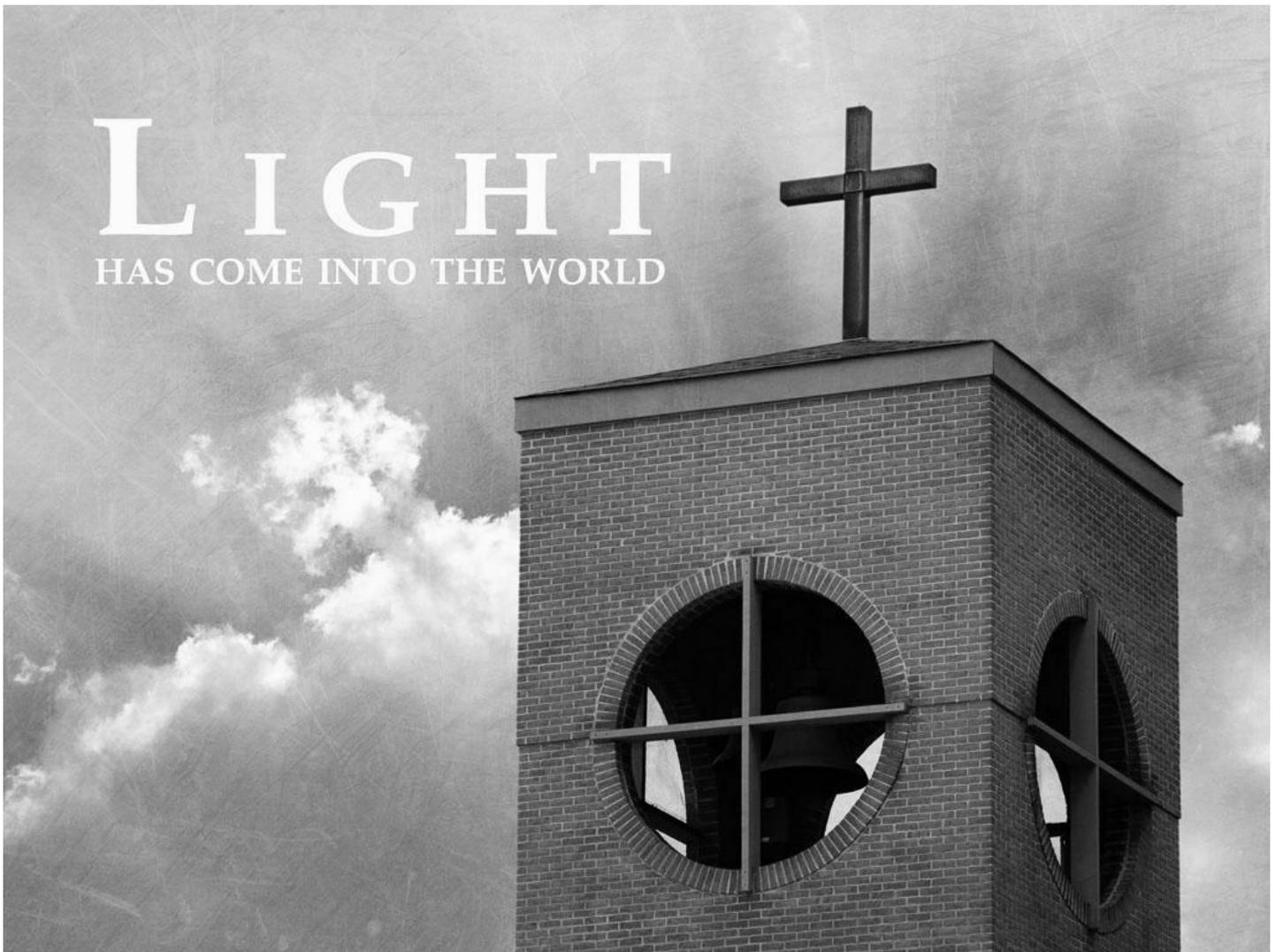


An evening setting of Holy Communion



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Saturday, August 18, 2018

5:30 pm

Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

Pentecost 13

Interims: The Reverend Larry Hoover and Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile

Church: 479-4110; Fax: 479-2994

www.stdavidslutheran.org

Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign the friendship sheet that is located in the booklet at the end of each pew, near the center aisle. These sheets will be collected with the offering.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all who are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and who recognize the Sacrament as the true body and blood of our Lord. Baptized children are also welcome to the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians.

Prayer Requests may be made by placing the request in the small wooden box at the rear, near the doors through which you entered. The acolyte will collect the requests and they will be included during the prayers of the congregation.

For your comfort there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table and supplies and a water fountain located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock, and the water fountain is to the right at the beginning of the hallway.

Devotional – The worship folder you are holding is also a weekly devotional booklet. The prayers and Scripture readings are appropriate for use at any time during the week. The liturgy itself is a Scripturally based order for daily prayer and devotion with Scriptural references noted where they apply. Even the hymns are appropriate tools for prayer and praise. Finally, there is a daily lectionary of Scripture readings for the rest of the week on the last printed page.

