2020 05 17 Service of the Word.

IN THE NAME

P: I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper. Alleluia!

C: To be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth. Alleluia!

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Friends in Christ: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord God, our heavenly Father, I am a sinner and I have sinned against You, not only in my words and actions, but also in my secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully know or understand, but which You know completely. I am sorry that I have displeased You, and repent of the evil I have done. For the sake of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, have mercy on me, forgive my sins, and graciously help me in my weakness. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession and prayer I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

PSALM 66:8-20

P: Bless our God, O peoples;

let the sound of His praise be heard,

C: Who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

For You, O God, have tested us:

You have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;

You laid a crushing burden on our backs;

You let men ride over our heads;

we went through fire and through water;

yet You have brought us out to a place of abundance.

I will come into Your house with burnt offerings;

I will perform my vows to You,

That which my lips uttered

and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

I will offer to You burnt offerings of fattened animals,

with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;

I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

Come and hear, all you who fear God,

and I will tell what He has done for my soul.

I cried to Him with my mouth,

and high praise was on my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,

the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened;

He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me!

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

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty and merciful God, You send Your Holy Spirit to be the light and life of all Your people. Open our hearts to receive His riches, so that we may produce the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

P: Our Gospel reading for today comes from the Gospel according to **John 14:15-21.** "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of

truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

APOSTLES CREED

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

And 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, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the

dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence 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

SERMON based on John 14:15-21.

P: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sermon "Would you fancy a dance?"

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray!

C: Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks what You have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions — as signs of Your goodness and symbols of our love. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, who offered Himself for us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the faithful proclamation of Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him, that through hearing the Word of the Lord many may be brought to faith and to the knowledge of the truth.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the Church of God here and everywhere, that all who confess Jesus Christ may be united in doctrine and witness, defended against all the assaults of the enemy, and eager to gather together around Your Word and Sacrament in love for one another.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For our congregations, for the work of the Kingdom in our community, and for the resources to accomplish all that God desires, that His name may be glorified among us and His purpose fulfilled in our words and works.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the gift of marriage. And today we give you thanks together with Trevor and Valerie Braunack as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Thanks for our Lord's faithfulness, thanks for His continuous help and protection and we pray that He would keep blessing Trevor and Val and all our marriages.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the gift of life, we give you thanks together with John and Jess Richardson for their firstborn John Anthony, grant your presence to their family, bless the parents with godly wisdom, and provide for their needs of body and soul.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the agencies and institutions through which we love our neighbour and provide for those in need, for the destitute and homeless, and for everyone who suffers unemployment and underemployment, that we may aid them in their needs and assist them to find honourable labor to supply all their needs.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the lonely who suffer the burdens of life without friendship or family, for those depressed or weary of pandemic measures, and for the fellowship of the Church, that we may bear one another's burdens and live in community with Christ as our head.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the sick and those who suffer that God would grant healing to their bodies, peace for their minds, and consolation in their grief and sorrows.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For love of godly things, that we may delight in God's Word and walk in His ways; and for the Spirit, that we may be led into all truth and kept from error and false doctrine.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the nation, for those who lead our nation, for the end of the pandemic, for peace among nations, and for an end to terror and violence, that we may work for the common good so that justice may prevail, life be protected and truth abound.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

O Lord, our God, as we recall the obedient life and life-giving death of Your Son for our salvation, we pray You to strengthen our faith and to make our hearts bold, that we may not fear but address our prayers to You in all humility. Hear us on behalf of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, who even now stands before You on our behalf, pleading our cause with His own blood, until that day when we are delivered from the changes and chances of this mortal life and stand before You in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour †, and give you peace. **C: Amen.**