

Read responsively

- A** <sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- C** <sup>2</sup>**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**
- <sup>3</sup>When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.
- <sup>4</sup>**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- <sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup>**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar.**
- <sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.
- <sup>8</sup>**You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the  
works of your hands.**

We gather participants for CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

## THE SECOND READING

Colossians 2:6–15 [16–19]

*Paul warns his congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection, which is enacted in baptism.*

**A** A reading from Colossians:

<sup>6</sup>As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal

demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

**A** The word of the Lord. **G** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Page 171, front of hymnal

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.*

**P** He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

<sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread;

<sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'

<sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

*Sit*

THE SERMON

Pastor Elisabeth Aurand

*Stand*

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

#742

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Page 105, front of hymnal

THE PRAYERS

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

*Sit*

THE PARISH CONCERNS and WELCOME TO VISITORS

THE OFFERING is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

THE MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING

Piano Solo

Cindy Pavano

THE TIME WITH CHILDREN

Pastor Elisabeth Aurand

*Stand*

THE OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards

#183

## Meal

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THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

☐ God of mercy and grace,

☑ **the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### THE INITIAL DIALOG

- ☞ 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.**

### THE INITIAL THANKSGIVING

- ☞ It is indeed right, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### THE HOLY

Page 173, front of hymnal

### THE THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- ☞ Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.  
The universe ... with every breath. ☞ **We praise you, O God.**
- ☞ Generations ... into the future. ☞ **We bless you, O God.**
- ☞ We give you thanks ... with us now. ☞ **We thank you, O God.**
- ☞ In the night ... for the remembrance of me.  
Remembering his love ... mystery of faith:
- ☞ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- ☞ We pray ... without end. ☞ **Amen**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Right Column

Page 173, front of hymnal

*Sit*

## THE DISTRIBUTION

### LAMB OF GOD

Page 174, front of hymnal

### THE COMMUNION HYMN

As the Grains of Wheat

#465

## Sending

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*Stand*

### THE BLESSING

- ☞ The body and blood ... keep you in his grace. ☞ **Amen**

### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Page 174, front of hymnal

- ☞ Let us pray ... through Jesus Christ our Lord. ☞ **Amen**

### THE PEACE

- ☞ The peace of the Lord be with you always. ☞ **And also with you.**

*The ministers and people exchange a sign of God's peace.*

Peace be with you. ☩ Peace be with you.

#### THE BENEDICTION

☩ The Lord bless you ... and ☩ give you peace. ☩ Amen.

#### THE DISMISSAL

☩ Go in peace. Serve the Lord. ☩ **Thanks be to God.**

#### THE POSTLUDE

Piano Solo

Cindy Pavano

## COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK \_\_\_\_\_



### Sunday, July 25, 2010: James, Apostle

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

### Wednesday, July 28: Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, *Messiah*, is a setting of scriptural texts.



### Thursday, July 29: Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany

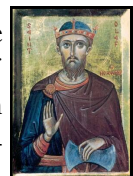


Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

Jacopo and Francesco Bassano, *Christ in the House of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus*, 1576, oil on canvas, Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation, Houston, inv. 79.13

### Thursday, July 29: Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.



We celebrate Holy Communion every Sunday at 9 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

## IN NEED OF PRAYER

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*Note: Named in parentheses are those who submitted the names they follow.*

family & friends grieving the loss of Norman Holmberg, Danielle Cummings (Bill Hively's former student, in Qatar with the Air Force), Angelina Martir, (Mae Eisenhardt's great granddaughter), Dr. Donald Rotenberg, (Ina & Donald Knapp), the Clark family (Pat Brown), the Dubois family (Pat Brown), Wayne & Dean Lord (Pat Brown), Penny Kinney (Pat Brown), Joe Pavano (Cindy Pavano), Rose Huie (Pat Brown), Rita & Keenen Black (Pat Brown), Lois Arena (Ralph Holmstrom), Lisa Viele, (Nancy Michalski), Zalewski family grieving the loss of Stanley Zalewski (Greg's Father), & the loss of Susan Krystopik (Sarah's Grandmother), Grieving friends & family of Beatrice Anderson, grieving friends & family of Andrea Prygoda, Grieving friends & family of Zelideth Dambrosia (Jessica Sierra), Ruth Robinson, Elijah Morehead on his trip overseas (Jessica Sierra), Kathy G. (Pat Brown), Lori (Pat Brown), Gale Anderson (Pat Brown), Julia, Craig (Pat Brown), Grieving family of Michael Longo (Michalski Family), Karen, Donald, Maria (Pat Brown), Cari Walentukonis, Debborah, Russell, Kara, Austin (Pat Brown), Carmin Rentas, (Jessica Sierra), Grieving family of Richard Schiavoni, (Jessica Sierra), Grieving family of Robert Paul.

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### OUR VISION

**First for what is first: Christ, our Lord**  
**First** in nurturing youth and families in faith  
**First** with inspiring worship, fellowship and service  
**First** by reaching out to all

## First Lutheran Church of the Reformation

*A community of believers in Jesus Christ*

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God's work. Our hands.