

# Vasa Lutheran Church

## *The Tale of Three Trees: Part Three*

Pastor Maureen Hagen

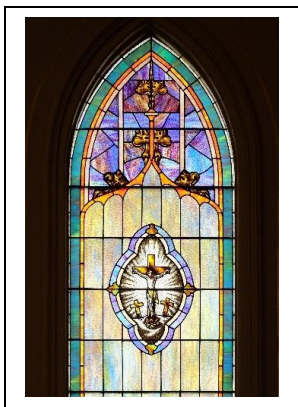
Accompanist-Tom Erickson

**Sunday, September 6, 2020**

### **OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Luke 23:26 - 56** As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. 27 A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. 28 But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' 30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' 31 For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" 32 Two others also, who were

criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 35 And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" 38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." 39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." 44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. 47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." 48 And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. 49 But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these



things. 50 Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, 51 had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. 53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. 54 It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. 55 The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. 56 Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE: HERE, O LORD, YOUR SERVANTS GATHER      ELW 530**

### **Luke 24:1-12**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in, they did not find the body. 4 While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 5 The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. 6 Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." 8 Then they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are raised with him to new life.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning you created us in your image  
and planted us in a well-watered garden.  
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.  
When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.  
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,

and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.  
We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in this font,  
and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE    NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN**

**ELW 367**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 118:14-24

L: The LORD is my strength and my might;

**C: he has become my salvation.**

L: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

**C: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;**

L: the right hand of the LORD is exalted;

**C: the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."**

L: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

**C: The LORD has punished me severely,  
but he did not give me over to death.**

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

**C: This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

L: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**C: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

L: This is the LORD's doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**C: This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE    CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING**

**ELW 389**

**MEDITATION**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*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 body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

**PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION**

Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**GENEROSITY MOMENT**

Offering plates will not be passed, but are sitting near the doors as you leave.

**CONSECRATION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS:** We will remain in the pews for communion today. Each of you should have picked up a communion portion prior to worship. After the words of institution you will be invited to open your portion and serve yourself.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Give us the courage to follow in the foot steps of Christ,  
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**THINE IS THE GLORY**

**ELW 376**

**BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ be with you now and forever. Amen.

Let us pray (*in unison*) Life-giving God, **you have fed us with your word, and our hearts burn within us. Through this meal you have opened us to your presence.**

**Now send us forth to share the gifts of Easter with all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN!**

**ELW 377**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



Scott Sorenson, Linda Thompson, Max Tilderquist, David Broin, Jessie Otto, Ben Norman, Mike Schwendeman (friend of the Norman's), Jerry McRae, Family of Herb Nerison (Jeannette Anderson's brother), Janis Eckhoff (Pastor Maureen's mother)

**Assisting with Worship today:**

**Reader and Communion Set Up:**  
Katie Lindahl

**Parish Pulse:**

**August 30, 2020**

*Participating in Worship: 25*

+ 9 WEW September 2

Total Offerings: \$2,070.00



**SEPTEMBER  
FREE VASA COMMUNITY  
DINNER  
COVID-19 STYLE!**

**MENU**

September 9, 2020

CHICKEN  
MASHED POTATOES  
GRAVY  
CORN  
REFRIGERATOR PICKLES  
DINNER ROLL  
MINI CHEESECAKE



OR



**5:30-6:30 PM**

**Call the Church office to reserve your meal.  
(Be sure to specify Pick-up or Delivery)  
651-258-4327**

**RESERVATION DEADLINE  
EXTENDED TO 9AM, TUESDAY,  
SEPT 8!!**

**DISASTER RELIEF NEEDED**

There have been a number of natural disasters over the last few weeks. Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) has a presence at each one. If you wish to donate to LDR to assist them in their vital work of support we recommend that you send a check directly to Lutheran Disaster Response. Their address is:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in  
America  
ELCA Gift Processing Center  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

If you wish to designate to a specific disaster, please indicate such in the memo line.



## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Vasa website [www.vasalutheran.org](http://www.vasalutheran.org).



Vasa Mission  
We, the Vasa  
congregation,  
called by God, commit to:  
Worshipping together,  
Growing in Faith  
Serving others, and  
Welcoming and Loving all!