



Sunday, October 6, 2024
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
St. James Lutheran Church

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

ENTRANCE HYMN: "When Long Before Time" (WOV 799)

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

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

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

☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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 mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. ☩ A - - men

HYMN OF PRAISE

1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. . .

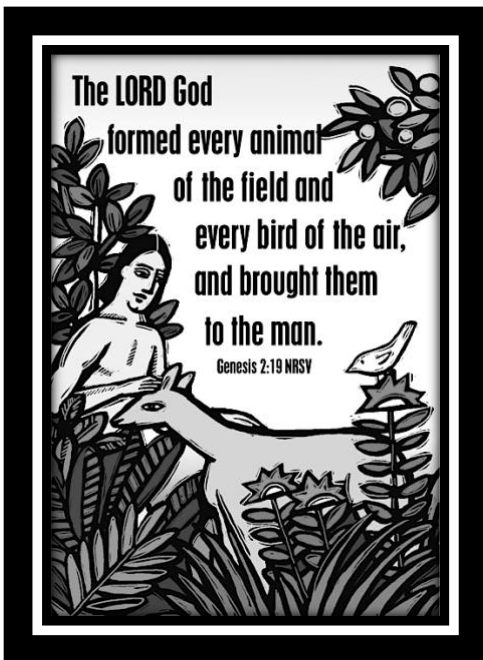
Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING:

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

Genesis 2:18-24



¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Here ends the reading.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8

¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?



⁵Yet you have made them little less ¹ than divine;
 with glory and hon- ¹ or you crown them.
⁶**You have made them rule over the works ¹ of your hands;
 you have put all things un- ¹ der their feet:**
⁷all ¹ flocks and cattle,
 even the wild beasts ¹ of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish ¹ of the sea,
 and whatever passes along the paths ¹ of the sea.**
⁹O ¹ LORD our Lord,
 how majestic is your name in ¹ all the earth!



Second Reading:

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

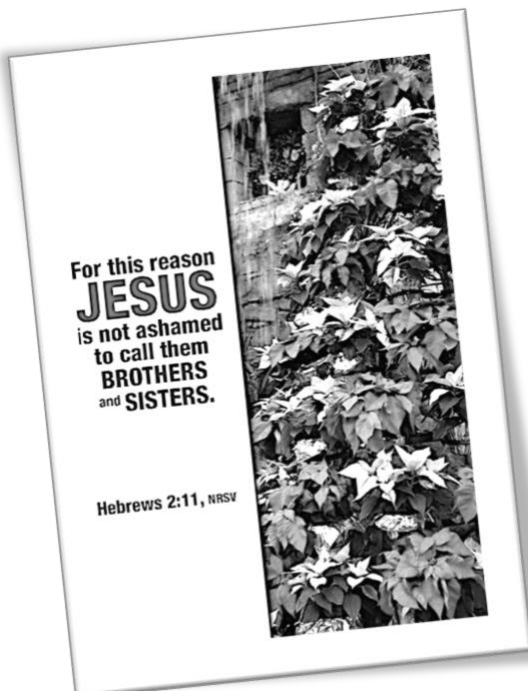
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
 or mortals, that you care for them?”

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
 you have crowned them with glory and honor,
⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”



Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
 in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

Here ends the reading.
Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16



Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God’s surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.



²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON: Rev. Carl Trost

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Have No Fear, Little Flock” (LBW 476)

APOSTLE’S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith by using the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

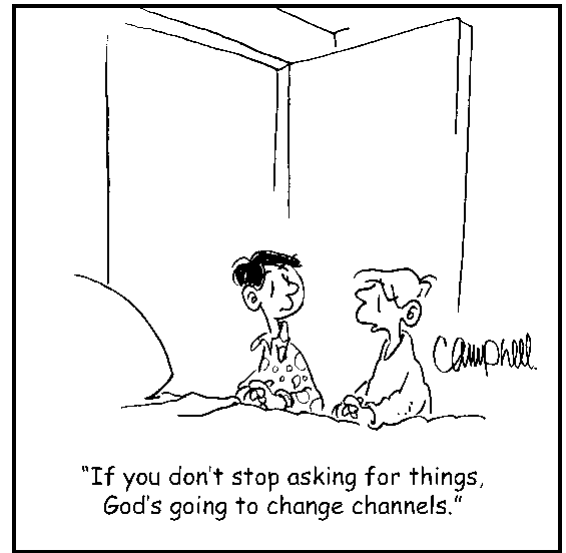
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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.**



THE PRAYERS

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the health and well-being of all. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering. We pray for all who are in any need. To all who grieve, bring consolation; to all who are weary or lonely, bring solace. We especially pray for Norma, Cecilia, Jean, Betty, Inez, Claire, Charles, Ellen, Josh, Mike, Melvin, Charles, Tony, Peggy, Bonnie, Wayne, Margie, Rick, Lynda, Russell, Lincoln, Spencer and Kevin. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

(For whom else and what else shall we pray...)

