

Incarnation Lutheran Church  
Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost  
September 27, 2020

To facilitate our safe worship together, please follow all guidelines set forth by church staff; remain six feet away from others at all times, please wear a mask, and if you are considered high-risk, consider staying home and joining us via Facebook for Worship. Bulletins, Communion cups, and extra masks are available at the entrance. Please maintain six feet of distance between households. If you are feeling sick please stay home. We're so glad that you are able to join us for worship today. We look forward to worshipping together.

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✝ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Source of all life,  
**We confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.**  
**We fear that we are not good enough.**  
**We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.**  
**We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**  
**Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love,**  
**willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,**  
**and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Son to redeem us, and the Spirit to sanctify us.  
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority,  
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of your sins,  
in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen**

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** *Found on the insert***WORD**

**FIRST READING:** Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

*After the Reading:* The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 25:1-9

**SECOND READING:** Philippians 2:1-13

*After the Reading:* The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 21:23-32

*Before the Reading:* The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

**SERMON**

**Pastor Emily Willhide**



1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,  
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
 4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;  
 per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;  
 nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;  
 nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,  
 his strength shall bear your spir - it up,  
 for you the Lord en - dured the cross  
 for those who hum - bly bear the cross



and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."  
 sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
 to save your soul from death and hell.  
 one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

## 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

*Each petition concludes "Lord, in your mercy" We respond: "hear our prayer."*

## 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.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord.

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**



1 Praise and thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, Son of God, to you we give,  
 2 Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing, com - fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live.  
 through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day  
 Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol - low where your steps are lead - ing, find ad - ven - ture, joys ex - ceed - ing!  
 in your birth, your life and pas - sion, in your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Announcements!

**Confirmation Students** will meet via Zoom today at 11 am.

**A task force** of members and staff have been meeting since May to try to plan our return to our beautiful new sanctuary. With numbers trending down, Council has approved a proposal to return to worship in the sanctuary on October 4th. Check out details on the next page!

**A time for Self-directed Worship** will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 1 pm. We ask that those who attend please wear a mask and remain socially distant from others.

**Wednesdays at noon**, Incarnation will be hosting a short devotional Bible study. Bible study will be held over Zoom and the office will email out the link for the meeting each Wednesday morning.

**If you schedule a meeting** for any church committee or task force, please contact the office to inform the church of your meeting. We would like to have all meetings added to the church calendar, virtual meetings included.

**Do you want to join Incarnation?** If so, please contact the office at [office@incarnationlutheran.com](mailto:office@incarnationlutheran.com) so that we can gather your contact information and reach out to you.

### 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 or look for our new Paypal button on our Facebook page!

### Prayer List

**Current:** Jesse, Emily Wright, Linda Blazek, Shirley Lindler, Russ Rushe, The Norton Family, all those caring for elderly parents, and all members who are home bound.

**Continuing:** Thomas Ulmer, Alice Middleton, Gary Todd, Mavis Turner, Esther Allen, Emily Prince, and Jenny Gantt.

### Military:

Michael Willhide

Chandler Turner; Mavis Turner's Grandson

Edward Wilson; George Rushe's best friend

Hilary Compton; Kim Yerrick's niece, Tyler Owens; Kim Yerrick's nephew

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** Nancy White 10/01, Jordan Hall 10/01



Incarnation Lutheran Church  
*imagine, reach, engage*

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**To Give online:**  
Focus your cell phone camera on the QR code below.  
An ILC banner will appear at the top of the screen. Press on the banner to continue to ILC ONLINE GIVING / OFFERING. Press on the banner to create a profile and / or Login to give.

## **Worship Returns to the Sanctuary on October 4th!**

A task force of members and staff have been meeting since May to try to plan our return to our beautiful new sanctuary. With numbers trending down, Council has approved a proposal to return to worship in the sanctuary on October 4th.

How will it work? Please read carefully to ensure a smooth transition.

- Worship will be at 9am and 11am
- Seating will be by reservation only -- we will send out a signup the Wednesday morning before worship. Call the office if you can't access it.
- Ushers will seat your group when you arrive. You may not be able to sit in "your" seat. Please be flexible!
- Masks will be required. We will have extras.
- Please plan to arrive early to allow time for everyone to be seated.
- Bathrooms will be available.
- Entry will be through the front doors only -- please don't come through the Fellowship Hall, even if you have a key.
- Sharing of the Peace will continue through sign language only.
- We will continue using individually-wrapped communion kits, picked up at the entrance along with the bulletin.
- Offering boxes in the Narthex will collect offerings.
- Music will be different -- we will use a spoken liturgy with no congregational singing -- hymns will be anthems or solos.
- CDC cleaning protocols will be followed.

We know this is a difficult time. If you would like to continue worshipping from home, please feel free. Worship will still be livestreamed on Facebook. Definitely don't come if you're feeling sick or have a temperature.

Finally, we still plan to have a church dedication and reception honoring Pastor Jane's ministries with us at a safer time.

Task force members:

Pastor Jane Mitcham, Previous Interim Pastor  
Pastor Emily Willhide, Pastor  
Patrick Hawkins, Music Director and Organist  
Sarah Harris, ILC Church Council  
Kim Yerrick, ILC Church Council and Altar Guild

Aubrey Sowell, MD  
Sarah Sawicki, ILC Church Council  
Carrie Wood, ILC Church Council  
Larry Marchant, ILC Church Council  
Billy Williamson, Head Usher



**South Carolina Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

**Lutheran Church of the Incarnation**

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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