

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET
STEPHENS CITY, VA

[540] 869-4019
9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG
JULY 4, 2021 PENTECOST 6

PRELUDE

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

George Lachenauer (b. 1933)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

To you, O God, **all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN STORY

GATHERING SONG

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies: America the Beautiful



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit-ed plain:
who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929
Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848-1903

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5

Pat Godding

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me.³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day.⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.”⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows.³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat.⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses.⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me,⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated.⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me,⁹but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-13

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him.⁴Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and

among their own kin, and in their own house.”⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

SERMON

Pastor JMe Lowden

CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have
no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

God of all, through the waters of baptism you claim people of all races, ethnicities, and languages as your beloved children. Sustain the baptized and increase their faith, that your gospel may be proclaimed throughout the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, make us always remember your generosity and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honesty in the workplace, truth in education, and honor in daily life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance; and from every evil course of action.

When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. Make us, who came from many nations with many languages, a united people that delights in our many different gifts. Defend our liberties and give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, you became vulnerable in the person of Jesus Christ in solidarity with the disempowered. Strengthen those who feel faint, give courage to those who fear, and bring wholeness to those in need especially David, Martha, Eileen, Edwin, Pauline, Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Rodney, Yvonne, Ruby. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You send us out into the world to proclaim your love. We give you thanks for those who work for human rights, community organizers, and all who strive for liberty for all. We pray for our outreach ministries. Equip us as we leave this place to witness and serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

HYMN STORY

SONG DURING COMMUNION

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May God continue to bless the Church of Christ in this land.

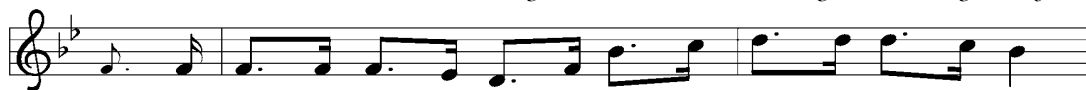
May God continue to bless our country and all the countries in the world.

May God continue to establish peace on earth and help us understand that it begins in our hearts. **Amen**

HYMN STORY

SENDING SONG *vs. 1, 3*

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: Battle Hymn of the Republic



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;
3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.
with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:
Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.
Our God is march - ing on.
while God is march - ing on.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819–1910
Music: BATTLE HYMN, North American, 19th cent

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Battle Hymn of the Republic Carols Staszkeski (b. 1935)

TRENDING @ TRINITY

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God by Phyllis Wilson and Maxine and Jerry Rogers in loving memory of Carroll Long.

This morning we welcome Sophia Barna to the Lord's table for her first communion.

This morning we bid Godspeed to Will Wolf as he prepares to head to the Coast Guard Academy. Everyone is encouraged to remain after worship for a special coffee time in his honor. Will has been an active member of Trinity throughout his years here and his weekly presence will be greatly missed, though we are certain he will be back when he is "on leave".



Have you accepted the challenge yet? Time to get on board!

"I'm challenging myself and our community of Trinity Lutheran to enter a year of bible reading. I think this will be fun and inspirational to do together as individuals and families of the congregation. Together we will experience the scriptures in a new way, become aware of the depth and breadth of the entire, great salvation story of our faith, grow in our spiritual relationship with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and support one another in our growth as disciples of Christ. Won't you join me in this adventure with the Holy Scriptures?" -Pastor JMe

The electronic sign-up option was emailed last week. Those without computers may call the church office or sign up on the list here at church. Choose your start date: August 1, or September 1. Once you're signed up you will be able to download or pick up a copy of the reading plan. This is for all ages; families are encouraged to read together. And you don't have to *read*, there are audio and video options out there if you're adventurous and willing to look for them.

A personal note from Pastor JMe:

As part of my follow up care to last year's surgery, an ultrasound in late May showed a suspicious lymph node on the same side of my neck where the tumor was removed. A core biopsy confirmed that the node contains metastatic papillary thyroid cancer cells. I will have surgery to have the lymph nodes removed July 21. This time the procedure will take place at Valley Health, Winchester, and I will be required to stay overnight. Most likely, I will be out of the office and worship about as long as after my thyroid surgery. Your prayers will be appreciated.

