Incarnation Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

During this time of quarantine due to the COVID-19 virus, this bulletin is designed for your participation in the worship service from your individual homes. We hope you will join with your church family at 10am each Sunday as we worship separately together as the people of God. It’s exciting to see people sign in, greet one another, send little messages, etc. The service is also posted on Facebook should the 10am time not work for you on any particular Sunday. Thank you for being here. Thank you for worshipping together separately this day!

**GATHERING**

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning you created us in your image

and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,

and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus’ wounded side,

and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,

for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise

through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**A Reading from Acts**

22Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 23For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, 27so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 28For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,  
 ‘For we too are his offspring.’  
29Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. 30While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 66:8-20 The Psalm will be read responsively.**

8Bless our | God, you peoples;  
  let the sound of | praise be heard.  
 9**Our God has kept us a- | mong the living**  
  **and has not allowed our | feet to slip.**  
 10For you, O God, have | tested us;  
  you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.  
 11**You brought us in- | to the net;**  
  **you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.**  
 12You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,  
  but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.  
 13**I will enter your house | with burnt offerings**  
  **and will pay | you my vows—**  
 14those that I promised | with my lips  
  and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.  
 15**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;**  
  **I will give you ox- | en and goats.**  
 16Come and listen, all you | who believe,  
  and I will tell you what God has | done for me.  
 17**I called out to God | with my mouth,**  
  **and praised the Lord | with my tongue.**  
 18If I had cherished evil | in my heart,  
  the Lord would | not have heard me;  
 19**but in truth | God has heard me**  
  **and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.**  
 20Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,  
  nor withheld unfailing | love from me.

**SECOND READING**

**A Reading from First Peter**

13Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; 16yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. 17For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. 18For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, 19in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 20who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. 21And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING**

**The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 15“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.  
  18“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

**SERMON Pastor Jane**

**SHARING THE PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures.

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

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets.

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

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way, especially, Russ and Kay Rushe at the death of Russ’s father, The Rev. George Rushe, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, and all those that are home bound. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give joy to those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially, Carol Black. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Inspire, Renew, and Empower those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week especially, Sydney Cramer, Bruce Harris, Landon Moras, and Charlotte Wood. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially, Jason Harris, Dr. Jordan Shealy, Katelyn Shealy, Melissa Corbett, Maureen Kelly, Sue Hoffmann, Ashley English, Dr. Duncan Norton, Ashton Rabern, Kathy Kehl, and all those who find themselves in harm’s way*.*

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

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us especially, Reverend George Rushe. Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**OFFERING**

*So that the various ministries of the congregation may continue, please take a moment to place your weekly offering in a basket and then mail to the church or give your weekly offering online at this time.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Announcements!**

A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated**Weekly Worship Schedule!**  
**Morning Watch** Weekday Mornings at 9:30 am via Facebook Live!  
  
**Sunday Morning Worship** at 10:00 am via Facebook Live!  
Materials for Worship are emailed out each Friday  
and posted to Facebook each Saturday!

**Online Giving!**

We look forward to the day when we can worship together as a family again, but until then, please continue to support the mission of the church. You can use this image by scanning

the QR Code with your smart phone’s camera which will lead you to our Website for Online Giving!

**If you would like to meet Pastor Emily** prior to voting, please contact the church office.

**Prayer List**

**Current:** Congregational sympathy is expressed to Russ and Kay Rushe at the death of Russ’s father, The Rev. George Rushe, Sivi Middelstaedt and Family, Jenny Gantt, and all those that are home bound.

**Birthdays:** Carol Black 5/22

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** Sydney Cramer 05/23, Bruce Harris 05/22, Landon Moras 05/18, Charlotte Wood 05/22

Financial Update - General Fund Offering

                               Actual             Plan            Difference

April                       $13,008        $19,232          $6,224-

Year-to-Date         $66,418        $81,736          $15,318-