

**St. John's
Lutheran Church**
Engaging God in Our Daily Life

*The 6th Sunday after Pentecost
Online-Traditional Service— 11am*

July 12, 2020

Welcome!



Our Mission...

As people of God, called by our baptism in Christ, forgiven by God's grace, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and sent to minister with love to the world, we, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church, commit ourselves with the help of God:

- **to worship** through the Word and Sacraments,
- **to share** the Good News of Christ
- **to respond** to the needs of others, and,
- **to serve** all creation with our God-given gifts.

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

PREACHER & LITURGIST: Pastor Erin Morris
 MUSICIANS: Frankie Wolfe Deal & Martin Aigner
 DIGITAL SACRISTAN: Ben Bernstein

+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +

Welcome to the online worship of St. John's Lutheran Church in Spartanburg, SC. We are glad that you are joining us from wherever you are and whenever it is. Please follow the guide below for worship. The Congregation's parts are printed in ***Bold***.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Handt Hanson

Kathryn Lee—Soloist

CALL TO CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
 whose steadfast love is everlasting,
 whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,
we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.
We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.
We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.
We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.
We sin in thought, word, and deed.
By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

There is now no condemnation for those of us who belong to Jesus Christ!
 We no longer have to live under the threat of God's judgment. For through Jesus, we have been freed from the tyranny of sin and death. For Jesus did what the law could never do. He personally took on the human condition, entering into the disordered mess of struggling humanity in order to set it right once and for all. Through him we have been set free!

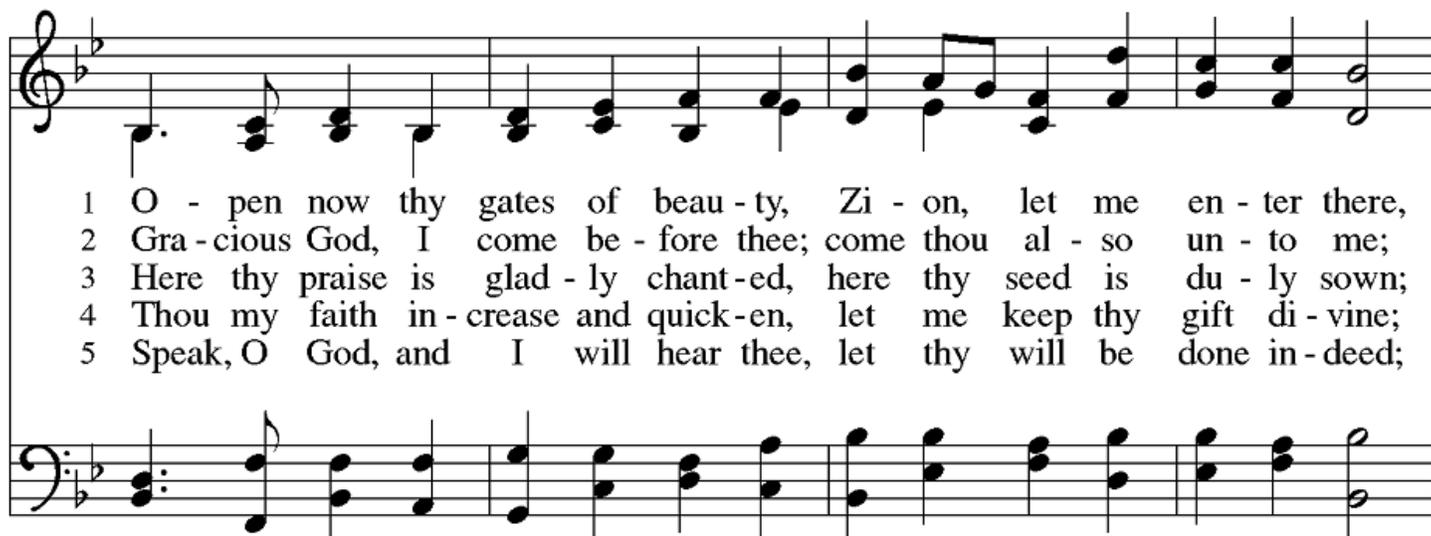
Thanks be to God!

Amen.

