



When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me."

Luke 8:28

The Season after Pentecost

June 23, 2019 | 11 am



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury NC

Welcome to St. John's!

*For more information about today's worship, please refer to the pew card found in the hymnal.
The congregation's responses are in **bold**.*



Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God.

Welcome *Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.*

Prelude *O God beyond All Praising*

Prayers of Confession

As we gather for worship, we make the sign of the cross as a reminder of our baptism.

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

Let us pray. 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.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8*

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are 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 left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God's Promise of Forgiveness

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Entrance Hymn 673

God, Whose Almighty Word

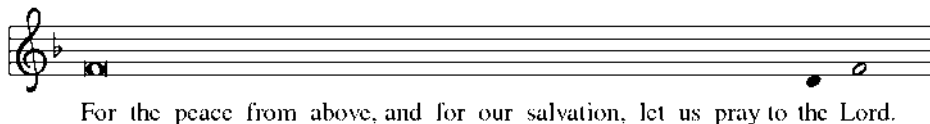
ITALIAN HYMN

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.**

Kyrie. *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace.*



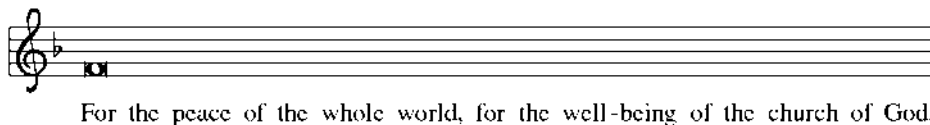
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



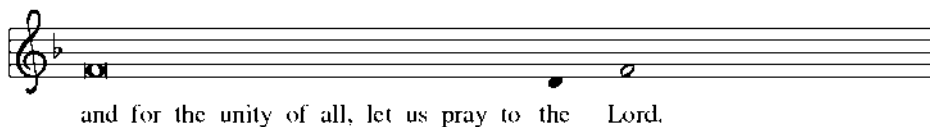
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



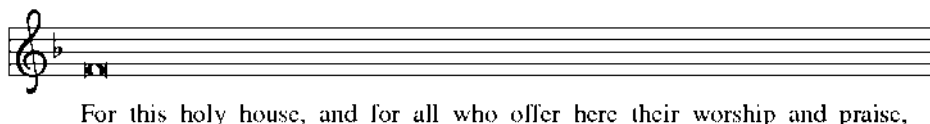
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



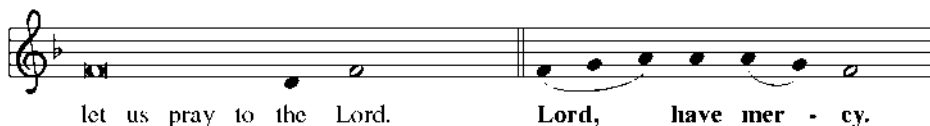
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



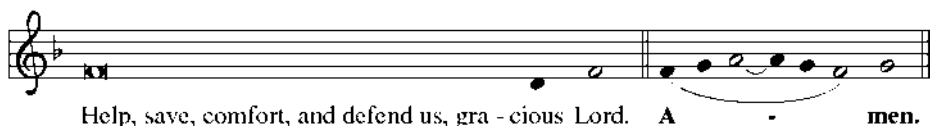
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

**We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

Let us pray. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated



Word

We hear God's word in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Galatians 3:23-29

The purpose of the law

Paul writes: ²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

Second Reading

Psalms 22:19-28

Plea for deliverance from suffering and hostility

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

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

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel. "Alleluia" is an ancient Jewish acclamation that means "God be praised." In the Christian tradition, Alleluia means "He is risen!"



The Holy Gospel

Luke 8:26-39

Jesus heals the Gerasene demoniac

²⁶Then Jesus and the disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As Jesus stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down

before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" — ²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who

had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you. So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pastor Laura Henrik

Please stand

Hymn 843

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

NETTLETON

Apostles' Creed

Gathered as the people of God across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of 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.**

The three paragraphs of the Creed express our belief in the three-fold nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**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.**

Please be seated

Collection of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Sing for Joy

H. Purcell/H. Hopson

Sing for joy, all earth sing for joy.
Praise the Lord, bless his name, come before him with a song;
For he is God, and we are his, the sheep of his own flock.

Go with songs, and enter his courts.
Go with thanksgiving, O come before him with a song;
For he is God, and we are his, the sheep of his own flock.
The Lord is good, his love and truth endure forevermore.

Silence for reflection

Offertory Hymn *As the gifts are presented, the congregation stands and sings the Doxology.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayers of Intercession. *Each petition ends: Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.***

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**



Sending

Forgiven and nourished, we are sent into the world to share God's love.

Benediction

Sending Hymn 729

The Church of Christ, in Every Age
Verses 1, 2, 3 and 5

WAREHAM

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.