



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2020

WELCOME & INSTRUCTION

Participants are invited to respond with the text in bold type.

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us confess our sin...

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving God, **we have turned against you.**

By our thoughts, words, and deeds, we have broken our relationship with you and with each other. *Breathe*

Gracious God, **when you showed us love, we have thought and spoken poorly of our neighbors. *Breathe***

God of Abundance, **when you provided for our needs, we ignored the needs of others and often justified our wants. *Breathe***

Consoling God, **when you said “do not be afraid,” we allowed fear to fester, giving birth to anger and hatred of the other. *Breathe***

Empowering God, **when you made us caretakers of the earth, we hurt your creation with our greed and selfishness. *Breathe***

Merciful God, **often we do not recognize our own sinfulness though we are quick to point out the sinfulness of others; *Breathe***

God of Compassion, **at times, we believe we are unforgiveable and we do not trust in the capacity of your Spirit. *Breathe***

Redeeming God, **Forgive us, transform us, empower us by your grace. Amen.**

When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross.

And so it is: your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, ☩ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen. You are made new. Live into this freedom according to the grace extended to you by the one who gives you life. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING | 1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁴He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 14:22-33

God is with you! **And also with you!**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear.

²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”

²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

MESSAGE

BREAK OUT QUESTIONS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

For your whole church throughout the world. Give courage in the midst of storms, so that we see and hear Jesus calling: "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid." May we follow Christ wherever he leads. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation. Protect waterways, forests, lands, and wildlife from exploitation and abuse. Help the human family endeavor to sustain and be sustained by the resources of your hand. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the nations and their leaders. May nations in conflict know the peace that is the fruit of justice, and the justice that is the path to peace. We hold in mind and heart, the victims of the blast in the Port of Beirut as we also remember the victims of the world's first and last nuclear attacks in Hiroshima on August 6th, and in Nagasaki 75 years ago today. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those in need. Everyone who calls upon your name will receive your comforting provision. Accompany all who are lonely, hear the voices of those who cry out in anguish. Let the Cease Fire movement inspire an end to violence in the streets. Heal the families and communities in our city, so that children may grow up surrounded by love and hope. For the sick, the dying, those who lack shelter, and all yearning for wellness. We pray for Gino, Nancy, Joe, Jim, Bob and Jeanette. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For our congregation. You gather us here today as your people and we thank you for this gift. Strengthen our bonds during this time of separation and help us to love each other. Supply us generously with your grace for our life together. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints of the whole church from all times and places, and for the saints in our lives and in our community whom you have gathered to yourself. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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

YARD SALE! TBA We're organizing a yard sale to help move some of the thrift shop inventory and generate some funds while the thrift shop remains closed. Jen Sahm has graciously volunteered to coordinate this two day event.

Lutheran Volunteer Corps Please bring non-perishable donations to stock the house pantry. We're also looking for volunteers to prepare a few nights dinner. Contact Sarah McIlvried for more info.

COURTYARD WORSHIP AT 9:30AM

Participants must: wear masks, observe social distance, bring a lawn chair or a blanket to sit on. Bulletins will be electronic, available on mobile devices. The service will continue to be streamed online. And in the event of rain, will still be offered online. There will be no singing, and no communion, and no access to the building including the restrooms at this time. We do, however, look forward to being in your presence!

Congregational Connections – Church Council is organizing to help church members reach out to one another while we are separated. Please let Cheryl Conrad know if you're interested in participating

Thank you for your continued generosity and for sustaining our ministry during this strange and difficult time! You can provide offering or make a special gift at anytime through the church's giving portal. Links can be found in the e-newsletter and on the church website at <http://www.churchontheavenuchampden.org>.

God is with you! **And also with you!**

BENEDICTION

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with favor and give you peace,

In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!