



HOLY COMMUNION

at the break of day

Sunday

July 21, 2019 † 8:30 am

*Choosing the better part:
the visit with Martha & Mary*

Exploring the promise of God for all

Christ is the guest who comes to your door

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." Almighty God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"— to heed the word from above. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, with Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the words of life.

We Gather to Begin the Day Anew in Baptism

GATHERING MUSIC

Sonata in g minor, Op. 1, No. 10

G. F. Handel

Andante - Allegro

At the sound of the bell please turn to face the worship leaders at the font.

GATHERING AROUND THE FONT

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the presider begins.

- ☞ We begin the day anew in baptism in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- 🔊 **Amen.**

GATHERING PSALM

Psalm 15

LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (15:1)

- ☞ Lord, who is welcomed in your house?
Who can rest on your holy mountain?
- 🔊 **Those who walk with integrity and do only what is right, speaking the truth with courage.**
- ☞ They never spread slander or abuse their friends or condemn their neighbors.
- 🔊 **They disdain the godless, but honor those who believe. Before God, they give their word and keep it at any cost.**
- ☞ They neither lend for gain nor take bribes against the guiltless. They are the just: they stand for ever unshaken.
- 🔊 **Give praise to the Father Almighty; to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord; to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts; both now and forever. Amen.**

- ☞ O God our dwelling place, *(ELW psalm prayer)*
in Christ you made your home among us.
Lead us in the paths of truth and integrity until you bring us to your holy mountain and we live forever in your presence; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- 🔊 **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Dearest Jesus, at Your Word"

(hymn) 520

stanzas 2 & 3 in harmony

We Listen to God's Word

GREETING

The presider continues with words of welcome.

FIRST READING

see Scripture insert

The hospitality of Abraham and Sarah

Genesis 18:1-10a

The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long—awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

Word of God, word of life.

- 🔊 **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

see Scripture insert

A hymn to Christ

Colossians 1:15-28

Sometimes Paul preaches with great attention to theological concepts. Here, however, Paul offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

Word of God, word of life.

- 🔊 **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

see Scripture insert

The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:

(Celtic Alleluia #174)



Choosing the better part; the visit with Mary & Martha Luke 10:38-42

Jesus uses his visit to two sisters as an occasion to remind disciples that an important aspect of obedience is single-minded devotion to Jesus and his word.

before the reading:

after the reading:

- ☞ The holy gospel according to ...
- 🔊 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

SERMON

HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision"

(hymn) 793

stanzas 1 - 3

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- ...Hear us, O God,
- 🔊 **your mercy is great.**
- Prayer of the Day** *concludes these prayers.*
- ☞ Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest.
Hear our prayers; and amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray.
- 🔊 **Amen.**

We Feast Around the Table of the Lord

PEACE

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

The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel.

"Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Mark Sedio

Offertory Prayer

- 🔊 Let us pray together.
- 🔊 **God of all creation, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- ☞ 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.**

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1975)

- 🔊 **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion

Song without Words, Op. 38, No. 6

Felix Mendelssohn

All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Communion at this service is served standing at stations. Please follow the directions of the ushers.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request. The benefits of the sacrament are fully present in either the bread or the wine, should health reasons prevent you from receiving one of them.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

silence for reflection concludes the Communion

Prayer after Communion

☞ Let us pray.

Gracious provider,
you nourish us with holy food and drink,
and you open us up to the needs of others.
Refresh us with your Spirit,
that our words and deeds may proclaim
your creative and life-giving Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

☞ Amen.

We Are Sent to Be God's Hands in the World

BLESSING

☞ Let us bless the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

God almighty, God most powerful,
bless you, keep you, and grant you peace;
in the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

☞ Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"You Servants of God"

(hymn) 825

stanzas 1, 3 (harmony), & 4

DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

The carillon sends the assembly into mission.

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C (Jig Fugue)

Dietrich Buxtehude

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Stephanie Friesen, *presiding*

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe, *preaching*

Tom Allen, *assisting minister*

Dean Binger, *reader*

Shanti Austvold, *crucifer*

Jane Lien, *organist/pianist*

Ian Snyder, *violin*

Mark Kieffer, *sound operator*

Bill Masche, Bruce Bergeson-Meekins,

Dave West, Richard Stegall, *sacristans*

Rod Richter, *lead ushers for July*

Betty Reveling, Carney Bergeson-Meekins,

Karla & Charles Moline, *greeters & hosts*

Pastor D. Foy Christopherson, *liturgy director*

Please join us in the great room for fellowship following worship.

This service is being streamed live on the internet at www.centralmpls.org

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to donate flowers contact Judy Korogi 10 days in advance at 612-788-1288.



WELCOME

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image. • We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all. • Central Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshipping with us today. We invite guests to complete the "Welcome to Central" card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email info@centralmpls.org.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. A nursery may be found near the welcome desk. Nursery staff are provided on Sunday mornings.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

Friends of Central...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join our network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.

Electronic Giving Opportunities: Online at www.centralmpls.org click on **Give Today**; or text 73256, enter code word *centralmpls* (lower case), and a numerical amount. Press send and fill in the details. All contributions from members and guests will appear in a contribution statement. WIFI is available as *Central Lutheran* (password *guestclc*). If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. The ministries and mission of Central Lutheran are supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



**Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS**

Exploring the promise of God for all
333 South 12th St, Minneapolis, MN 55404
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Saturday, July 20, 2019

Sunday, July 21, 2019

Lectionary/Ordinary 16 C

Sunday between July 17 and 23

Choosing the better part: the visit with Mary and Martha

FIRST READING *The hospitality of Abraham and Sarah* Genesis 18:1-10a

The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long—awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ¹⁰Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *A hymn to Christ* Colossians 1:15-28

Sometimes Paul preaches with great attention to theological concepts. Here, however, Paul offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is “Christ in you.” Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

Paul writes to the church at Colossai:

[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him — ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that

is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL *Choosing the better part* Luke 10:38-42

Jesus uses his visit to two sisters as an occasion to remind disciples that an important aspect of obedience is single-minded devotion to Jesus and his word.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.” ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing.

Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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