INTRODUCTION

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Kneel/Sit

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

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 minister stands and addresses the congregation.

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.

The assembly stands.

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.**

KYRIE

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy

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

Lord have mercy.

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.

Lord have mercy.

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

Lord have mercy.

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

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6

A reading from Proverbs the 9th chapter.

{Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.}

¹Wisdom has built her house,

she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,

she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls

from the highest places in the town,

⁴"You that are simple, turn in here!"

To those without sense she says,

⁵"Come, eat of my bread

and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live,

and walk in the way of insight."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:9-14 (read responsively)

Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

¹¹Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you reverence for the LORD.

¹²**Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

¹³Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴**Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

All: Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20

A reading from Ephesians the 5th chapter.

{True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.}

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL: John 6:51-58

The holy gospel according to John the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

{In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.}

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.

⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly stands.

Together we confess our faith:

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

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

O Lord, you build your church, the body of Christ, and sustain it with living bread. Let wisdom guide your church, and teach all its members the way of righteousness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O Lord, bless the work of musicians, composers, writers, and all artists. Move us to even greater praise through their gifts of creativity. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O Lord, we thank you for the diversity of the nations. Shower your wisdom and mercy upon all leaders and citizens. Give us all the courage to seek peace and pursue it. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O Lord, send calm and perseverance to those who are in trouble or who live daily with great stress. Fill them with your Spirit and satisfy them with your presence (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O Lord, we thank you for this congregation. Give us gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy, and inspire us to give thanks at all times. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O Lord, we bless you for family, friends, and sisters and brothers in Christ who have guided us in wisdom and insight. Lead us into peace with all people until the day of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you.

Peace be with you.

Please be seated, while the table is set.

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,
you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.
You have set this feast before us.
Open our hands to receive it.
Open our hearts to embrace it.
Open our lives to live it.
We pray this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

All glory to you, Almighty God, heavenly Father:
 out of Your great love for us You gave Your only Son Jesus,
 so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have
 eternal life.
It was your Son Jesus
 who freely surrendered Himself to suffer death
 on the cross for us and for our salvation.
There, on that cross,
 He willingly offered Himself up as a full,
 perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.
By that gift of love and grace
 we are your people,
 born of water and word,
 served, fed, and forgiven at your Holy Table
 and called together by Your Holy Spirit.

Therefore we offer ourselves
as disciples who follow
as witnesses to the world
and as living memory of His gift of grace.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine,
that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son our Lord.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

On 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 many
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us:
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 our Lord.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

THE 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.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

The assembly is seated.

The Holy Communion is distributed with these or similar words:

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you

Following the Holy Communion the congregation stands:

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus Christ, host of this meal,
you have given us not only this bread and cup,
but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.

Filled again by these signs of your grace,
may we hunger for your reign of justice,
may we thirst for your way of peace,
for you are Lord forevermore.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

QUIET MEDITATION

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

Hungry for Meaning

The account of Viktor Frankl's survival in Nazi death camps, written in his famous memoir, *Man's Search for Meaning*, tells about the relentless days of wretched suffering. But most remarkable are his words about finding meaning in a grim wasteland of loss, the discovery of something that gives life in an existence pulsing with cruelty and death. Few of us face such horrors, but many of us do know what it is to rise into mornings that drift into hollowed out nights, days of empty passages.

During a long stretch of loneliness, the man paced vacantly through once joyful corridors that had become a maze of confused anguish. For anyone and no one to hear, he cried, shouted, "This is no life!" He wanted neither to live nor to die. Nothing—shopping, traveling, eating, drinking, going, coming, playing, working, hoarding, shedding—nothing had meaning.

Today, Jesus speaks of himself as living bread from heaven, his flesh for food and his blood for drink. The Gospel of John offers no details of the Lord's supper, no instructions spoken over bread and wine, no "Do this for the remembrance of me." Instead, here, Jesus' invitation is to share in his way of abundant life, in a word, "abide."

Abide. You are not alone. Abide. Jesus is with you. Abide in communion with the one who hugs lepers, expels demons, breathes with the dead, rescues the far gone, goes to prison, wants the unwanted, loves the shamed, forgives the guilty, serves the servant, blesses the thieves, welcomes aliens, cancels debts, listens to children, gives the blind kaleidoscopes, the deaf symphonies, and the voiceless a song. May this be our prayer today: "When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me" (ELW 629).

Daily Readings for the Week August 19-25

Sunday:	Proverbs 9:1-6 Psalm 34:9-14 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58
Monday:	Psalm 36 Genesis 43:1-15 Acts 6:1-7
Tuesday:	Psalm 36 Genesis 45:1-15 Acts 7:9-16
Wednesday:	Psalm 36 Genesis 47:13-26 Mark 8:14-21
Thursday:	Psalm 34:15-22 Joshua 22:1-9 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Friday:	Psalm 34:15-22 Joshua 22:10-20 Romans 13:11-14
Saturday:	Psalm 34:15-22 Joshua 22:21-34 Luke 11:5-13

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