The Lutheran Church Women of Trinity invite all women to join them for lunch at Roma's in Stephens City, noon on July 13. Those planning to attending should notify Phyllis Wilson (869-2252) by July 4.

Trinity's current bookkeeper, Bill Edmonson submitted his resignation effective June 30th. Mark Greene has graciously agreed to tide Trinity over until a qualified replacement is in place. If you know a CPA or someone with extensive bookkeeping experience that would like to be considered for this part time position, please have them submit their resume via US mail or email (office@trinitychurchvirginia.org) as soon as possible.

Christmas in July! Trinity's Hymn Stories-His Story will celebrate Christ's birth on July 25. Pull out your favorite Christmas cookie recipe(s) and bring some cookies for the fellowship time following worship that Sunday.

"Thank all of you so much for the prayers, cards, phone calls, visits and for being at the visitation and the funeral service and all of your support at the death of Carroll Long. It was such a comfort to us and meant so much."
The Carroll Long family (Phyllis Wilson and Maxine Rogers)

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 0840 5981 Passcode: 321080

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89308405981?pwd=TDY0SkxiUWgvNHpUZDBHdGk0aWRqZz09> Dial +1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

Call to Worship, First Sunday of the month 11AM Phone 1-971-224-6593 Code: 423612

Hymn Stories ~ His-story
Celebrating Our Land and Freedom
July 4, 2021



Opening Hymn: “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”
 (“America the Beautiful”)

In early summer, 1893, a group of female professors from Wellesley College visited the Chicago World’s Fair on their way to teach summer school in Colorado. The women later compared the wonders of the man-made Fair with the glory of God’s handiwork in the Rockies. At the close of school, the teachers decided to visit Pike’s Peak, elevation 14,00 feet. One of them, Katharine Lee Bates, later wrote, “We hired a prairie wagon. Near the top we had to leave the wagon and go the rest of the way on mules. ...[W]hen I saw the view, I felt great joy. All the wonder of America seemed displayed there, with the sea-like expanse....It was then and there that the opening lines of the hymn floated into my mind. When we left Colorado Springs the four stanzas were penciled in my notebook.”

After some time passed, Bates completed the words of the hymn and sent them to “The Congregationalist” where they first appeared in print July 4, 1895.

Morgan, Robert J. (2010) *Then Sings My Soul*:150 Christmas, Easter, and All-Time Favorite Hymn Stories, p. 133.

Communion Hymn: “Let Us Break Bread Together”

This hymn follows in the tradition of most negro spirituals in its simplicity in both words and tune. Negro spirituals were mostly composed by black American slaves with no western training in music. Some scholars believe that the slaves simply added words to African traditional folk tunes they had left behind in Africa. This song is mainly used during communion services. It reminds us of our spiritual food and drink presented through the bread and wine during holy communion.

Let Us Break Bread Together Lyrics and Story: Famous Negro Spirituals (christianmusicandhymns.com)

Closing Hymn: “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” (Battle Hymn of the Republic)

“Battle Hymn of the Republic” was written by Julia Ward Howe, a leader in women’s rights and an ardent foe of slavery. In 1861, during the darkest days of the Civil War, she visited Washington and toured a nearby Union Army Camp on the Potomac in Virginia. There she heard soldiers singing a tribute to John Brown, who had been hanged in 1859 for attempting to lead an insurrection of slaves at Harper’s Ferry: “John Brown’s Body Lies a-mold’ring in the Grave.” She thought the music was rousing, but she felt the words needed improvement. Her pastor, who was along on the trip, encouraged her to write new and better verses. That night, after retiring to her hotel, the words came ‘arranging themselves in my brain’. She wrote them down, ‘feeling that something of importance had happened.’

Julia gave her song to a friend who worked at The Atlantic Monthly. The magazine published it in February 1862, sending her a check for five dollars.

Morgan, Robert J. (2010) *Then Sings My Soul*:150 Christmas, Easter, and All-Time Favorite Hymn Stories, p. 131.