

8th Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, July 14, 2024

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
2725 Concord Drive
Florissant, MO 63033

PRELUDE

“Oh Holy Spirit”

Jan Bender

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. We struggle 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

“Oh Holy Spirit”

ELW #786

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

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Amos 7:7-15

⁷ This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸ And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line

in the midst of my people Israel;

I will never again pass them by;

⁹ the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,

and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,

and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰ Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹ For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

¹² And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³ but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴ Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵ and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

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

PSALM 85:8-13

L: I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

C: Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.

L: Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

C: Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

L: The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

C: Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

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 14-29)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴ King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵ But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸ For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²² When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³ And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵ Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸ brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹ When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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 "Faith of our Fathers"

ELW#812

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.

You gather your people into the body of Christ. Where your church is wounded, heal it. Where it is right, strengthen it. Where it is divided, reunite it. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

From before the foundation of the world, you are God. Revive ecosystems destroyed by human greed. Curb our desire to put wealth ahead of the health of all who call this planet home. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You establish equity and make justice. Within every nation, tribe, and land, cause laws to be written and customs to be observed that protect the most vulnerable. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

On the cross your beloved Son endured pain and death. Bring healing to those in need, hope to any in despair, and comfort to the dying. (*We pray especially for . . .*) In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You send your Spirit into this community of faith. Empower our ministries that serve and build up local communities (*ministries may be named*). Nurture our partnerships with other community organizations (*organizations may be named*). In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

All peoples praise you, O God. We give you thanks and praise for the lives of our loved ones who now rest in you (*especially*). In the fullness of time gather us with all your saints in light. 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 are comfortable. Following this please be 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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

“Just A Closer Walk with Thee”

ELW#697

COMMUNION 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 - Thank you to Randy Henning for your leadership as Congregation President, for your role in planning the Feed My Starving Children Pack, and for your leadership with the Great Rivers Collaborative. We appreciate that you have hove done and are still working toward in these roles as a leader.

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

“Let Streams of Living Water Flow”

ELW#710

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“Oh Holy Spirit”

Michael Burkhardt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Create Day July 19th 9-11am to sew quilt tops, backs assemble layers for LWR
2. **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
3. **Bible Study and Adult Forum** - these will resume on July 28.
4. 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 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 Stohner

Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker

July 21, 2024

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett

Lector: Randy Henning

Live Streaming: Gary & Laurie Brown

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Jann & Glenn Mueller

Greeter: Jann Mueller

Altar Guild: Cathie Lehr & Joyce Meyer