

# Holy Communion

20th Sunday after Pentecost + Saturday, October 17, 2020

## BRIEF ORDER FOR 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**

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.

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. 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 your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## 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

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22**

*After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt, *especially we pray for those on our prayer list and those we name before now ...* Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you. We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*We give our offerings in praise and thanksgiving for all that God has done for us in Jesus Christ and for the sake of Jesus' ongoing mission and ministry in this world. We have been entrusted to carry out this mission Jesus' name, bringing the good news of Jesus to the people of this community and around the world. Please, take a minute of your time to make an electronic gift through the St. Paul's Website [www.stpauls-edison.org/online-giving.html](http://www.stpauls-edison.org/online-giving.html). Please consider making this gift a recurring gift. You may also mail your offering to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 445 Old Post Rd., Edison NJ 08817.*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

The body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Wednesday afternoon Zoom Bible, Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.** (Sign up to join the conversation: <https://calendly.com/james-krombholz/bible-and-bagels>)

**Thursday evening Zoom Bible at 7:00 p.m.** (Sign up to join the conversation: <https://calendly.com/james-krombholz/thursday-evening-bible-study>)

**Bedtime Prayers on Zoom.** Every evening at 9:00 p.m. (e-mail [PastorJim2006@icloud.com](mailto:PastorJim2006@icloud.com) to request log in links and/or phone number)

**In-Person Gatherings.** The St. Paul's community will continue to gather online as its primary place of assembly until the risk of developing and spreading COVID-19 is greatly diminished. To supplement our online gatherings, we are offering an in-person services indoors on Saturday evening and outdoors on Sunday morning. **Our next service of Evening Prayer will be on Saturday, October 24, at 5:30 p.m. THIS SERVICE IS SCHEDULED TO OCCUR IN THE SANCTUARY. And our In-person Sunday Worship will be a service of Holy Communion for Reformation Sunday, October 25, at 10 a.m.**

For these services we ask that you sign up in advance so we know who and how many people are planning to attend. To sign up to attend, please use the registration link in the e-mail announcement, your virtual bulletin and on the St. Paul's Website, or by calling the church office. We are asking that all who attend, in-person services abide by these three simple rules: 1) Always wear a face covering; 2) Maintain social distancing by giving your neighbor at least six-feet of personal space; 3) Treat your fellow worshipers with love and respect by actively looking out for their safety and well being.

**Share some food or volunteer.** You can donate non-perishable food to the food pantry by placing your donations in the box located outside the glass door entrance to the lounge. If you would like to volunteer in our food pantry, please call Jane Brady.

**Volunteers:** We could use people to help us in the following areas:

- Sound system set up and take down
- Camera streaming services
- Online greeters

**NEW APPROACHES TO MISSION & MINISTRY:** Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom: **Meeting ID: 896 4988 9338 Passcode: 030968** — Pastor Krombholz and members of council will lead a discussion about the shape of St. Paul's ministry at the end of 2020 and listen to your ideas for new approaches to mission and ministry in 2021.

**BLESSING**

Neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers,  
nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ✝ Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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