



Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
March 15, 2020
Order of Worship

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed by the Holy Trinity, one God,
who is present in ordinary circumstances,
who is present in extraordinary circumstances,
who gives us life and who gives us hope and a time for renewal.

Amen

The writer of Psalm 130 declares,

*“If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness!”*

And so we confess together.

Silent for reflection.

Grace-filled God,

Have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have taken for granted
our everyday activities, our everyday resources,
that in those ordinary events, we have turned away from you,
sinning against you and our neighbors.**

**In some instances, we know what we have done wrong;
at other times, we do not.**

In our playing, we have not always been kind to others.

In our consumption, we have not always been generous or have cared for creation.

We have not always remembered to love our neighbors.

**And so we pray that you create in us new hearts,
that you turn us back to you, and that you forgive us.**

Amen.

God says in Ezekiel, "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live.

In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

May you be at peace in the gift of God's abundant life.

Amen

Song

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear-

All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged - take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness - take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge - take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

In this arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

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

Have mercy on us Lord,

And hear our solemn prayer.

We come to hear your living word;

It saves us from despair

Have mercy on us Christ,

And wash away our sin.

Pour out your grace and make us whole

That new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord,

Make sin and shame depart.

Renew us with your saving power

Create in us new hearts.

Prayer of the Day

O God of conversation and community, we give you thanks for the ability to talk with you, our Creator and Savior and Lord. Help us grow in our relationship with you as we pray, and give us the ability through our deepened relationship to understand your presence in our time of isolation and every part of our lives. Be with us as we learn to create new relationships with one another.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. ²He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. ³One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, 'Cornelius.' ⁴He stared at him in terror and said, 'What is it, Lord?' He answered, 'Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. ⁵Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; ⁶he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.' ⁷When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, ⁸and after telling them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. ¹¹He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. ¹²In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. ¹³Then he heard a voice saying, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ¹⁴But Peter said, 'By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.' ¹⁵The voice said to him again, a second time, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁶This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

¹⁷Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. ¹⁸They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. ¹⁹While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, 'Look, three men are searching for you. ²⁰Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them.' ²¹So Peter went down to the men and said, 'I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?' ²²They answered, 'Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.' ²³So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

5 ‘And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

7 ‘When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

9 ‘Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

¹⁴For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Finding the Extraordinary in the Ordinary: Pray

Pastor Will Johnson



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 the 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 of the People

Prayer Response:

Hear us, O God.

Your Mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you.

Thanksgiving for the Word

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to you feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed by 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

Benediction

May the Triune God,
The one who makes ordinary things extraordinary,
Be with you in all that you do, all that you say,
And all that you are.
Amen

Song

Healer of Our Every Ill

Refrain

Healer of our every ill,
Light of each tomorrow,
Give us peace beyond our fear,
And hope beyond our sorrow.

Verse 1

You who know our fears and sadness,
Grace us with our peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

Refrain

Verse 2

In the pain and joy beholding
How your grace is still unfolding,
Give us all your vision, God of love.

Refrain

Verse 3

Give us strength to love each other,
Every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

Refrain

Verse 4

You who know each thought and feeling,
Teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

Refrain

Sending

Go in peace, always living the love of Christ.

Thanks be to God!