



## St. Paul Lutheran Church

**November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are grateful to God you are with us.  
We pray that you will feel the Spirit and warmth during this service.  
We look forward to being together, soon!

**Prelude:** "Faith of Our Fathers" **Sax and Piano duet**

### Preparing for Worship

*Take a minute to be in silent prayer. Invite the Holy Spirit to quiet your mind, open your heart and guide you during this time of worship*

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
in whose image we are made,  
who claims us and calls us beloved.

**All: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Holy One,

**All: We confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✠ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**All: Amen.**

## Word

### Prayer of the Day

P: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### First Reading:

**Solomon 6: 12-16**

<sup>12</sup>Wisdom is radiant and unfading,  
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,  
and is found by those who seek her.  
<sup>13</sup>She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.  
<sup>14</sup>One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,  
for she will be found sitting at the gate.  
<sup>15</sup>To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,  
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,  
<sup>16</sup>because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,  
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,  
and meets them in every thought.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### Gospel:

**Matthew 25:1-13**

*Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Message:

“The Long Haul”

Pastor Carole Lundell

**Prayer of St. Francis**

**All: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love  
Where there is injury, pardon  
Where there is doubt, faith  
Where there is despair, hope  
Where there is darkness, light  
And where there is sadness, joy**

**O Divine Master, grant that I may  
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console  
To be understood, as to understand  
To be loved, as to love  
For it is in giving that we receive  
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned  
And it's in dying that we are born to Eternal Life  
Amen**

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**All: 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**

*Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's  
power on the church, the world, and all in need.*

P: Holy God, rouse us to deep praise as we gather for worship. Enliven our worship  
with sincere and heartfelt song. Sustain the work of all church musicians and artists  
who lead us in praise and prayer (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

P: Holy Creator, surprise and delight us with the beauty of the world you have made. Bless the work of landscapers, architects, and artists whose work invites us into harmonious living with your creation. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

P: Holy Judge, let justice roll down like waters over this world. Reign over the courtrooms of every land, in the hearts of those who guard the law and those who stand accused of crimes. Be present in cases where we long for both justice and mercy to prevail (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

P: Holy Companion, console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Share the hours of those who live and eat alone. Comfort those who have few friends or who struggle with their identity and place in this world. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

P: Holy Protector, be with all observing Veterans Day. Guard the lives of active duty and retired military personnel. Comfort all who mourn those who have died in the line of duty. Heal the wounds, both physical and mental, experienced by service members. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

P: Holy and Immortal One, we pray in thanksgiving for the lives of all who have died. Remind us of the frailty and shortness of our own lives and inspire us to use them for the building up of your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

P: Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## Holy Communion

### The Great Thanks Giving

P: The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. You sent your only-begotten, in whom your fullness dwells, to be for us the way, the truth, and the life. Revealing your love, Jesus taught those who would hear him, healed those who believed in him, received all who sought him and lifted the burden of their sin. We glorify you for your great power and love at work in Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made us a new people by water and

the Spirit. With humility and gratefulness of heart we receive your love and forgiveness in the bread and wine.

**All: Amen**

### **Word of Institution**

### **The 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**

*When the pastor says, "The Body of Christ given for you" eat the bread, and when the pastor says, "The Blood of Christ shed for you" drink the wine or juice.*

### **Post Communion Prayer and Blessing**

**Special Music:**

**"Some Gave All"**

**Merritt Heaney**