

**“For where two
or three gather
together in my
name, I am there
among them.”**

Matthew 18:20

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2020 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 149:1, 3-5

Rev Julie Peterson

**Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let them praise God's name with dancing,
making melody to God with tambourine and lyre.
For the LORD takes pleasure in God's people;
God adorns the humble with victory.
Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches.**

OPENING HYMN

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love”

*recorded @ COTC 9-23-18
GTG #203; Blue#367*

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race;
neighbors are near us and far away. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others' feet;
this is the way we should live like you. Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

Triune God, You created us to be in relationship, for You are a relational God, and You made us in Your image. However, we have distorted Your image and broken relationship with You and others. We have abused and misused power. We have caused harm, sometimes unaware of our power and privilege. Call us into accountability, O God. Call us into the hard work of seeking forgiveness, which includes restoring what has been lost, repairing what has been broken. For all of us have sinned, all of us have fallen short, but sometimes, we are not aware of the damage we have done.

May we be open to criticism that builds up, even when it calls us out, and listen to those for whom we have caused harm. Soften our hearts, O God, to hear words that are hard, for You are with us. Your gift of forgiveness and grace frees us to enter the work here on earth, to help repair and restore, as the heavenly kingdom is ready for us.

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

OUR SUNG RESPONSE

“Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!”

GTG#390 (repeat each line 1x)



Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho-ly name. Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God's ho-ly name. Al-le-lu-ia!

SHARE GOD'S LOVE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

“Jesus Loves Me”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 12:1-14

Stu R.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:15-20

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Community”

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ...IN JESUS' NAME

PASSING THE PEACE

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

(Grant us Peace)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Philippians 2:5-11

Stu R.

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL OFFERING

“My Lord Knows”

*by Patsy Ford Belvins
COTC Choir 1-14-18*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Just as I Am”

*recorded at COTC on 11-5-17
GTG #442; Blue #370*

**Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**

**Just as I am, though tossed about with many-a conflict, many-a doubt,
fighting and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE²

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING²

May God be with you!

And also with you!

People of God, open your hearts.

We open them to the One who feeds us with freedom and hope.

Children of God, sing songs of thanksgiving to the One who journeys with you!

Graced with abundant life,

we join our hearts and voices in praise to our loving God!

The moment you spoke and liberated chaos, Holy God, time marked the beginning of created beauty and glory. You watered earth with tears of joy, planting those seeds of hope and peace so we might be fed by your heart.

But asked simply to be your children, we chose instead to feast at the table of sin. Your gracious word was sung in new ways by the prophets, but we tuned them out so we could listen to the seductive songs of greed. You, then, sent us your hope in Jesus Christ, who came to set us free and bring us home from our exile in rebellion.

Thus we sing our praises in the company of our sisters and brothers from every time:

Holy! Holy! Holy! Living God of grace!

All creation echoes your praise:

creatures roaming the fields,

dolphins splashing in the seas,

eagles soaring in the bright sky.

Glory to you forever and ever, God of the captives!

You are righteousness, God our Deliverer, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Child, our Brother. Because we break your heart with our words and deeds, Jesus came to shatter the chains of our arrogance and selfishness. Because we have become gluttons, feasting on bitterness and fear, Jesus came to be the sweet Bread of healing and hope.

Because we become drunk on sin's soured wine, Jesus came to be salvation poured into our parched souls. Because death smiles at us, waiting with open arms, Jesus came to gather us up in the embrace of grace and life, carrying us out of the empty tomb into your life of joy forever.

Gathered today at your Kingdom table wherever we find ourselves, we remember your promises fulfilled to us in Christ our Lord.

When we eat of the Bread, Christ's life strengthens us.

When we drink from the Cup, Christ's Spirit nourishes us.

When we go to serve others, we proclaim Christ's death until he returns in glory.

Bless these gifts of Bread and the Cup. Anoint us with your Spirit which brings us together. As your grace touches us with hope and healing, may we reach out our hands to set free those captive to injustice. As your peace is poured into the empty corners of our hearts, may we go forth to love others as much as we love ourselves, and to serve them as we show our love for you.

And when time has marked the end of history and we gather with all our sisters and brothers, all division done away with, all brokenness healed, all barriers pulled down, and all your children set free from despair, we will join our hands and hearts around your Table of eternity, singing your praise through forever: Glory to you, Liberating God! Alleluia to you, Christ our Servant! Thanks to you, Spirit of Peace! Now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sacred Presence, we have been fed. We have shared the living bread. We have been grafted to the vine. We have tasted heaven's new wine. We have been blessed. Jesus has called us as guests just as you Holy One, call us by name and tell us we are your treasures. You, Sacred Presence, have planted your seed of grace in our hearts through the sharing of these gifts of bread and cup. Thus we go, as your treasured beloveds, in the peace of our Lord, holding sacred your gift of love. We go to love the world and bring hope in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

*recorded @ COTC on 4-29-18
GTG #754; Blue #358*

**Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.**

**Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.**

**Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice and or bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!**

BENEDICTION

¹Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, <http://rev-o-lution.org>.

²Shuman, Thom M. Playing Hopscotch in Heaven (Kindle Locations 4180-4223). Kindle Edition.

