



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2020 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of her father, Pat Black by Philip and Melanie Wessinger.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Morning has Broken
Arr. by Ron Boud

WELCOME

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.

Amen.

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy

we have peace with God through ✠ Christ Jesus,

through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

**Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.**

**Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.**

**Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love out pouring.**

**Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of Life, with one bread feed us.**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Almighty God,
we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word.
By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy,
live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.**Psalm
Refrain*

Your paths o - ver - flow with plen - ty, O God, your
paths o - ver - flow with plen - ty.

*Psalm
Tone*

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

you make it very plenteous; the river of God is | full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;**

with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year | with your goodness,

and your paths over- | flow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,**

and the hills be | clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,

and the valleys cloak them- | selves with grain;

let them shout for | joy and sing. ☩

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending the only begotten Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through the Spirit that dwells in you.

CHILDRENS' SERMON

“The Garden of your Heart”

Stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴Some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom of God and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the heavens refreshing the land. Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer for hundred fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.

As grain that is scattered your word has been sown on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand. Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundred fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.

As rays of the sun shall your word light the world, awaking and warming and healing our land. Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the light of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundred fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.

APOSTLES' CREED

**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**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Praying separately in our homes yet united in the Spirit, let us together intercede for all the needs of the world.

We pray for our congregation and for all the churches in neighborhoods.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for missionaries and for newly planted congregations around the world.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for those for whom growth in faith is difficult.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for farms and fields that are devastated by drought.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for all animals in search of water.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for everyone who is suffering from the heat.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for peace throughout the world, especially in the Middle East.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for the government of our country, state, and county.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for our society to be purged of racism.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for the thousands who each day are contracting the coronavirus.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for those without jobs or health care.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for medical workers and researchers.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for all who are sick.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray for all who are burdened by anxiety.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We pray, each of us, for ourselves.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

We thank God for Nathan Söderblom, whom we commemorate today, for all who were dedicated to ecumenism, and for all who have died in the faith.

O God, rain down your mercy on us:

your mercy is everlasting.

O merciful God, receive these prayers, and grant us your Spirit of peace and joy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

☒ **Peace be with you.**

Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.

Sit

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil
words and music by Handt Hanson (ELW 512)

Megan Finnern, soprano; Amanda Mast, flute

Lord, let my heart be good soil open to the seed of your word. Lord,
let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Stand as able

Refrain:

***Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Repeat***

**Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread, I am wine,
I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. Repeat**

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth,

all creation is yours,

and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace.

Nourish us through these gifts,

**that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.**

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.

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:

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

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

Sit

Communion

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

Worshippers who gather with family at home are invited to share the bread and wine with each other using these words spoken directly to each person, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."

Worshippers who are gathering with the community from their individual homes are invited to receive the bread and wine while saying these words, "The body of Christ given for me," and "The blood of Christ shed for me."

COMMUNION HYMN

As the Grains of Wheat

#465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

As the cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love. Refrain

Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with you. Refrain

Stand as able

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of the welcome table,
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness
and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

**The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls
reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living
the tasks of our everyday life we will face-
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fantasy Meditation on "*For the Beauty of the Earth*"
Arr. by Michael J. Glasgow

Word of God Come Down on Earth

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Sent Forth by God's Blessing

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