

18th Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, October 4, 2020



All Saints Lutheran Church, *ELCA*

722 Rockbridge Road SW

Lilburn, GA 30047

Rev. Dr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Interim Pastor

John Womack, Director of Music and Organist

www.allsaintsilburn.org

Introduction to the day

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

---GATHERING---

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

NARTHEX TIME

9:50-10:05 am

WELCOME TO WORSHIP/GREETING

Tom and Sheila Wagner

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Lisette Branscomb
Congregational President

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

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.

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens,
God the potter of the land:
you are womb of all creation,
we are formless; shape us now. | 3 | God the dresser of the vineyard,
God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest,
God the source of all we eat:
you are host at ev'ry table,
we are hungry; feed us now. |
| 2 | God the nuisance to the Pharaoh,
God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar in the darkness,
God the beacon of the free:
you are fount of all deliv'rance,
we are sightless; lead us now. | 4 | God the unexpected infant,
God the calm, determined youth,
God the table-turning prophet,
God the resurrected truth:
you are present ev'ry moment,
we are searching; meet us now. |

Text: John Thornburg, b. 1954
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GREETING**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

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**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

Let us pray.
Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

---WORD---

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7**Cherie Mason**

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

A reading from Isaiah.

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!

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:7-15**John Womack**Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (*Ps. 80:14, 15*)

Psalm 80:14-15
 Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ⁷Restore us, O | God of hosts;
 let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ⁸You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;
 you cast out the nations and | planted it.
- ⁹You cleared the | ground for it;
 it took root and | filled the land.
- ¹⁰The mountains were covered | by its shadow
 and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs. R
- ¹¹You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
 and its branches | to the river.
- ¹²Why have you broken | down its wall,
 so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?
- ¹³The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
 and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.
- ¹⁴Turn now, O | God of hosts,
 look | down from heaven;
- ¹⁵behold and | tend this vine;
 preserve what your right | hand has planted. R

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**Cherie Mason**

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

A reading from Philippians.

[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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Alleluia. Jesus says, I chose you and ap- | pointed you* to go and bear fruit | that will last.

Alleluia. (John 15:16)

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen 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.

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

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 769

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your

hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 serv - iced faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -

side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our

God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; jr. composite
 Musik: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark.
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

John Yale

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation (*especially Francis of Assisi, whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders (*especially*) seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all managers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, we pray especially for:

- Cherie Mason; Dixie Wigbels; Doni Saunders; Charlene Adams; Margaret; June Hix.
- Trudy Hanson; Sharon O'Connor; Ann Robinson; Gail Guffey; Hilton Austin.
- Marjorie O'Brien; Jerry Barnes; Cherrie Scharnberg; Jim Scobee; Charlie Kuni; Ted Haag.
- Leisa Wiggley; Officer Max Brewer; Bronwyn Yale Blanco; Rosie Marks; Marta.
- Margaret Robinson; Rick Robinson; Sondra Fowler.
- Chris Holdrich, Stephanie, and all healthcare workers.
- Bob, Ingrid, Sonya, Connie, and Phillip.
- Joanne Heckman and Richard Kraus.
- Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators.
- All those impacted by or in the path of disasters and disaster response workers.
- The food ministry to the homeless at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church.

Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard, especially Sarah Jackson and Cathy Hunt. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. 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.

PEACE

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

---MEAL---

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

<https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/AllSaintsLutheranChurch1/general>

OFFERING of Bread and Wine

Preparing your bread and wine

All

OFFERING PRAYER

John Yale

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

+DIALOGUE (ELW p. 107)

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.

+PREFACE (ELW p. 108)

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)

John Womack

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

+THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

+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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

