

2020 05 31 Service of the Word.

IN THE NAME

P: Come, Holy Spirit. Fill the hearts of Your faithful people

C: And kindle in them the fire of Your love.

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: We confess that we are born in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We deserve Your eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us. 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 104:24-34

P: O Lord, how manifold are Your works!

In wisdom have You made them all;
the earth is full of Your creatures.

**C: Here is the sea, great and wide,
which teems with creatures innumerable,
living things both small and great.**

There go the ships,
and Leviathan, which You formed to play in it.

**These all look to You,
to give them their food in due season.**

When You give it to them, they gather it up;
when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.

**When You hide Your face, they are dismayed;
when You take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.**

When You send forth your Spirit, they are created,
and You renew the face of the ground.

**May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in His works,**

Who looks on the earth and it trembles,

who touches the mountains and they smoke!
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
May my meditation be pleasing to Him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.
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 sent Your Holy Spirit at Pentecost, making the disciples bold to preach the good news. Send us out with the power of the same Spirit to spread the fire of Your love. 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 20:19-23.**

“On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.””

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

APOSTLES CREED

C: 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.
P: What does this mean?
C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all

believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

(Luther's Small Catechism)

SERMON based on John 20:19-23.

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

Sermon “Wonders of the Spirit.”

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 Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, You have blessed us in love with the Savior to whom the nations cry and in whom is forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Grant to us Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter whom You have promised, that we and all who call upon His name shall be saved. Help us to treasure in our hearts Your mercy and to give ourselves fully to Your service.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You delivered Your Word through Moses and the prophets and fulfilled Your Word in Christ. He was planted in death for our sins and raised for our justification, and in Him shall all the nations of the earth be united. Give us pastors who will preach this Word faithfully and church workers who are devoted to Your service.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You have promised the thirsty will drink and from the empty will flow forth rivers of living water. Help us to show forth in holy lives the fruits of the Spirit and to live with love toward our neighbor. Give us a servant's heart that doesn't seek our own way but walks on the path of eternal life.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, as You keep speaking even today and sending forth Your powerful word, we pray that you would bless our sister in Christ Sophie and her extended family, grant Sophie your wisdom witnessing to her family and remove everything that hinders her loved ones from hearing Your Gospel and entering Your fellowship.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You have promised to make one people from the many. Take from us all pride, prejudice and hate, that we may not hinder the cause of the Gospel by our shame but give welcome to all people in the name of Christ.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You have ordered all things in heaven and on earth. Bless our political leaders and all elected and appointed civil servants, that the rule of law may protect the weak, preserve life from conception to its natural end, and peace may reign for the benefit of all.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, have mercy and spare us. Put an end to the pandemic, and restore the communities of the world to their common life. We pray especially for those countries where this pandemic has caused many to sink in deep poverty where they lack even their daily bread. Move to change this situation and provide for their needs.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You breath hope into the weary and renew Your Church by Your grace. Bless newly planted congregations that they may endure, guide established congregations that they may not lose heart, and build up our church that our zeal for Your Kingdom may not flag but flourish and prosper according to Your will.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You carry the burdens of our lives in Your hands. Deliver from illness and suffering all who cry to You for release. Today we pray especially for our brother Bob Taplin and our sister Pat. Our Father, only You know what their needs are, we pray that You would graciously provide for them and grant them Your peace.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we pray for our sister in Christ Loris Pullen, giving thanks for successful surgery and asking You to grant her swift and full recovery. We also place in Your hands all whom we now mention in our hearts... .. Answer Your people, O Lord, and deliver them from their infirmities and their grief by Your grace.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, hear Your people for the sake of Him who loved us even to death and who lives to call to Himself all who will be saved. You know what we need and those things we should ask in Your name. Grant them to us for the sake of our crucified, risen and ascended Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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.