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Greet each other in the peace of the Lord.)

ANTHEM: Psalm 8

OFFERING

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, O God,

source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,

help us to serve one another and all in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

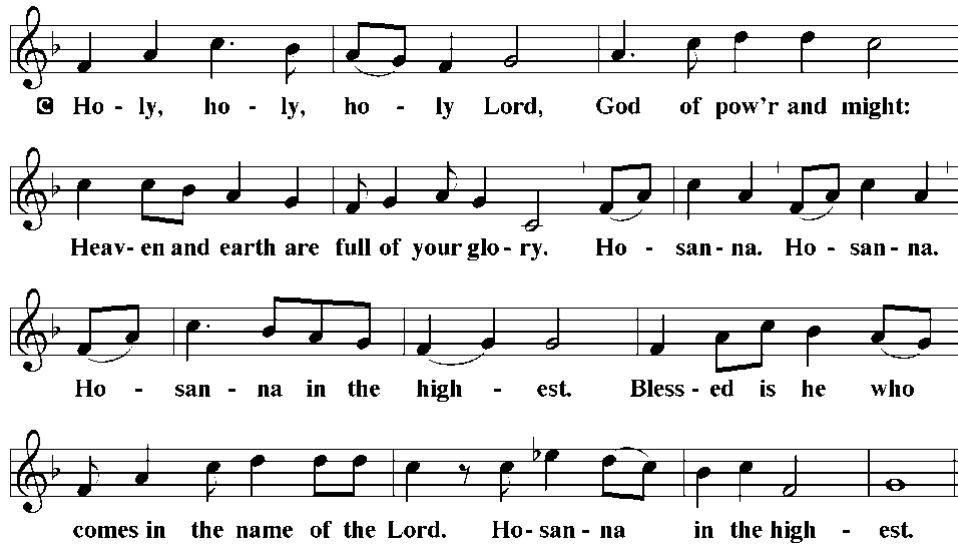
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.


THANKSGIVING

In 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 for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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;**



October
6th Flora Williams
13th Bambi Straw
20th Anne Putnam
27th Tammy Jones

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table.
Come, here is your God.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.



☞ 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- calls 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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” (LBW 551)

OCTOBER



BIRTHDAYS

1st	Theron White
3rd	Ryan Leach
3rd	Michael Diehl
19th	Lynda Diehl
25th	Desirae Diehl
27th	Lexi Dull

BLESSING

God all mighty,
God most merciful
✝ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

BACK PACK PROGRAM

We currently have 15 kids in the program. Below is the list of items, remember they are all individual servings.



Mac and cheese	Kroger meals
Chef Boyardee meals	Fruit cups
Boxes of cereal	Poptarts
Oatmeal	Ramen Noodles, any kind
Boxed juices	Yahoo chocolate milk
Apple sauce	Raisins
“Hugs” Drink Barrels	All single servings

Prayer Concerns

Ongoing Need for Prayer

Norma Turak, Cecilia Shott, Jean Geiser, Claire Viette, Ellen McDonald, Charles McDonald, Inez Johnson (Becky and Debbie’s aunt), Josh Thornhill (Norma Turak’s grandson-in-law), Mike Martin (friend of Phillip Snyder), Charles Driver (Sam and Lynda’s neighbor), Melvin Glass (friend of Ivan), Bonnie Snyder (Danny’s mother), Peggy Desimore (friend of Norma), Wayne Puffenbarger (husband of Debbie’s friend Glenna), Rick Mays (friend of Joyce), and Margie Lambert.

Prayer Concerns

Betty Diehl, Tony Giltner (Gene’s brother), Lynda Diehl, Lincoln Hines (friend of Debbie & Danny), Russell Bush, Spencer Hatcher, and Kevin Dull.

Community Conversations

- October flowers are given by Ellen McDonald.
- October 1st - 10th - Pastor Gordon and Anne will be on vacation. He is available by phone.
- October 8th - 1pm Open Circle at St. James. Joyce is our hostess.
- October 13th - 2:30 Fall Gathering at St. Jacob's-Spaders in Mt. Crawford.
- October 15th - 1pm Quilting
- October 16th - 8:30am - Council Meeting
- For prayer concerns, contact Pastor Gordon.
- Council Person of the Month
 - October - Sam

Pastor Gordon Putnam
434-760-0263
Grputnam1949@gmail.com
Pastor Carl Trost
Hannah Pingel, Pianist
Sam Diehl and Bambi Straw, Assisting Ministers

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