



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3600 25th St, Columbus, IN 47203

Phone: (812) 372-1256 Web site: www.flccolumbus.org

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday

Facebook: First Lutheran Church (Columbus, IN)

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

October 4, 2020 - 11:15 a.m.

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S HOUSE!

We are so glad to have you with us this morning! There is an extended time of praise and worship at the beginning of the service, and we want you to worship your Lord as you feel comfortable. All forms of worship are acceptable, such as singing, clapping, standing, sitting, kneeling, and dancing. Please worship your God in a way that draws you closer to Him!

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER:

Creator of life and giver of hope—help us to remember that we are stewards in your garden. Help us to produce the fruits of faith through labors of love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

WORSHIP & PRAISE

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

WORSHIP & PRAISE

TIME OF OPEN PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?'

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

SERMON: "When the Cat's Away ..."

Pastor Larry Isbell

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

You may either stand or kneel.

C. Almighty God, I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I have sinned by what I have done and what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart.

I have not loved my neighbor as myself. Forgive me. Renew me. Lead me. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who suffered for us all and was raised from the dead, that first Easter. Amen.

P. It is always my honor and privilege to announce that God has freely forgiven you and me. We stand here, trusting, by God's grace alone. We stand here as free men and women, boys and girls. May the wind of Pentecost move our hearts and our hands.

C. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 dead,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING WORSHIP & PRAISE**SERVING FIRST TODAY**

Pastor: Pastor Larry Isbell

Greeters/Usher: Janet Isbell, John & Mary Ellen Wyman, & Dave Stocks

WOUNDED HEALER PRAISE BAND

Erika East, Annette Hull, Jennifer & Mike Langevin, Matt Pillar

Today's altar flowers are offered to the glory of God.