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Welcome All
Share God's Love
Offer Hope
... all in Jesus' name

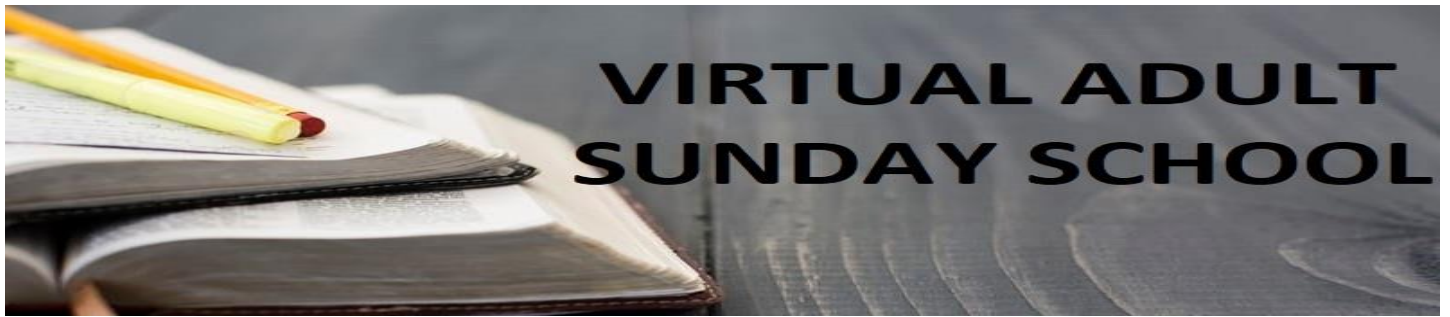


DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

If you have a prayer request, please email or text Pastor Julie.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR...

Addie (Donna H's friend)
Avonne (Laura's mother)
Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)
Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Sushma B
Virgil B (friend of Karen)
Andree C
Chuck C (Laura D's brother)
Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)
Betty D (Marie R's cousin)
Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)
Margaret E (Joe L's company president's Mom)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Shawn F (Karen F's son)
Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)
Karen F
Lori F (George R's OES friend)
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)
Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)
Ricky G (Sue/Joe's nephew)
Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)
James and Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)
Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)
Marge K (George R's OES friend)
Steve (Jane's brother)
Jim/Sheryl L (Ken/Pat's son-in-law/daughter)
Phyllis L
Judy M
Klee (Fritz/Fay's son)
Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Steve M
Dick McW (Ann M's brother)
Noah (nephew of Adelaide's son-in-law)
Shannan (Terri H's niece)
Susan Q (Ann S's boss)
George R
Jessie R (Julie/Jeff's niece)
Ann S
Marnie S (Glenna M's friend)
Larry V (Jim V's father)
April V (Chris V's cousin)
Caregivers
Communities impacted by natural disasters
Those devastated by terrorism
Families of suicide loss
Those who grieve
**Our world and all victims/families
affected by COVID-19**



The group meets via Zoom on **Sundays at 11:30 am.**

Our study book is “The Color of Compromise. The Truth about the American Church’s Complicity in Racism” by Jemar Tisdie. The book tells the story of how people of faith have historically - up to now - worked against racial Justice. **EVERYONE is invited to join the study**—just let Pastor Julie know you are interested, and the Zoom info will be sent directly to you.



**Our next Book Club meeting will be on
Wednesday, September 30 at 7:00 pm.**

We will be discussing Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid.

If you want to be included, please email Judie at judietrue@gmail.com
and she will send you a Zoom invitation.



Join us via Zoom every **Wednesday at 12 noon** for bible study as we discuss scripture passages for our upcoming worship service. Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom access information to join the Bible Study.

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| September 9 | Matthew 18:21-35; Exodus 14:19-31 |
| September 16 | Matthew 20:1-16; Exodus 16:2-15 |
| September 23 | Matthew 21:23-32; Exodus 17:1-17 |
| September 30 | Matthew 21:33-46; Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 |



Men's Bible Study will meet two times in September, the 9th and the 23rd. Meetings start at 7:00 pm.

Our current study is on the book *A Resilient Life*, by Gordon MacDonald. We meet via Zoom. We encourage new attendees, so if interested, please contact Ken G. or Stu R. for access details. If you do not have a copy of the book, ***A Resilient Life***, consider ordering from Amazon.



Across America and in every community, there are families struggling to meet their basic needs. This year Church of the Cross will again be participating in the Operation Warm Coat Program. By donating money for NEW winter coats, you can help relieve the burden of poverty and bring the gift of warmth to children in need at Lakeview Elementary School in Hoffman Estates. A new coat allows families to stretch limited financial resources to necessities, such as food and shelter. The unfortunate reality is that these schools request even more coats than we can fund. Most of the children receiving these coats are part of the federal free or reduced school breakfast/lunch program so having a warm coat to get to school often means their meals for the day.

Thank you for your consideration. We will be accepting donations until Sunday, September 27th.

Please put the notation "Warm Coats" in your check memo line or envelope.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

**DROP OFF AT 1 ILLINOIS BLVD HOFFMAN ESTATES
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY FROM 9-1PM.**

FINANCIAL DONATIONS:

Monetary donations allow us to purchase goods based on the needs of our clients at wholesale prices and is the easiest way to meet the growing demand at this time. Checks can be mailed to the Township (Attn: Food Pantry) and should be made out to the Township of Schaumburg with Food Pantry in the memo section. Donations can also be made online through our website schaumburgtownship.org. Please remember to signify the donation should be made to the Food Pantry.

FOOD DONATIONS:

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Soup
- Oatmeal and Cereal
- Canned Meats (tuna fish, chicken, ham, Spam)
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, mandarin oranges)
- Canned Pasta Meals
- Beef Stew, Chili, Pork n Beans
- Canned or Boxed Potatoes
- Canned or Dry Beans
- Tomato Products
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta Roni
- Rice A Roni
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels



Order on AMAZON and deliver right to our door via our amazon list*:

<http://a.co/9YbUnas>

*Please note the list will be updated regularly - we have no brand preference