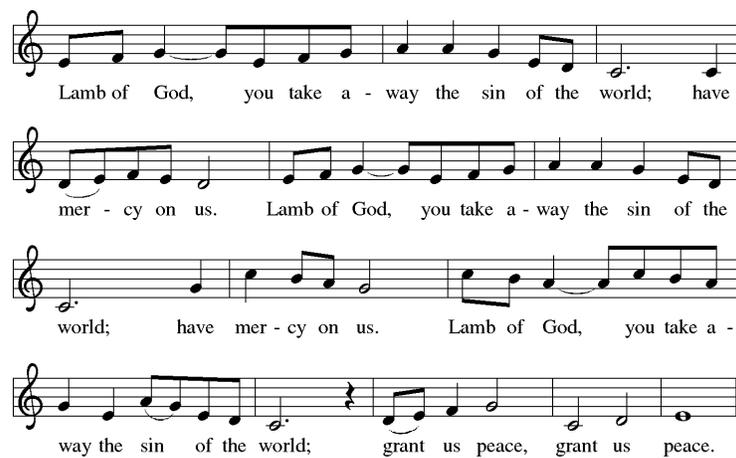
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond: Amen

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 112)

John Womack



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

John Yale

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

---SENDING---

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

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---PRAYER LIST---

- ❖ Cherie Mason, for upcoming biopsy and chemotherapy
- ❖ Dixie Wigbels, for healing in her recovery after a bad fall
- ❖ Doni Saunders (friend of Cherie Mason), possibility of losing his leg, blood clot in one lung and fluid in both lungs
- ❖ Charlene Adams, death of three of her birds during her move to Braselton
- ❖ Margaret (friend of Laura Trittin's mother Carol), stage 4 kidney disease and searching for a living donor
- ❖ June Hix, difficulty walking and sinus issues
- ❖ Trudy Hanson, breast cancer
- ❖ Sharon O'Connor, health issues
- ❖ Ann Robinson, mother-in-law of Karen Robinson (Rica Kelly's daughter), recovering from a fall, undergoing diagnostic tests
- ❖ Gail Guffey, mother-in-law of Sandy (Cherie Mason's daughter), in hospice after suffering a massive stroke, now responsive and being considered for rehab, still in very serious condition
- ❖ Hilton Austin, discernment in making decisions regarding cancer treatment
- ❖ Marjorie O'Brien, health issues
- ❖ Jerry Barnes, recovering after being hospitalized for pneumonia
- ❖ Cherrie Scharnberg (friend of Cherie Mason), healing from brain surgery August 13
- ❖ Jim Scobee, two upcoming heart surgeries, waiting for surgery dates
- ❖ Charlie Kuni, for a diagnosis of arterial issues
- ❖ Ted Haag (friend of Joyce & John Holdrich for 60 yrs), for healing from ongoing lung cancer, undergoing chemo, prognosis is not favorable
- ❖ Leisa Wiggley (friend of All Saints' quilters), for healing from cancer
- ❖ APD Officer Max Brewer, now home, for healing and successful rehab and therapy
- ❖ Bronwyn Yale Blanco
- ❖ Rosie Marks (Cherie Mason's sister-in-law), struggling with recovery from colon cancer surgery
- ❖ Marta (long-time friend of Rica Kelly), for healing from health issues
- ❖ Margaret Robinson (mother-in-law of Sandra Robinson), recovering from broken hip and falls
- ❖ Rick Robinson (Sandra Robinson's husband), for healing
- ❖ Sondra Fowler (cousin of Sandra Robinson), for healing after the death of her husband
- ❖ Chris Holdrich (John & Joyce Holdrich's grandson) and Stephanie (friend of Joann Rosselle), for guidance and protection in their work as healthcare workers
- ❖ Bob (brother of Cherie Mason), unemployed due to COVID-19
- ❖ Ingrid, Sonya, Connie, Phillip – underemployed/unemployed
- ❖ Joanne Heckman and Richard Kraus (father of Bruce Kraus) for reassurance and safety living in facilities where COVID-19 is present
- ❖ Children, parents, teachers, and school administrators, for guidance, wisdom, and cooperation in making wise decisions for all as schools re-open
- ❖ All those impacted by or in the path of disasters and disaster response workers, especially those on the West Coast and the Gulf Coast
- ❖ The food ministry to the homeless at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, need for volunteers
- ❖ Comfort and peace for the family and friends of Sarah Jackson, especially her four daughters and her brother James. Sarah was a teacher at Duluth Middle School and worked with Family Promise. She died while saving her daughter from drowning.

- ❖ Comfort and peace for the Hunt family and the Carithers family upon the death of Cathy Hunt (friend of Joann Rosselle) who passed away from a lengthy hospitalization for COVID-19, especially for her husband Scotty Hunt.