

7th Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, July 7, 2024

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ

2725 Concord Drive

Florissant, MO 63033

PRELUDE

“Two Spirituals”
“Prayer for Peace”

arr. Eugene Butler
Colin Curtis

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Details on announcements are at the end of this bulletin.)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

GATHERING HYMN

“Dearest Jesus, At Your Word”

ELW #520

GREETING

P: Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 2:1-5

¹ [A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.² And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³ He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” ⁵ Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 123

L: ¹ To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

C: ² As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand^l of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show^l us your mercy.

L: ³ Have mercy upon us, O^l LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough^l of contempt,

C: ⁴ too much of the scorn of the in-^l dolent rich and of the derision^l of the proud.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

² I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³ And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴ was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵ On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶ But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷ even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸ Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹ but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING - *Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy Gospel according to Mark , the 6th chapter (verses 1-13)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷ He called the twelve and began to send

them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Following the reading the assembly is seated.

SERMON Pastor Matt

HYMN OF THE DAY

"God is Here"

ELW#526

PROFESSION OF FAITH – *The 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.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands mold the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you speak and the nations listen. Open those who govern to the cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those seeking freedom, and those in search of community. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint (*names and*) all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, you gather us into your house of many dwelling places. We give you thanks for our faithful departed (*especially*). Inspire us by their lives of faith until, with them, we rest forever at our journey's end. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Share God's peace in whatever way you and/or neighbors are comfortable.

Following the sharing of the peace the assembly is seated.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **C: Amen.**

COMMUNION LITURGY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise. Hosanna in the highest!

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us and teach us to pray,

C: 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

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. **C: Amen.**

Lamb of God

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.

DISTRIBUTION *Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Let All Mortal flesh Keep Silence”

ELW#490

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God's grace unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

L: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **C: Amen.**

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - Many thanks to Kathy Endorf for her time and talent in organizing the quilt making with the Girl Scouts. 24 quilts have been completed for Lutheran World Relief with another 10 in the process of completion.

BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.** *(Num. 6:24)*

SENDING HYMN

"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

ELW#389

DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Higher Ground"

arr. Joseph Prentiss

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The July Lunch Bunch will meet on July 11 at Applebee's Grill and Bar at 11977 St. Charles Rock Rd, Bridgeton at 11:30 am. For reservations please contact Joyce Meyer at 314-374-4135 or 314-838-3741. Everyone is welcome!
2. **Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)** pack is on July 13 at Atonement --shifts are 8:00am, 11:15am and 2:30pm--. Registration begins on June 1 at fmsc.org. Invite friends, neighbors, co-workers, **and everyone you can possibly imagine!**
3. Create Day July 19th 9-11am to sew quilt tops, backs assemble layers for LWR
4. **50+ River Cruise August 14** Plan to sign up in July for a 2 hour boat ride on the Hakuna Matada from Grafton harbor on the Mississippi and Illinois rivers. Meet at church at 9am or at Grafton harbor at 9:45 for a 10am-12 noon sailing. Cost is \$35 per adult and \$20 per child with payment to the church prior to the event. Mark 50+ boat ride on your check. Lunch will be pay on your own at the Oyster Bar restaurant at Grafton harbor after the boat ride. Give checks in advance of the trip to Joyce Wolf or Erle Craig
5. **NO Bible Study or NO Adult Ed for the Summer. We will resume August 18.**
6. Choirs are in recess for the summer. We can really use some more members for both the bell (critical) and vocal choir. YOU can ring and sing! Contact Bill Kaepfel and David Eggers.

July 7, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Donna Glennie

Live Streaming: Rod Wallace

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Jim & Doris Stoechner

Greeter: Levaughn & Sheila Smart

Altar Guild: Doris Stoechner, Bill Kaepfel & Marilyn Wiley

July 14, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepfel

Lector: Terry Calderwood

Live Streaming: Erle Craig

Musician: David Eggers

Ushers: Gloria Broderick & Cathie Lehr

Greeter: Jim Stoechner

Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker