

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

309 Second Street North, PO Box 21, Pine River, MN 56474

Church Office: 587-2316

www.1stluth.org

Pastor Jacob Burkman

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2020

The Triune God's mission in the world is to bring faith, peace, healing, and salvation to all of God's people; and God's mission has this church, First Lutheran—Pine River.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Opening Hymn:** "God is Here" (ELW 526) (*see back page of bulletin*)

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection. The following confession is prayed.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive 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.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these words:

Pastor: 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.

People: 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.

People: **And also with you.**

***Kyrie**

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: **Amen.**

***Prayer of the Day:**

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: **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.**

Reflections: (*Cam Zinda, make-up of Youth Sunday assignment from May*)

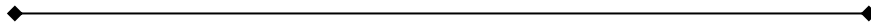
Consider the question “What does it mean for God to be our Shepherd?” in a sermon:

- i) Note the “ ‘Shepherd’ is a common Biblical metaphor for a leader, and ‘sheep’ for followers” (just put that phrase somewhere near the beginning of the sermon).
- ii) Describe what you consider to be a good leadership (like what sort of qualities make someone a good leader); perhaps consider giving a real-world example.
- iii) How do you see these good leadership qualities in God and Jesus?
- iv) How are we like sheep in following God and/or Jesus? Could we improve on this? If so, how?
- v) Despite the fact that we are depicted as sheep, we are still called to be ‘sub-leaders.’ How do you see yourself being an effective leader?

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you
by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do
not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is
no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.



Psalm 96:1-9, [10-13]

¹O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²**Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.**
³Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among
all the peoples.
⁴**For great is the LORD,
and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.**
⁵For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶**Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are
in his sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come
into his courts.**
⁹Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.
[¹⁰Say among the nations, ‘The LORD is king!
The world is firmly established;
it shall never be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity.’
¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let
the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
¹²let the field exult, and everything in it.
**Then shall all the trees of the forest
sing for joy
¹³before the LORD; for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.**
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.]

Second Reading: I Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia!

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Gospel Announcement**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

***Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22**

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ ²¹They 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.’ ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Gospel Response:

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Jacob Burkman

Those who wish to have a family conversation in lieu of the Children’s Sermon (which is suspended temporarily due to space and time concerns) can find conversation prompts on Pastor Jacob’s sermon manuscript on the church’s website.

Hymn of the Day: "When Our Songs Says Peace" (ELW 709)



1 When our song says peace and the world says war, we will
2 When our song says free and the world says bound, we will
3 When our song says home and the world says lost, we will



sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,
sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,
sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,



who breaks the spear and sword and stills the storm of war.
who o - pens pris - on doors and sets the cap - tives free.
who brings us home at last, and gives a song to all.

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Music: Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
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***Statement of Faith – The Apostles’ 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:**

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

A brief silence.

Pastor: 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: God or 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt. Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

***Offertory Prayer**

All: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and 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:

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.

***Words of Institution**

***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.

***Blessing:**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

***Dismissal:**

Pastor: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

People: Thanks be to God.

✠ Communion ✠

*All who believe in the death and resurrection as given in this bread and wine are welcome to the table today.
Please follow usher's instructions for dismissal and communion.*

Communion will be distributed as you are leaving. Please follow the blue arrows and X's toward the door you entered, maintaining physical distance.

The elements are in combined, sealed packaging. Remove the outer cellophane to access the wafer (*not gluten free*) and the inner seal for the grape juice. If you are gluten free, remember that Lutheran tradition teaches that Christ is fully present in each element.

Please dispose of the cup in the trash can provided as you exit or take it with you.

Communion / Closing Hymn

Worship Team

Postlude

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Greeters:	
Reader:	Cam Zinda
Acolytes:	Cam Zinda; _____
Communion Server:	
Music:	Delphine Howard; Worship Team
Video:	Jan Brasel
Sound:	Chuck Brasel
Head Usher:	Paul Pearson
Altar Guild:	Annette Newton
Counter:	Irene Gearey

Next Sunday's Readings: Joshua 1:1, 5b, 9; Psalm 46; Revelation 21:1-6; Matthew 22:34-46

Announcements

SINGING & RESPONSES – You are asked to please *not* sing the hymns, but to silently meditate on them as the Worship Team sings. You may quietly whisper the congregational spoken responses.

