October 18, 2020

Welcome to God’s church this 20th Sunday after Pentecost. These communities of faith, North Beaver Creek and Blair Lutheran Churches have one great aim and purpose: to help people grow in life-giving relationships with their neighbors, their own selves, the earth and God. 

*Remember that we are in the holy presence of God. Let us take a moment to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.*

**Welcome**

Blessed be the holy Trinity. ✞ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. Amen.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God,  
*have mercy on us.*  
*We confess that we are captive to sin*  
*and cannot free ourselves.*  
*We turn from your loving embrace*  
*and go our own ways.*  
*We pass judgment on one another*  
*before examining ourselves.*  
*We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.*  
*We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.*  
*Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,*  
*and turn us again to life in you*  
*through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through his death and resurrection,  
Christ has made us his own.  
Hear the truth that God proclaims.  
Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✞ Jesus Christ.  
Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness  
to do God’s work in the world. Amen.
Gathering Hymn 445 – Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart’s delight.

2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed. Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.

3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways! To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise! We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born. By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

Service of Holy Baptism for Owen Lyal Kujak

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world.

Pastor: Who presents Owen for Holy Baptism?

Parents and Sponsors: We do.

Pastor (to the parents): Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: As you present Owen to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

  to live with him among God’s faithful people,
  bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, to read and study the holy scriptures along with Owen, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that he may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Pastor: Do you promise to help Owen grow in the Christian faith and life?
Parents: We do.

Pastor (to the sponsors): Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Owen in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God’s Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?
Sponsors: We do.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support Owen and pray for him in his new life in Christ? Do you promise to support Maygan and Reggie as they raise Owen in the Christian faith?
Congregation: We do.

Profession of Faith

Young children are invited to come forward to see better.

Pastor: I ask the congregation, along with Owen’s parents and sponsors to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
Congregation: We renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
Congregation: We renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
Congregation: We renounce them.

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?
Congregation: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
Congregation: 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.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
Congregation: 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

Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pouring water

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus’ death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Baptism

Pastor: Owen Lyal, you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Congregation: You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.
Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

(laying hands on the child’s head)

Sustain Owen with the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

(marking the sign of the cross with oil)

Pastor: Owen Lyal Kujak, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
Congregation: Amen.

Handing parents the candle

Representative of the Congregation: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.
Pastor: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the parents of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with Owen the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Congregation: Amen.

Welcome

Pastor: Let us welcome our newest sibling in Christ, Owen Lyal Kujak.
Congregation: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God’s creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Baptismal Blessing Song 595 – Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.
Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

1 **Sing** to the LORD a new song; 
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

2 **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;**  
proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.

3 **Declare** God’s glory among the nations 
and God’s wonders among all peoples.

4 **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;** 
more to be feared than all gods.
5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

6 Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

8 Acribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

13 You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

L: The Gospel is from the Gospel of Matthew 22:15-22

C: Glory to You oh Lord

The Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you
hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

SERMON

Vicar Paul Sannerud

Hymn of the Day  713 – O God of Every Nation

1 O God of ev’ry nation,
of ev’ry race and land,
redeem your whole creation
with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.

2 From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station
and blindness to your way,
deliver ev’ry nation,
eternal God, we pray.

3 Lord, strengthen all who labor
that all may find release
from fear of rattling saber,
from dread of war’s increase;
when hope and courage falter,
Lord, let your voice be heard;
with faith that none can alter,
your servants undergird.

4 Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and love shall reign,
and Christ shall rule victorious
o’er all the world’s domain.
The Prayers of the People
With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

silence

Gracious God, you call us by name and invite us to share your good news. Send your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of your servant Luke, the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all, may your word of justice sound forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt (especially). Join their voices in a new song, assuring them that you call them each by name. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of truth, you show no partiality. May your spirit guide the work of justices, magistrates, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Living God, as you raised Jesus from the dead, so raise up those who have died in you, especially Bob Kraemer. We give thanks for their witness, confident of your rescuing welcome for all. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Offering

Offering Resp. # 686 We Give Thee But Thine Own (V 1 only)
The Offering Prayer
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,
nourish us with this rich food and drink,
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen
The Peace
L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.
C: And also with you.
The 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!
Let us pray
The Pre-Communion Prayer
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, Holy, Holy (p 153) [spoken]

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow’r and might:
Heav’n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Institution
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.
Together as the body of Christ,
we proclaim the mystery of faith until he comes:

C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son,
the first-born of your new creation.
We remember his life lived for others,
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.

The Lord’s Prayer (sung)

The Invitation
The table is open to everyone, without exception. Behold who you are, become what you will receive. Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
and make us one with you.
Prayer after Communion
We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

L: We have asked God to change us by his grace, fill us with his goodness and make us a mirrored reflection of the Divine. We ARE the body of Christ – giving ourselves for others. We are the blood of Jesus – may our lives and love be spilled out for those around us who are hurting. We have become what we received.

C: Amen.

Blessing:
May your life be a brush in the very hand of God—painting new creation into every nook and cranny of reality that your shadow graces. Be courageous. Be free. Prune that which needs pruning, and water that which thirsts for righteousness. You are the body of Christ, the light of the world. Pick up your hammer. Your brush. Your trumpet. Your skillet. Your pen. Lift up your head. And walk. Run. Dance. Fly. The great Artist calls you into being. So go into your world, your valley, your garden, and Welcome others with God’s grace and in Christ’s peace. Amen.

Sending Song 705 – God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow’r; crown your ancient church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flow’r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days.
3 Cure your children’s warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and pour in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom’s goal,
lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

Dismissal
Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.