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Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: Interim Pastor Prema Samuel
Assisting Minister: Marlene Gold
Ministers: Every member

Council President: Karen Oko
Musician: Kathryn Elford
Video/Live Streaming: Anton Chell

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIPⁱ

"Bless the Lord, my soul" Taize #9

God's goodness is poured over us!

God's blessings abound in our lives!

"Bless the Lord, my soul " Taize #9

In the darkness God abides with us.

In the light God dances and shouts with us!

"Bless the Lord, my soul " Taize #9

Holy is God who is present with us at all times.

How grateful we are for God's presence and compassion. AMEN.

GREETING

GATHERING SONG *'Baptized and Set Free'* ELW 453

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S TIME -

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-33 (The Message)

²⁰God continued, "The cries of the victims in Sodom and Gomorrah are deafening; the sin of those cities is immense. ²¹I'm going down to see for myself, see if what they're doing is as bad as it sounds. Then I'll know." ²²The men set out for Sodom, but Abraham stood in God's path, blocking his way. ²³Abraham confronted him, "Are you serious? Are you planning on getting rid of the good people right along with the bad? ²⁴What if there are fifty decent people left in the city; will you lump the good with the bad and get rid of the lot? ²⁵Wouldn't you spare the city for the sake of those fifty innocents? I can't believe you'd do that, kill off the good and the bad alike as if there were no difference between them. Doesn't the Judge of all the Earth judge with justice?" ²⁶God said, "If I find fifty decent people in the city of Sodom, I'll spare the place just for them."

²⁷Abraham came back, "Do I, a mere mortal made from a handful of dirt, dare open my mouth again to my Master?" ²⁸What if the fifty fall short by five - would you destroy the city because of those missing five?" He said, "I won't destroy it if there are forty-five." ²⁹Abraham spoke up again, "What if you only find forty?" "Neither will I destroy it if for forty." ³⁰He said, "Master, don't be irritated with me, but what if only thirty are found?" "No, I won't do it if I find thirty." ³¹He pushed on, "I know I'm trying your patience, Master, but how about for twenty?" "I won't destroy it for twenty." ³²He wouldn't quit, "Don't get angry, Master - this is the last time. What if you only come up with ten?" "For the sake of only ten, I won't destroy the city." ³³When God finished talking with Abraham, he left. And Abraham went home.

PSALM 138 – with sung refrain ‘Thank You, Lord’ ACS 1092

Sung ‘Thank You, Lord’ ACS 1092 Vs 1

¹I thank you with all my heart; I sing your praise before the gods.

²I bow down in front of your holy Temple and praise your Name because of your love and faithfulness, for you have put above everything else your Name and your word.

³When I called, you answered me—you made me bold and strong of heart.

Sung ‘Thank You, Lord’ ACS 1092 Vs 2

⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, Yhwh, when they hear the words of your mouth.

⁵They will sing about what you have done, Yhwh, and about your great glory.

⁶Even though you are so high above, you care for the lowly and see arrogant people from far away.

Sung ‘Thank You, Lord’ ACS 1092 Vs 3

⁷Even when I’m surrounded by troubles, you keep me safe; you oppose the anger of my enemies, and save me with your right hand.

⁸You will do everything you have promised me.

Yhwh, your love is eternal; don’t abandon the work of your hands.

Sung ‘Thank You, Lord’ ACS 1092 Vs 4

SECOND READING: Galatians 5:1,13-25 (Inclusive Bible Version)

¹When Christ freed us, we were meant to remain free. Stand Firm, therefore, and don’t submit to the yoke of slavery a second time! ¹³My sisters and brothers, you were called to freedom; but be careful, or this freedom will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Rather, serve one another in works of love, ¹⁴since the whole of the Law is summarized in a single command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵If you go on snapping at one another and tearing each other to pieces, be careful, or you may end up destroying the whole community. ¹⁶Let me put it this way: if you are guided by the Spirit, you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence. ¹⁷Since our flesh is at odds with the Spirit—and the Spirit with our Flesh—the two are so opposed that you cannot do whatever you feel like doing. ¹⁸If you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. ¹⁹It’s obvious what proceeds from the flesh: lewd conduct, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hostility, arguments, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies and so forth. I warn you as I have warned you before: those who do these sorts of things won’t inherit the kingdom of God! ²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

patient endurance, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against these sorts of things there is no law! ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their ego, with its passions and desires. ²⁵So since we live by the Spirit, let us follow her lead.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ‘The Living Word’ (LOTB)

**In the Beginning was the Word, the Living Word of God,
the Light of Life Unending.**

You shine in us as ancient starlight, in our Book of Memories and Future Dreams.

