



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A SERVICE OF WORD AND MEAL
JULY 5, 2020

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
HILTON HEAD, SC

✝ This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. ✝

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

✝ GATHERING ✝

Gathering Music

Come Unto Him

Handel's Messiah

[The text of the music comes from the gospel reading today Matthew 11:28-30]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTMrCV58DZc>

Welcome + Announcements

We Prepare our Hearts for Worship

As I Went Down to the River

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BumCkswUUDA>

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water--
the mighty Atlantic Ocean,
the many rivers of South Carolina nourishing the land:
the Broad, Enoree, Tyger, Saluda, Congaree, Santee, PeeDee, Wando, Cooper,
Ashley, Edisto, Savannah and Catawba,
for the rain that nourishes animals and plants,
the water for drinking and bathing.
We praise you, O God, for water:
We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories--
a flood that cleansed the earth,
the sea that drowned the enemy,
a river that healed leprosy.
We praise you, O God, for water:
We praise you, O God, for water.

We remember the waters of Jesus--
baptized in the Jordan River,
calming the Sea of Galilee,
drinking from Jacob's Well,
healing at the pool of Bethesda,
washing the disciples' feet.
We praise you, O God, for water:
We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for this font,
for you breathe into this water
to wash away our sin
and birth us each day into your peace and joy.
We praise you, O God, for baptism:
We praise you, O God, for baptism.

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.
O God, you are the River, saving us from death.
O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.
We praise you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
today, tomorrow, forever.
Amen, and amen:
Amen, and amen.

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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

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

The First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good.

¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know

that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Beautiful Savior

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tikF2Wg7vII>

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.
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 of Intercession

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water, and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the nations, especially the United States and Canada, celebrating their nationhood. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide the difficult conversations of these days. Enable us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to always seek the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed, and especially all we name before you now. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for this congregation. Sustain us in our call process. Support the efforts of our new Soup Kitchen. Comfort all who feel isolated. Create for us all a new vision of mission and ministry. Shine in this place that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women celebrated this week. We give thanks for those who enabled the church all those years ago to do the hard work of opening up ministry to women who were called by God but not called by the church. Continue to raise up faithful women and men, pastors and deacons, missionaries at home and abroad, to lead this church to minister to a world in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for those who have died in faith, especially Sandra Heins. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

While we are in these Zoom meetings, we will provide a time for worshipers to prepare an offering to be mailed in, to go to our website to make a contribution, or take time to pray and consider how God is calling each of us to share our resources with the church and the world.

Visitors in our worship today are encouraged to go to our website <https://clchhi.org/> and send us an email letting us know you were worshiping with us today. If we can support you in any way, please share your need with us.

If you have not already done so, use this time to finish setting your home table for communion.

Offering Anthem: *Here Is Bread*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ioUFCECriLo>

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.

Dialog

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.

Eucharistic Prayer for Pentecost

Thanks be to you, O God, for the power of your loving Spirit.
We worship you for your Spirit, who forms life out of chaos and dust.
We bless you for your Spirit, who ignites the words of the prophets.
We praise you for your Spirit, who carries your people together in unity.

Glory be to you, O God, for the comfort of your creative Spirit.
By your Spirit your Son preached and healed, rebuked and forgave.
Dying on the cross for a wounded world, he gave over his Spirit.
Risen from death, he pours out your Spirit on all who believe.

On the night before he died, 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.

On this bread and wine, on this altar and in our homes, come, Holy Spirit:
Come, Holy Spirit.

On your people separated from worship, yet still one in you, come Holy
Spirit:
Come, Holy Spirit.

On our nation blessed by freedom and weighed down by division, come,
Holy Spirit:
Come, Holy Spirit.

On all longing for justice and peace, come, Holy Spirit:
Come, Holy Spirit.

We plead for your Spirit, to cry aloud in us, with us, and for us.
Breathe your life into our bones.
Anoint us for service with your oil of gladness.
Translate our speech into tongues of wisdom.
Shower on us your gifts:
 love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
 generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
Sanctify the whole earth with your truth.
Bring us at the end with all your needy children into your homeland of
mercy.

Once more we praise and worship and bless you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
God of supreme mercy and might,
God of the cross and the empty tomb,
God of the power of justice and peace,
now and forever.
Amen.

Amen.

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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 the Table

Friends of Jesus, join at the table.
Receive nourishment for your journey.

Thanks be to God!

Distribution of Communion

After the pastor says: “The body of Christ given for you, all at home may commune those in their household. Then the pastor will say, “The blood of Christ shed for you” and all may share the wine at home.

✠ SENDING ✠

Prayer after Communion

God of the welcome table,
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness
and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.
Amen.

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. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

America the Beautiful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmP9LvHgcaA>

Pastor Mary Anderson – Presiding

Silke Pyrlík - Assisting Minister

Janet Sullivan, Zoom Producer

Jim Fritz and Tami Kuhlmann – Curators of our Zoom Music Offerings

Baker of the Communion Bread – Doris Stickel