

# First English Lutheran Church

1311 East 18<sup>th</sup> Street

Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 & 10: 45 am Non-Communion Services

Paul E. Kaldahl, Pastor

Pentecost 8

Bonnie Kabrick, DCE

July 26, 2020

Kristin Kaldahl, Organist

Phone: 262-5598

## Prelude and Ring of the Bells

**Opening Hymn** - LSB # 901 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

## Welcome

## Dialog

P: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

**C: Maker, Redeemer, Life-giver, Amen!**

P: Amen means, "Yes, Yes, It shall be so."

**C: It is a word we use when God's Word and Truth is revealed to us.**

P: O Lord, You have revealed Yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: To Your holy name, we SAY "Amen!"**

P: In this name, O Lord, we were baptized.

**C: To Your holy calling, we Say "Amen!"**

P: For this name, O Lord, You ask us to serve with gladness.

**C: Take us. Fill us. Use us. Enable us to say "Amen!"**

P: At Your name, O Lord, we bow in worship

**C: and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, "Amen!"**

## WE CONFESS OUR SIN

### AND HEAR HIS MESSAGE OF FORGIVENESS

P: Each week, through the ministry of God's holy Church and the power of His word, the forgiveness of sins is offered to you and to millions throughout the world. Let us now examine our hearts to see how faithfully we have received and carried forth this great gift of God. *(A brief silence is kept)* Let us confess our sin to God.

**C: Father, I have sinned against You. I know my sin is truly great because I have known Your commands and still, I do wrong and fail to do right. Even when I have confessed my sin, I forget that repentance means not only admitting guilt, but changing my life to put You first in all things, as Your First Commandment teaches. Forgive me for Jesus' sake and make me new and whole again.**

P: God forgives us no matter how often or how grievously we have sinned, God's power to save is greater! His Son paid the ransom for our bondage to sin with His own life. His love purifies us and leads us into the greatest fellowship the world has ever known, His family of believers. Rejoice then, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: God grant it for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## Hymn of Psalm 23 – LSB #710

**First Lesson** - Deuteronomy 7:6-9 "For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. <sup>7</sup> It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, <sup>8</sup> but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations. ESV

## DIALOG PRAYER

P: God, give us gratitude to know

**C: that Your Word was given by Your Holy Spirit for our mutual growth.**

P: God, give us obedience to know

**C: that the Word empowers us to live lives of forgiveness that we might faithfully study and learn Your Word so that the Truth might set us free.**

P: God, give us joy to know

**C: that the beauty of Solomon's temple was as nothing when compared to the beauty of Your Word dwelling in us -- in the temple of your children. Amen.**

**Epistle** – Romans 8:28-39 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

<sup>36</sup> As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ESV

**HYMN** - LSB # 918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

### DIALOG PRAYER

P: God, give us grace to know

**C: the joy of participating in the learning of Your Word and the message of our victorious resurrection through Christ.**

P: God, give us wisdom to know

**C: how to discern right from wrong and truth from falsehood that we might grow in the stature and wisdom of our Lord.**

P: God, give us love to know

**C: that Your Word is a lamp that is to be shared with the world.**

**Let us not keep the Light of Your Word selfishly locked up inside our hearts, but equip us to joyously learn the Scriptures so that we might learn to share them in love. Amen.**

P: Please rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel. The Holy Gospel according to...

**C: (spoken) Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Holy Gospel** – Matthew 13:44-52

**The Parable of the Hidden Treasure** - <sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

**The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value** - <sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, <sup>46</sup> who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

**The Parable of the Net** - <sup>47</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. <sup>48</sup> When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**New and Old Treasures** - <sup>51</sup> “Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup> And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” ESV

**(After the reading . . .)**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (spoken) Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Hymn** - LSB # 743 vs 1,3,6 “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

**Sermon**

## DIALOG PRAYER

P: God, give us courage to know

**C: That Your Word gives us endless blessings that we might boldly stand in defense of our faith being well founded in the truth.**

P: God, give us comfort to know

**C: that as we hear, Learn and Inwardly digest Your Word that You will never leave us or forsake us.**

P: God, give us faith to know

**C: That the Holy Spirit continues to guide Your Church through the gift of Your Word. Amen.**

## Offering

## Musical Offering

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: O Savior, let our church and its members be effective in the mission of sharing Your Word to a lost and dying world. Bless those portions of our offerings that support mission work here in Spencer, Iowa and throughout the world.

**C: (sung to tune LSB #781)**

**Hearts still are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold, And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.**

P: Merciful God, it is the ministry and concern of Your Church to give counsel and comfort to those who are sick or sad [Special petitions for the sick or bereaved may be offered here.]. Bless the church workers and facilities that are supported by our offerings, that they may have great effect in the lives of our people.

**C: (sung)**

**To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe, To tend those lost in loneliness Is angels' work below.**

P: Bless the educational ministries of our church, especially our Pre-school, our Parochial School – IGLLS, our G.I.F.T. midweek program, and our VBS and Sunday School programs. Give us enthusiasm for this work and generous hearts for their support.

**C: (sung)**

**The captive to release, The lost to God to bring, To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.**

P: Lord, if we were to try to support these ministries on our own, we could not succeed. But You have promised in Malachi, chapter three: " Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this,' says the Lord Almighty and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.' "

**C: (sung)**

**And we believe Your word, Though dim our faith, it's true: What we do for Your people, Lord, We do it all for you.**

P: Guide us all by Your Truth for Your Word is Truth. May God grant it for Jesus' sake.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer** (sung to "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" LSB #366)

**Our Father, Lord on heav'ns high throne,  
Most holy be Your Name.  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done  
On earth – in heav'n the same.  
Give us this day the food we need;  
Forgiven may we be;  
Into temptation do not lead;  
From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom; unto You  
In grateful love we bow;  
And yours the pow'r, Lord, let us view  
Your mighty presence now.  
The glory yours; Your praise be sung  
Throughout the world again  
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue  
Forevermore! Amen!**

## Blessing

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.**

Hymn – LSB # 930 vs. 1-2, 5-6 “All You Works of God”

Announcements and Postlude

† † VISITORS AND MEMBERS † †

Sometime during the service we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God and encourage you to visit us again when possible.

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