Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry June 19, 2022 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life 69 Mill Street • Athens, OH • (740) 593-3144 info@clcathens.org • www.clchathens.org

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 AND PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. Amen. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful God. 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. 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. Amen.

GATHERING SONG



Text: Samuel Longfellow, 1819–1892 Music: SONG 13, Orlando Gibbons, 1583–1625

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.

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.

Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:1-9

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. Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God. **PSALM: Psalm 22:19-28** ¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not far away;

O my help, hasten to my aid.

- ²⁰Deliver me from the sword,
- my life from the power of the dog.
- ²¹Save me from the lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²²I will declare your name to my people;

in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,

who rules over the nations.

SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29

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. Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39

The holy gospel according to Luke.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.

Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885

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CRFFD We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for all people everywhere according to their need, and for the people of God in every place.

Today is Juneteenth, when we commemorate the end of slavery in the United States. We give thanks to God for the diversity of humankind and pray that God will help, guide and strengthen our commitment to work for the full inclusion of all people in the church, in our society and throughout the world. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

On this Fathers' Day, we pray for and celebrate all who are fathers, stepfathers, foster fathers, fathers struggling with parenting, and men without children of their own who serve as loving and caring adults in the lives of children and youth. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

We pray that you will help us to be good stewards of this world that you have created for us. You have given us the responsibility of cherishing it as a precious gift. Please help us to preserve the earth and all that is in it to honor and glorify you. And be with all of those suffering from fires, floods and devastating storms. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and suffering. For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

We pray for those who have died and their families and friends. Today we also remember the members of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, North Carolina., who were killed by a self-professed white supremacist while gathered for Bible study. Pray that we — as individuals, a church, and a society — will reaffirm our commitment to repent from the sins of racism and white supremacy, and that the Spirit will change our hearts and lead us to value, love and welcome all people as the wonderful handiwork of God. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

We celebrate with those having birthdays and anniversaries this week and ask that you hear our specific prayers that we offer here either aloud or in our hearts... Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, hear the prayers of your church. Grant that what we celebrate with faith we may put into practice in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord **AMEN**

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE

Jane Unger asks that we pray for the family and friends of Jennifer Gandee-Barker as they mourn her death earlier this week.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING - THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Giving is easy online through our website at <u>https://www.clcathens.org/give</u> There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!



strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,

in the name of Jesus.

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, 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,

in the harmonious world of your creation,

the plants and animals,

the seas and stars

were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,

you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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. Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen

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. INVITATION TO COMMUNION In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

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

Amen.





Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833–1896

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY: Presider: Chad Huebner; Preacher: Katie Beth Miksa; Organist: George Weckman; Asst/Lector: Doug Debrick; Livestream: Kay Cleland; Greeter: Mike Cleland; Time with Children: Puppets; Acolyte: Rachel Prange; Ushers: Tim Prange and Marilyn Shealy