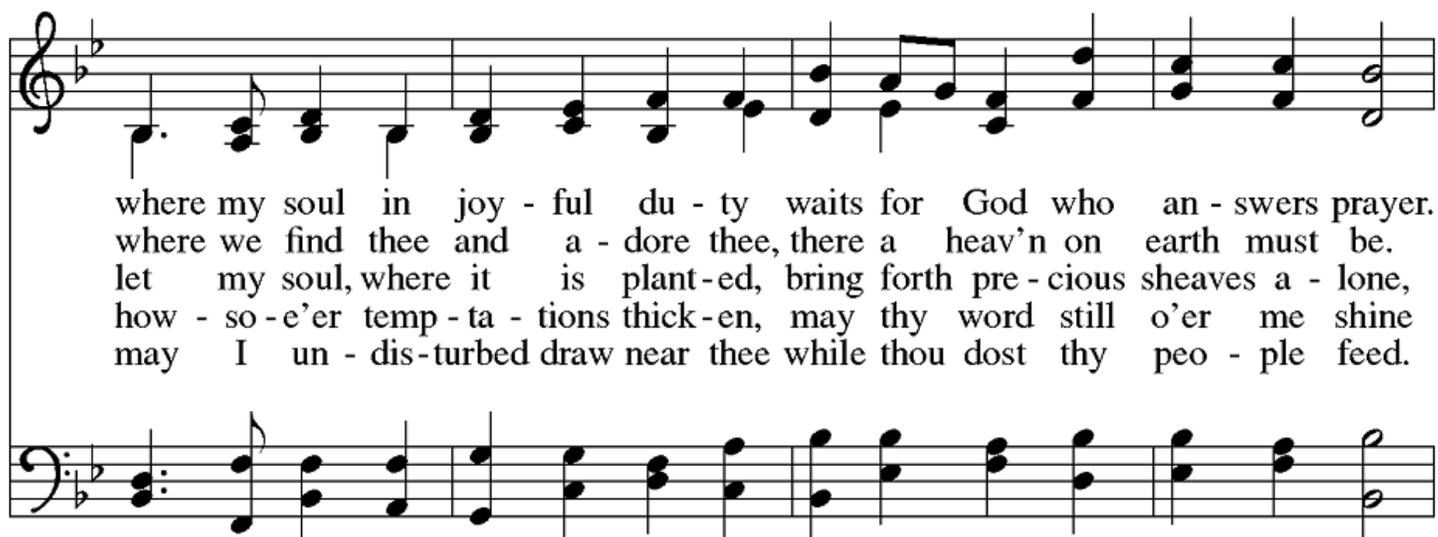
The Peace of the Lord be with you always,
And also with you

HYMN

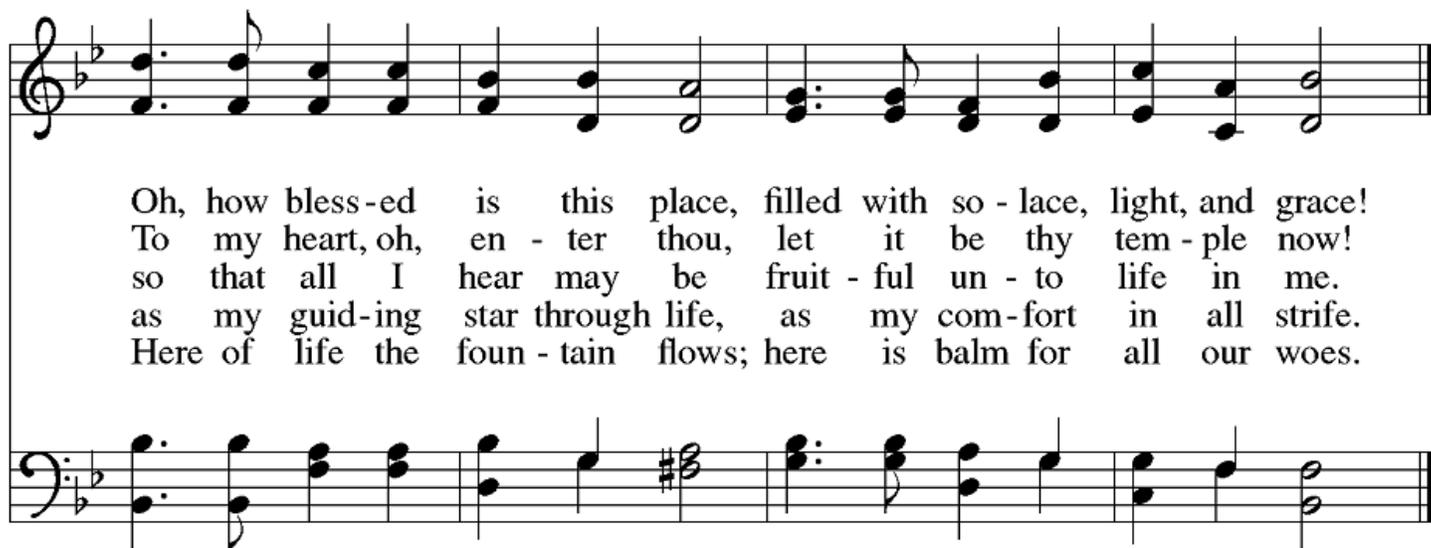
OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY

(Green Hymnal) #250


1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

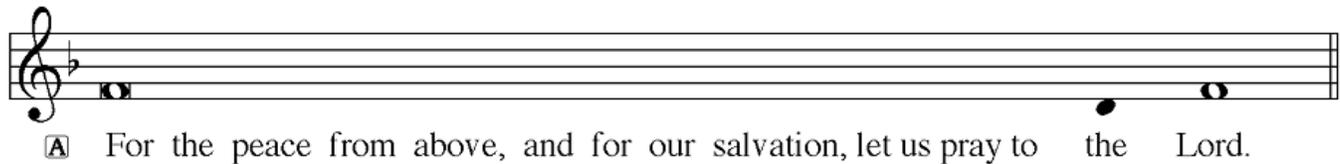
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

