

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Worship Guide

Service of Holy Communion



September 20, 2020

+ INDICATES THE CONGREGATION STANDS AS YOU ARE ABLE

WELCOME FROM PASTOR JACK

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: **have mercy on us.**

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✚ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.
Amen.

+HYMN I Lay My Sins on Jesus

1 I lay my sins on Jesus,
 the spotless Lamb of God;
 he bears them all and frees us
 from the accursed load.
 I bring my guilt to Jesus
 to wash my crimson stains
 clean in his blood most precious
 till not a spot remains.

2 I lay my wants on Jesus;
 all fullness dwells in him;
 he heals all my diseases;
 my soul he does redeem.

I lay my griefs on Jesus,
my burdens and my cares;
he from them all releases;
he all my sorrows shares.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE ASSIGNED SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jonah 3:10--4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God’s generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

SERMON

“Is It Fair?”

QUIET TIME FOR REFLECTION & PRAYER

HYMN OF THE DAY♪

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found;

was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed!

+THE APOSTLES CREED

**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.**

+ EXCHANGE OF PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: And also with you

(Please wave to your nearest worship neighbors)

OFFERING PRAYER

(Offering baskets will not be passed around. At the conclusion of the service, please place your offering in designated baskets in the rear of the sanctuary.)

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *"In the night in which he was betrayed..."*

THE 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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(At the invitation of the pastor, please open your communion kit and consume the host and grape juice)

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

+ BENEDICTION

+ SENDING HYMN **Trusting Jesus**

1. Simply trusting every day.
Trusting through a stormy way;
Even when my faith is small,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Refrain:

Trusting as the moments fly,
Trusting as the days go by;
Trusting Him what e'er befall,
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

2. Brightly doth His Spirit shine
Into this poor heart of mine;
While He leads I cannot fall;
Trusting Jesus, that is all.

Refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Weekly Announcements

Lector: Ellen Crane **Music Director:** Chad Flynn **Video:** Don Gulliksen

Important announcement from our WELCA group (women's group). Due to the pandemic, we will regretfully cancel this year's Christmas Bazaar. We realize what a huge disappointment this brings to us and to our surrounding community participants, vendors, etc. However, could everyone please consider making a generous donation to WELCA in lieu of the bazaar, so that WELCA's beautiful ministries to the community may continue to be financially supported? Thank you for your generosity and prayerful support.

Hurricane Laura Relief Donations can be made to Lutheran Disaster Response(LDR) in a number of ways:

Online at : <https://community.elca.org/hurricane-relief?erid=b9f2f6d8-3185-4d1c-bb9b-1731f1c8bf77&trid=b9f2f6d8-3185-4d1c-bb9b-1731f1c8bf77>

or simply Google "Lutheran Disaster Response"

or Mail a Check to LDR at :

LDR

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

or Bring a check to church, issued to Holy Trinity, but listing "LDR-Hurricane Relief" in the memo line

The WELCA Annual Christmas Bazaar has been cancelled for this year. Please **do not** drop off donated items to the church at this time. We have no place to store them for the next year.

Readers are needed for Sunday mornings. Please consider signing up to read on Sunday mornings. The readings will be sent to you before Sunday so you will have plenty time to read over. It's an easy way to serve the church. Your help is much appreciated.

The next Lunch & Learn Adult Bible Study will be on October 7th. Join us at noon...bring a bag lunch. Physical distancing and facial coverings will be mandatory. For those unable or uncomfortable attending in person, the Bible study will be live streamed through the ZOOM format. Please contact Pastor Jack about the ZOOM link.

"NOBODY LIKES COLD FEET" – We are collecting new men and women's socks for the homeless. All socks must be received by October 18th. Please place new socks in the box in the rear of the sanctuary.

First Holy Communion Classes, originally scheduled in March/April, will be rescheduled to next Spring. Watch future announcements for details.

Are your children restless during worship? Our nursery room and Sunday School classrooms are available; one room per family, first come-first serve basis. Please remember to turn off the lights and straighten up when you leave.

Thank you for all your generous financial support to the ministries of Holy Trinity, especially during our COVID-19 building shut down. The ministries continued, even when our building was closed, thanks to your gifts.

Want to give electronically? 40% of our offerings now come in via electronic giving sources. To learn more, simply go to our web page at www.rockawaylutheran.org and click on the “donate” button. . . then follow the simple instructions. Still not sure? Please contact Donna Gulliksen at: Donna.Gulliksen@gmail.com or call her at 973-697-1895. Regular offerings (with date and frequency of your choice) as well as one-time gifts can be established electronically. All transactions are confidential.

RISE UP Rockaway, Inc. wishes to thank all in the community who have supported the COVID-19 Relief campaign. To date, over \$12,000 was raised to help those economically affected by the pandemic. To donate, simply go to riseupnj.org and click the donate button, or mail your checks to: RISE UP, c/o Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 508 Green Pond Rd., Rockaway, 07866.