Worship Volunteers -- As we begin to once again gather for worship, volunteers will be needed (and welcomed!) to help things go smoothly. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex, or you can call the office and we will write in your name for you. *Thank you!*

Bulletins can be sponsored for \$25.00 per week. The sign-up sheet is on the *Called to Serve* bulletin board in the Narthex, or you can call the office at 587-2316.

Next week's NOISY OFFERING will go to the Tiger Den Food Pantry at Pine River-Backus school.

Community Events

Ruby's Pantry will be distributing food on Tuesday, October 27, 4:00 – 6:00. Line up on the Cass County Fairgrounds, and follow the signs for the drive-through distribution. For a \$20 donation, you will receive an abundance of groceries. No income or residency requirement. www.rubyspantry.org

Energy Assistance: The Energy Assistance Program serving Beltrami and Cass Counties, BI-CAP, is preparing for the 2021 heating season. They are reaching out in an effort to share information about our program and inform households that may need help with their home heating/electric costs. Please see the Social Ministry bulletin board for more details or go to www.bicap.org/projects/assistance

Cass County Public Health is offering coordination of essential services for residents. Essential Services include groceries, medications, or other items needed for daily living. If you feel you are at high risk for contracting COVID-19 and are unable to obtain essential items on your own, or if you know of someone who is at high risk and unable to obtain essential items, please contact Kristin at 218-547-6852. Cass County Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, October 18, 2020

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Service	9:00 AM
Adult Bible Study (<i>in-person</i>)	10:00 AM
First Communion Preparation	10:00 AM

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Text Study (<i>in-person</i>)	10:00 AM
Communion at Heartland Apts.	1:15 PM
Confirmation	6:30 PM

Sunday, October 25, 2020

21st Sunday after Pentecost / Reformation Sunday / Noisy Offering

Worship Service / Confirmation	9:00 AM
Adult Bible Study (<i>in-person</i>)	10:00 AM
First Communion Preparation	10:00 AM

If you do not wish to attend the Worship Service in person, you will still be able to listen to the sermon or watch video of the service online. You can also read a transcript of Pastor Burkman's sermon on the First Lutheran website. Links will be on First Lutheran's website and on our Facebook page by Monday morning.

For those who choose to attend in-person worship:

- 1. If you are symptomatic, please stay home and participate in online worship.** (Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea)
- 2. Wearing a mask is required.**
- 3. Use hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the building.**
- 4. Do not congregate in the narthex, hallways, or bathroom.**
- 5. Do not go upstairs or downstairs. These areas are not open.** There will not be fellowship time, nor will any food or coffee be served until further notice.
- 6. As you enter, proceed directly to ushers who will seat you in the sanctuary.** Be aware of others and proper spacing.
- 7. Communion will take place at the end of worship. You will be dismissed by an usher.**

Our online worship will be a recording of the in-person worship service. By coming to in-person worship you are giving consent to be included in the recorded version to be posted on our website, YouTube, and Facebook.

If you prefer not to be recorded, please request to sit toward the back of the church.

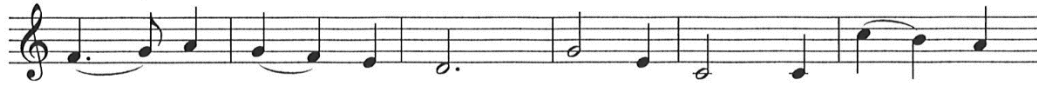
*“The Lord is
my strength
and my
song.”*

Exodus 15:2

***Opening Hymn: "God is Here" (ELW 526)**



1. God is here! As we his peo - ple, Meet to
 2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us Of our
 3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come In the
 4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, In an



of - fer praise and prayer, May we find in ful - ler
 life - long need of grace; Here are ta - ble, font and
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; Here, as bread and wine are the
 age of change and doubt, Keep us faith - ful to the



meas - ure What it is in Christ we share:
 pul - pit, Here the cross has cen - tral place:
 tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old:
 gos - pel, Help us work your pur - pose out:



Here, as in the world a - round us, All our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, Here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant Seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, All we



var - ied skills and arts Wait the com - ing
 si - lence as in speech, Here in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore What it means in
 have to give, re - ceive; We who can - not



of his Spir - it In - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing To be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, We a - dore you! We be - lieve!