



Pentecost 15

**Whoever Loses His Life
for Jesus' Sake Will Save It**

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 13, 2020

WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Our service is printed for you in its entirety in this worship folder. Or you can follow along as the service is projected on the front wall.

Restrooms are located in the hallways to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hallway as you enter into the school hall.

Quiet room If you have a young child or nursing infant and are in need of a quiet place which still allows you to see/hear the service you may use the library in the back of this worship space.

TODAY'S FOCUS

Christ did not redeem us merely to reform us a little. In Baptism He united us to Himself. Therefore, in Baptism Christ plunged us into death and also raised us up to a new life. From that moment dying and living becomes a daily reality for believers. The apostle Paul describes it this way: the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. We are called to lose our earthly lives/selves for Christ. Therefore, even if we must lay down our lives physically for God as Samson did, it is a reality we had already been exercising every day since Baptism.

PLEASE RESPECT OUR PRACTICE OF "CLOSE COMMUNION"

Christ says the Sacrament is an expression of unity (1 Co 10:16-17). We WANT to be unified with you on the basis of Christ and His doctrine! Honesty compels us to ask you to WAIT before communing with us: 1) until you've had a chance to find out what we teach; 2) until you make your unity with us

evident by membership at Peace. Regular classes are conducted for this purpose (837-5346). WELS & ELS guests please sign a Connection Card and give it to an usher before communing. Thank you.

Order of Service

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **and also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer and Praise

The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD

The congregation will sing the portions in bold.

♪ **O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.**

Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.
You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;
you make us pure and holy in your sight.
You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us;
you made your Father known;
you washed us from our sins in your own blood.
You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Please be seated

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Judges 16:22-31

²²But the hair on his head began to grow after it had been shaved.

²³Meanwhile, the serens of the Philistines gathered to make a great sacrifice to their god Dagon and to celebrate. They said, "Our god has given our enemy Samson into our hands."

²⁴When the people saw him, they praised their god: "Our god has given our enemy into our hands, the devastator of our land, who has caused the death of many of us."

²⁵When they were feeling good, they said, “Send for Samson, so that he can provide amusement for us.” They summoned Samson from the prison, and he served as their entertainment.

They made Samson stand between the pillars. ²⁶He said to the young man who led him by his hand, “Put me where I can touch the pillars that support the building, so I can lean upon them.” ²⁷The building was full of men and women, as well as all the serens of the Philistines. On the roof were about three thousand more men and women watching Samson as he was amusing them.

²⁸Samson called out to the LORD. He said, “LORD God, remember me, I pray. Give me strength, I pray, this one more time, O God. Let me get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes in one act of vengeance.” ²⁹Samson then grasped the two central pillars supporting the building. He leaned against them, one with his right hand and one with his left. ³⁰Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” He pushed with all his strength, and the building fell upon the serens and upon all the people who were inside.

The Philistines he put to death when he died were more numerous than those he had put to death during his lifetime.

³¹Then his brothers and his father’s entire household went down, carried him back, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had served as judge of Israel for twenty years.

PSALM 121

The congregation will speak the portions in bold.

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
Where does my help come from?

**My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot slip,
he who watches over you will not slumber;

**indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

SECOND LESSON

Galatians 6:12-16

¹²Those who want to look good in the flesh are the ones who are trying to compel you to be circumcised. Their only reason is so that they are not persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³As a matter of fact, those who are circumcised do not keep the law themselves. But they want to have you circumcised, so that they can boast about your flesh.

¹⁴But far be it from me to boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. ¹⁵In fact, in Christ Jesus circumcision or uncircumcision does not matter. What matters is being a new creation.

¹⁶Peace and mercy on those who follow this rule, namely, on the Israel of God.

PSALM 121

The congregation will speak the portions in bold.

The LORD watches over you,
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

**The LORD will keep you from all harm,
he will watch over your life;**

the LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Please stand

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:21-26

²¹From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you."

²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?"

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Please be seated

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life and Let It Be | 469



1 Take my life and let it be Con - se -
2 Take my hands and let them move At the
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways,
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; Not a
5 Take my will and make it thine; It shall



cra - ted, Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments
im - pulse of thy love. Take my feet and
on - ly for my King. Take my lips and
mite would I with - hold. Take my in - tel -
be no long - er mine. Take my heart— it



and my days; Let them flow in cease - less praise.
let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
is thine own; It shall be thy roy - al throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

SERMON

Matthew 16:21-26

Let's Follow Christ

Please stand when presider indicates

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

On this weekend of remembrance for 9/11, let us pray to the Lord on behalf of our nation's armed forces...

