



Worship Service  
Saturday, September 19, 2020  
5:00 P.M.

### GATHERING

#### **OPENING LITANY**

Almighty God, grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.  
**Amen.**

In the prayers and the praise, in the words and the wonder:  
**we are given enough joy to live each day.**

In the justice for the oppressed, in the unexpected generosity for the lost:  
**we are given enough compassion to use in service each day.**

In the promises made to all, in the mercy offered to each:  
**we are given enough grace to share each day.**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**Holy and gracious God,**

**We confess that we have sinned against you this day.**

**Some of our sins we know —**

**the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed —  
but some are known only to you.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we ask forgiveness.**

**Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.**

By the mercy of God, we are united with Jesus Christ, in whom we are forgiven.  
We rest now in the peace of Christ and rise in the morning to serve.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING – Philippians 1:21-30**

*Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.*

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL – Matthew 20:1-16**

The gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’

<sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*Rev. Michael Stadie*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
**listen to my cry.**

In righteousness, I shall see you;  
**when I awake, your presence will give me joy.**

*Each petition will end with “Merciful God”  
You are invited to respond with, “**Receive our prayer.**”*

... We give all these things to your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## MEAL

*We practice two sacraments in the Lutheran tradition: baptism and holy communion. These are celebrated in community, in public worship, where we can all participate and remember together: God is known for using ordinary earthly things (like water, bread, and wine) to make extraordinary promises (like forgiveness, salvation, healing and new life) to creation.*

*Today is a good reminder that this simple meal nourishes God's community across time and space - this is why we call it communion. We would rather be with you in person for the sacrament today, but we trust Jesus to show up beyond our limitations, to meet us in this separation with a Spirit that unites, to feed us with the bread of life who is our source and strength.*

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **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.**

*We don't serve ourselves communion because there's something holy about that promise coming from outside our own bodies, a perfect declaration from God spoken to us by our neighbor: This is the body of Christ, given for you. This is the blood of Christ, poured out for you. If you are gathered together with others from your household, speak these words aloud when you serve each other. If you do not have someone in the room with you while you receive the sacrament, hear my voice as the external word of grace and invitation.*

**+ + *Receive the Meal* + +**

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

*We pause for prayer and reflection, and to give time to commune those gathered with others in the household.*

## **SENDING**

### **OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BENEDICTION**

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.  
**Amen.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*See you next week for worship livestream  
at 5pm on Saturday and 8:45am & 10:45am on Sunday!  
We continue sharing in communion virtually. Please call/email the  
church office if you need elements brought to you.*



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**Our Mission:**

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ  
and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries,  
meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to  
call or email us. You are always welcome here.

+ Pastor Christina Klein

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*Thank you for worshipping with us today as we seek to be in community with one another while minimizing physical contact. As a gentle reminder, please continue to wash your hands for the recommended 20 seconds, wear a mask and create safe boundaries through physical distancing.*

*We know that God is with us and God is at work, wherever we worship. We have updated a guideline for worship and all church activities for Phase 4, available on our email blast and church website. Please check your email, Facebook, etc., for additional notifications and updates in the coming weeks, and contact the church council ([council@edgebrooklutheran.org](mailto:council@edgebrooklutheran.org)) with any concerns.*

*Stay safe and be well! God's peace to you!!*