

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our mission is to celebrate and share God's love in Jesus Christ



Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 19, 2022 at 8:15 AM
Spoken Liturgy with Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The assembly is invited to stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

ALL: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Merciful God,

ALL: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.

Amen.

Pastor: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

ALL: Amen.

GREETING

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

ALL: And also with you.

DIALOGUE

Leader: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

ALL: a people holy to the Lord our God.

Leader: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

ALL: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

Leader: One does not live by bread alone,

ALL: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

Lector: A reading from Isaiah.

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. ²I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. ⁶See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. ⁸Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from

Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

Galatians 3:23-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

Lector: A reading from Galatians.

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.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The assembly is invited to stand.

GOSPEL:

Luke 8:26-39

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Luke.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he 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, ³⁹“Return 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.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated

SERMON

The assembly is invited to stand.

APOSTLE’S 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.**

THE PRAYERS

Assisting Minister: United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need responding with “hear our prayer.”

A brief silence.

Holy God, you hear the cries of those who seek you. Equip your church with evangelists who reveal the continuous call of your outstretched hands and your promises of a home in you. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: You hear the cries of the earth. Restore places where land, air, and waterways have been harmed. Guide us to develop and implement sources of energy and food production that do not destroy the earth. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: You hear the cries of those who are marginalized or cast out. On this Juneteenth observance, guide us continually toward the end of oppression in all its forms, especially white supremacy. Bring true freedom and human flourishing to all your beloved children. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: You hear the cries of those who suffer. Come to the aid of all who are homeless, naked, hungry, and sick especially...those we name aloud now...and those we hold in our hearts. Bring peace to any experiencing mental illness, that they can clearly recognize your loving presence. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: You hear the cries of those who celebrate and those who grieve on this Father’s Day. Nurture mutual love and tender care in all relationships. Comfort those for whom this day brings sadness or longing. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Assisting Minister: We give thanks for the faithful departed whose lives proclaimed all you had done for them. At the last, unite us with them as we make our home in you. God of grace,

ALL: hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of every time and place, in Jesus’ name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

ALL: Amen

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Offering is being gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. You are invited to place your offering in one of the offering plates located in the rear of the Sanctuary or send your offering to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website.

OFFERING PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

ALL: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

COMMUNION INVITATION

Pastor: God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All who are guided by faith to receive the Lord's Supper are welcome at Christ's table. We give thanks as we receive the real presence of our resurrected Lord in, with, and under the bread and the wine. **Communion will be distributed continuously, in household groups, under the direction of the usher.** Take an empty cup to receive from a pouring chalice (let the communion assistant know if you prefer grape juice). Please let the pastor know if you require a gluten free host. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." and each person may respond, "Amen". Worshippers who are not yet communing are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

After all have communed the assembly is invited to stand.

TABLE BLESSING

Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in Christ's Grace. **All: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the

name of Jesus.

ALL: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Pastor: The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

ALL: Amen

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

Upcoming Commemorations

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.

John the Baptist

Friday, June 24, 2022

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.

Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530

Saturday, June 25, 2022

On this day in 1530 the German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession were presented to the Emperor Charles of the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession was written by Philipp Melancthon and endorsed by Martin Luther, and consists of a brief summary of points in which the reformers saw their teaching as either agreeing with or differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church of the time.

Altar Flowers - The altar flowers this Sunday are given to the glory of God by Ray Kratz and Kelly Daly in honor of their daughter Charlotte Westerfer's birthday.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday school and Adult Forum will be on Summer recess. Enjoy your Summer and we will see you in the Fall for Rally Day.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 12 through September 4 the worship schedule will be at **8:15 AM** - Spoken Liturgy with Holy Communion and **10:00 AM** - Bread of Life Liturgy with Holy Communion.

WURFFEL FUND COLLEGE LOAN

It is the time of year for the Wurffel Fund College Loan applications. Bishop Bartholomew's letter can be found here: <https://bit.ly/Bishopletter>, for information about the loan/scholarship. To access the loan instructions and application package use this link: <https://bit.ly/Wurffelloaninstapplica>. Applications are due no later than **July 1**.

JOSEPH'S HOUSE BREAKFAST CASSEROLES

Joseph's House continues its ministry to feed the homeless in Camden. Thank you to the "Casserole Crew" for their support. **The next opportunity to provide twelve (12) breakfast casseroles is Thursday, June 23.** Please sign up using the new digital link: https://bit.ly/jhbc_June22. Casseroles can be dropped off at the Elkins Road door on June 23 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

SUMMER CAMP AT CROSS ROADS

Cross Roads offers unique summer camp programs for youth and families. Campers encounter God in nature, in worship, and in relationships during their time at camp. Our amazing summer staff of young adults create an environment for personal growth, wholesome fun, and an experience of genuine community.

Youth Camp (Grades 2-8): Multiple Weeks
High School Week (Grades 9-12): July 10-16
Adventure Camp (Grades 4-8): July 17-23
Leaders In Training (Grade 11): July 31-Aug. 13
S.E.E.K. (Grades 8-10): July 31 – Aug. 13
Family Camp: August 14-19
Family Camp Weekend: August 19-21

Reach out to the Bruesehoff Family if you have any questions about camp talk to Pastor Chris about financial resources that are available. For more Information go to:
www.crossroadsretreat.com/

EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response is joining companion churches and partners in response to this crisis. These partners provide immediate support and supplies. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has joined other religious leaders from Europe and around the globe in issuing an interfaith call for peace in the region.

There are ways to help in support of those in Ukraine, Russia and neighboring countries affected by this crisis. Please pray for healing, peace and hope in their time of need. An offering labeled “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” can be placed in the offering plate in the rear of the Sanctuary or sent to the church office through the mail or by having your bank mail a check directly. You can also contribute using any of the electronic giving options found on our church website.

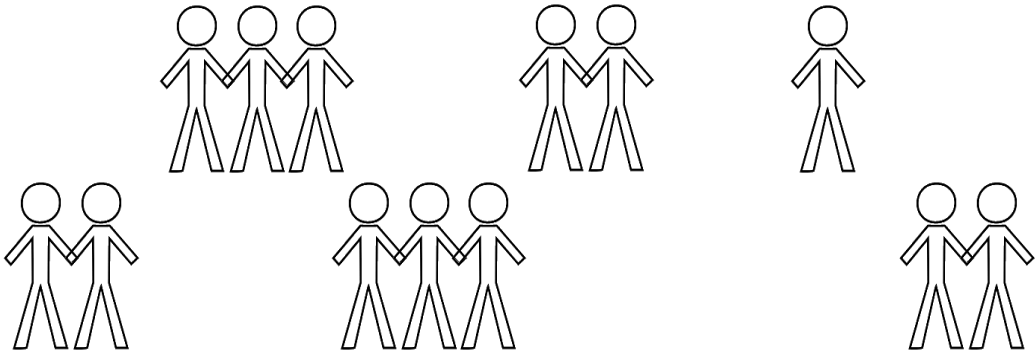
DIGITAL SIGN IN

To help keep each other safe, you are welcome to sign in with our new digital sign in. Please use the QR Code that can be found here in the bulletin or on the tables in the Narthex. You are also welcome to still sign in on the hard copy on the table in the Narthex.



WORSHIP SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

We are asking that folks try not to sit directly behind each other during worship and instead sit in-between the groups in the pew directly in front of you. Think about it like taking a class picture back in school, when you had to stand in the 'window' between the two people in front of you.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.