

WORSHIP @ HOME

Trinity Lutheran Church

Spooner, WI



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday, October 4, 2020

18th Sunday after Pentecost

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENT

+ **Next Sunday, October 11 is our second annual Blaze Orange in-person, Outdoor Worship. The services are offered at 10AM and 11AM;** with a special children's sermon by Steve Hemshrot at 10AM. There will be a "Give Thanks" Selfie Station and a "Wild Refreshments" goodie bag to take home. Remember to wear your camo or blaze orange and enjoy the time as we give thanks to the Lord of the Harvest.



INTRODUCTION TO "STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE" TIME AND TALENTS

By God's grace, we are claimed as children of God through baptism. We belong to God and all that we have belongs to God. How does "belonging to God" shape the way we live our lives? How might we be good stewards of God's grace?

Key Message: God has given each of us unique gifts and talents. One of the primary places that God has called us to use these gifts and talents is through our vocations. Our vocations may take the form of a job, but they also include our callings as mothers, fathers, sisters, friends, citizens and so much more. These vocations or callings are the places from which we love God and our neighbors.

How is God calling us, as individuals and as a congregation, to steward our gifts and talents through our vocations?

Worship Bulletin

+ PRELUDE +

+ GATHERING +

Together with God the creator, Jesus our Redeemer, and the fire of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

+ GATHERING SONG+

"Come and See" W&P 29

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS ¹ +

We do not stop enough to listen to the still-speaking God. And like the people of Jerusalem long ago, we often misunderstand the Spirit's movement among us. In the silence and stillness of this moment, let us draw near to God and listen.

We confess to you, Renewing Spirit, that we confuse unity with uniformity, and diversity with divisiveness. We speak and behave as if being a part of your family means assimilating others to our way of living. We deny and destroy the beauty you created in each person. We long to change these patterns, O Creator, but we do not know how. Teach us to value challenge. Help us to see strength in difference. And empower us to build your kingdom in creativity and love. Amen.

Hear the good news!

God's Spirit has been poured out upon all people, and we have been made one. By your grace, we are no longer scattered or divided. By your grace, we are gathered together to build up the kingdom on this earth. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

+ PRAYER +

Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost; to share and not to seek return; to labor and not to ask for reward; except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our gracious and loving Savior. Amen.

+ STEWARDSHIP SHARING +

Time and Talents with Mary Ellen

+ SCRIPTURE +

+ Ephesians 4:1-6

+ Matthew 25:1-13

+ REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

Time to discern our vocation as a congregation. Where is God uniquely calling us to serve our community and the world?

+ REFLECTION SONG +

"Humble and Kind" Performed by Tim McGraw

+ 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.

+ PRAYERS +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

+ We pray for our congregation, council, planning teams, and members – as we continue to connect through adaptive faith practices, make careful and thoughtful decisions about ministry, and celebrate the body of Christ at work in the world. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

- + For medical professionals, emergency service workers, mental health professionals, and educators that they be given endurance for their important work, continued wisdom to make important decisions, and the support they need to care for themselves and their families. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + Expansive God, you bring diverse voices together to form your church. Open our hearts and ears to learn from one another, that differences might not overshadow our baptismal unity. Call many voices to come together in understanding and common purpose, we pray for all those who find themselves on the fringes, hungry, homeless, facing injustice, violence, or abuse, and those who simply struggle to find safety and inclusion, we look to Your love to guide our faith to serve these neighbors so that everyone can know Your compassion of God. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + God of care, you created us in your image. Help us see your likeness in one another. Open our eyes to see and attend to all who face oppression and suffering. Console, heal, and nourish all in need in mind, body or spirit. We lift those names to you now aloud and silently in our heart (*pause as names are shared*). Come to the aid of all your people. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + God of companionship, you accompany this body of faith. As the rhythms of fall continue, protect, renew, and shelter us. We ask for your wisdom as we discern both individual and communal vocations. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + This day we also pray for some special Trinity Lutheran families: Jean Hobart, Doug, Raeleen, Ty, Kennedy Ellanson, Lois Nielsen and Joe & Lee Weiss. Bless and keep us all in your gracious care. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**



Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray...

+ LORD'S PRAYER +

+ OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or serving arm of the church – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

+ OFFERING SONG +

“Accept, O Lord the Gifts We Bring” V. 1 ELW 691

+ BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, “You are a beloved child of God.” Take turns until all in the household have been blessed.

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

+ SENDING SONG +

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth/Enviado soy de Dios” ELW 538

+ DISMISSAL+

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

+ POSTLUDE +

TODAY'S WORSHIP MINISTERS

Scripture Readers

Ethan and Ava Young

Musicians

Tam Smith, Steve Clay, Mary Hemshrot

Videographer & Editing

Bill Callander

PowerPoint

Julie Rankila

Stewardship Sharing

Mary Ellen Ulfers

Reflection

Pastor Heather Kistner

Stewardship is about so much more than money. **Stewardship, at its core, is about love.** It is one of the primary ways that we live out Jesus' commandment to love God and our neighbor with our whole beings. Changing the stewardship culture of your congregation takes time and hard work. But a few small, intentional steps in the right direction can go a long way. Stewardship can be a life-giving practice for both the stewardship committee and the congregation. When we practice year-round stewardship, we free stewardship from the shackles of the budget so that we can be reunited with God's mission in the world. We free stewardship from its connection to the fall season, so that it can become a way of life. And we free stewardship from the cries of scarcity, so that we can celebrate God's abundance.