O Creator of the universe, you did not form Adam from the dust of the earth so that his children would spill their brother's blood in that dust. With Adam's sin came death, destruction, and war. Yet you did not turn from your fallen creation but embraced it in the flesh of your incarnate Son, winning our peace with you through his death and resurrection. For this grace...

We thank you, Lord.

Still, humanity rebels, and evil flourishes with wars and rumors of war, both domestically and abroad. Young men and women today protect our nation in the armed forces, even now serving in places of danger to shield us from the evil of terrorism, riots, invasion, weapons of mass destruction and other wicked instruments of Satan's hatred. We pray, dear Lord of peace, that you would protect those who wear the uniform of our country and serve with courage, honor and commitment. Comfort and strengthen our police and those serving in our U.S. Armed Forces. Be with their loved ones who must wait at home while they are answering the call of duty.

Be with them, dear Lord.

Bless and guide President Trump, Governor Evers and Mayor Esser and all our leaders nationally and locally. Guide the leaders of the world that they may seek to walk in peace so that the skills of warriors may not need to be used except to deter those who would seek to harm us. Grant us peace so that the work of your Church to teach and proclaim the Gospel to all may go on unhindered.

Protect us, dear Lord.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, the only Savior of the world, who taught us to pray...

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

The Sacrament

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of "Closed Communion," meaning we commune members of Peace and churches affiliated with Peace. For further explanation, please see the cover of this bulletin.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Take and Eat | 741

Refrain

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you.
Take and drink, take and drink, this is my blood given up for you.

1 I am the Word that spoke and light was made;
I am the seed that died to be reborn;
I am the bread that comes from heav'n above;
I am the vine that fills your cup with joy. **Refrain**

2 I am the way that leads the exile home;
I am the truth that sets the captive free;
I am the life that raises up the dead;
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you. **Refrain**

3 I am the Lamb that takes away your sin;
I am the gate that guards you night and day.
You are my flock: you know the Shepherd's voice;
You are my own: your ransom is my blood. **Refrain**

4 I am the cornerstone that God has laid,
A chosen stone and precious in his eyes.
You are God's dwelling place; on me you rest
Like living stones, a temple for God's praise. **Refrain**

5 I am the Light that came into the world;
I am the Light that darkness cannot hide;
I am the Morning Star that never sets.
Lift up your face; in you my light will shine. **Refrain**

6 I am the First and Last, the living One;
I am the Lord who died that you might live;
I am the Bridegroom, this my wedding song.
You are my bride; come to the marriage feast. **Refrain**

Please stand when the presider indicates

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the true faith into life everlasting. Your sins are forgiven. The peace of God is with you. Amen.

Thanksgiving

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

QUOTE BY MARTIN LUTHER

“The sooner we depart this life, the more speedily we fulfill our baptism; and the more cruelly we suffer, the more successfully do we conform to our baptism.”

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY TODAY

Join us for Bible study today between services, 9:00-9:45, in the worship space.

UMM, I DON'T PRAY MUCH

Is this you? How does a person go about praying? How do you know if you're doing it "the right way?" Is prayer just for uber-religious people? We will spend 3 Sundays between services to learn what prayer is and to offer practical suggestions for prayer – especially to help the person for whom this is uncharted territory.

LIBRARY DISPLAY

Have a look at the display in the back of the worship space of books on prayer. Please check one (or more) out!

IT'S LIKELY TO BE A VOLATILE ELECTION YEAR

Let's pray for our nation! Please take a FREE copy of the prayer booklet entitled "God Bless Our Native Land" available on the table in the main hall.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider	Rev. Shaun Arndt
Sermon	Rev. Luke C. Werre
Organist.....	Mrs. Jennifer Were
Vocalist	Mrs. Lisa Schoenherr



PEACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

Mission Statement

As men, women and children united in faith and worship by the Word of God, we are **committed to making disciples**, using the gospel to win the lost for Christ, and nurturing believers for Christian service, all to the glory of God.

Service Times

Sunday 8:00 10:00 am; Monday 6:30 pm

Television: Sunday 9:00 am

channel 98 analog; channel 983 digital

TDS channel 13

The most recent service is also on our website homepage:

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