Sing we halle, hallelu! You are the Word of Life Eternal. Holy Wisdom, found within!

**You speak to us and we remember: I am the Book no one can close,
the Story of our time, before all time, together. I am the Voice that never falters, I, the
Echo of Beyond. I am the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Living Word.**

GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

¹One day Jesus was praying, and when he had finished, one of the disciples asked, “Rabbi, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” ²Jesus said to them, “When you pray, say, ‘Abba God, ³hallowed be your Name! May your reign come. Give us today Tomorrow’s bread. Forgive us our sins, for we too forgive everyone who sins against us; and don’t let us be subjected to the Test.’” ⁵Jesus said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, a neighbor, and you go to your neighbor at midnight and say, ‘Lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶because friends of mine on a journey have come to me, and I have nothing to set before them.’” ⁷“Then your neighbor says, ‘Leave me alone. The door is already locked and the children and I are in bed. I can’t get up to look after your needs.’” ⁸I tell you, though your neighbor will not get up to give you the bread out of friendship, your persistence will make your neighbor get up and give you as much as you need. ⁹“That’s why I tell you, keep asking and you’ll receive; keep looking and you’ll find; keep knocking and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰For whoever asks, receives; whoever seeks, finds; whoever knocks, is admitted. ¹¹What parents among you will give a snake to their child when the child asks for a fish, ¹²or a scorpion when the child asks for an egg? ¹³If you, with all your sins, know how to give your children good things, how much more will our heavenly Abba give the Holy Spirit to those who ask?”

SERMON – Interim Pastor. Prema

SONG OF THE DAY: ‘Borning Cry’ ELW 732

AFFIRMATION OF FAITHⁱⁱ

We believe that God creates all things, renews all things, and celebrates all things.

**We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God’s presence,
a home for us to share with our kin.**

**We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a part of Earth,
a human being called Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us,
suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation reconciling all things
to God, renewing all creation, and filling the universe. We believe the Spirit renews life,
creation groans in empathy with a suffering creation,
and waits with us for the rebirth of creation. We believe that with Christ we will rise
and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our prayers: Cody M, Susan K, Pr. Richard R & Dana R, Tom d, Gertie B, Pr. Erin T, the congregation of St. Paul's Ellerslie, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and those we hold dear in our hearts.

PEACE

OFFERING SONG *'Take, Oh Take Me As I Am'* ELW 814

OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – ELW Setting 8, p.190

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER – by Rev. Jim Burklo

**Dear One, closer to us than our own hearts,
farther from us than the most distant star, you are beyond naming.
May your powerful presence become obvious not only in the undeniable glory of the sky, but also in the seemingly base and common processes of the earth. Give us what we need, day by day, to keep body and soul together,
because clever as you have made us, we still owe our existence to you.
We recognize that to be reconciled with you, we must live peaceably and justly with other human beings, putting hate and bitterness behind us.
We are torn between our faith in your goodness and our awareness of the evil in your creation, so deliver us from the temptation to despair.
Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty. So it is, Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONGS

'Lamb of God' ELW Setting 8 p.191

'Loaves Were Broken' ACS 966

'Welcome Table' ACS 969

'This is Christ's Body' ACS 967

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

COMMUNITY LIFE

SENDING SONG *'Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen'* ELW 548

DISMISSAL



ⁱ Worship Connections, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, Nancy C. Townley

ⁱⁱ "Affirmation of Faith" from Universe Sunday, posted on the Web of Creation website. webofcreation.org/SeasonofCreation/universe.html

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