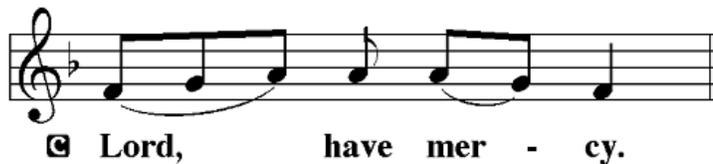
THE KYRIE



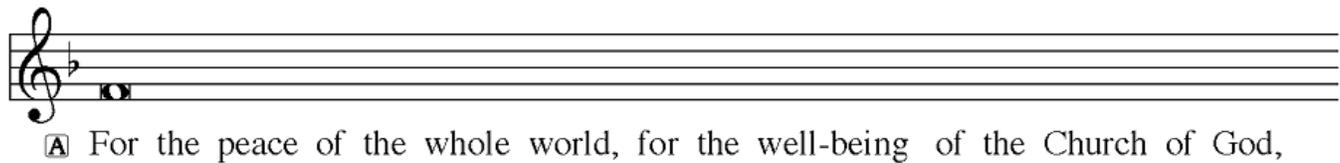
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



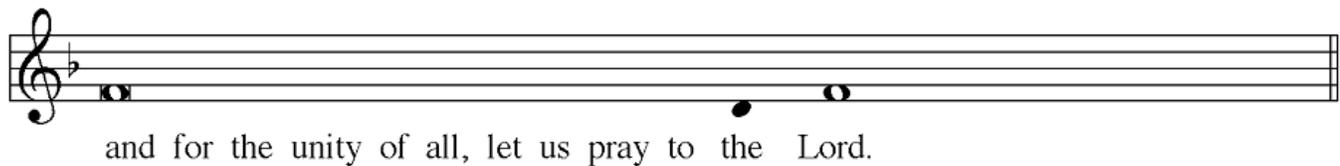
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



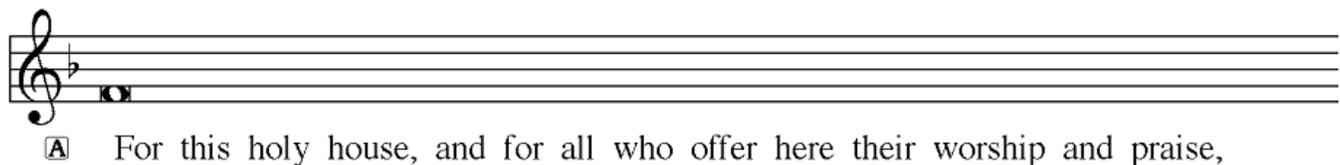
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



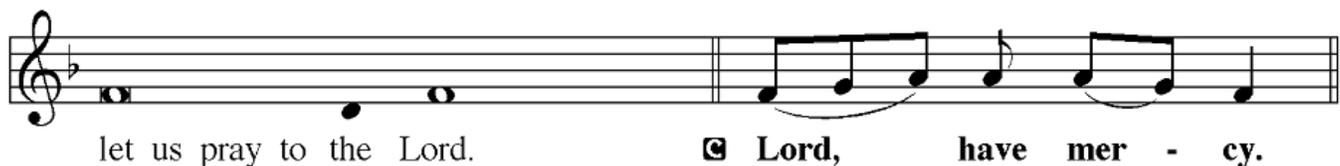
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us Pray...

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. As we worship today, let us receive the water and light that it may grow in us. Help us to know the freedom that you have given us through your word and the loving actions of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord..

Amen.

+ ENGAGING GOD IN THE WORD +

We are empowered by the Holy Spirit.

READING: ROMAN 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!”

[¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Ben Bernstein

SERMON:

Pastor Erin Morris

APOSTLES’ CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 to the dead.

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

We are called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world. Responding to each petition with the words “hear our prayer”

Lord, in your mercy...*hear our prayer.*

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**HYMN:****Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**

(Green Hymnal) # 234

1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, your quick-'ning grace be - stow,

now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
 but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
 that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
 nor things present, nor things to come,
 nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
 nor anything else in all creation,
 will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ,
 and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
 bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
Thanks Be To God!

THOUGHT ON OUR STEWARDSHIP DURING THIS UNIQUE TIME...

As we end our time together knowing Christ cannot be contained, you might wonder what you can do to serve the lord when you are confined or struggling in your own worlds. Please consider giving your regular tithes and offerings..

When you give your tithe and offerings, we are able to do the ministry that God is calling us into. Things, such as these online worship services, reaching out to our community, paying the electric bill, as well as helping our neighbors. On our website you should see our mailing address and ways to give online.

We also encourage, for those who are healthy, to give the gift of life to others through blood donations. Many corporate blood drives have been canceled, but the need is still important. People are having surgeries, getting in accidents and needing lifesaving blood, plasma and platelets. Please make an appointment and give.

There are many other ways to serve the Lord through checking on your neighbors , calling those who might be lonely and prayer. We worship a living God who is not able to be contained or confined and neither can our love and service.