



Time After Pentecost

Sunday, June 6, 2021

*An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in Spirit.*

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude — “I Come with Joy”

Setting by David Cherwien

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

The Divine Gardener cannot sow seeds of justice and peace
where there is nothing but hearts of dry, hard rocks.

We confess that our hearts may need tilling
and the digging out of the deeply rooted sins
that crowd out seedlings planted with divine compassion.

God of steadfast love,
you change bitter tears of remorseful hearts with raindrops of mercy,
Now let us germinate a new life, growing with integrity!

God of steadfast love,
you change the cold shame of contrite hearts with sunrays of mercy
Now let us sprout a new life, growing with honesty!

God of steadfast love,
you change the stony edges of repentant hearts into landscapes of mercy,
Now let us branch out into new life, growing with generosity!

Divine Gardener, you tend us in steadfast love,
In Christ, this faithful love is planted in our hearts.
Gathered as our family of faith, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us,
we can now produce forgiveness for each other as we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures — Genesis 3:8-15

8[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?”¹⁰He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.”¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”¹⁴The Lord God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130 — *spoken responsively by verse*

¹Out | of the depths

I cry to | you, O Lord;

²O Lord, | **hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my | supplication.

³If you were to keep watch | over sins,

O Lord, | who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you | is forgiveness,**

in order that you | may be feared.

5I wait for you, O Lord; | my soul waits;
in your word | is my hope.

**6My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch | for the morning,
more than those who keep watch | for the morning.**

7O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is | steadfast love;
with the Lord there is plen- | teous redemption.

**8For the Lord shall | redeem Israel
from | all their sins.**

A Reading from the Epistles — 2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1

13Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, 14because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. 15Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

16So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. 17For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, 18because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

5:1For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation — hymn no. 528

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, you alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia.

***Gospel — Mark 3:20-35**

The Gospel of Mark, the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus went home;] 20and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. 21When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." 22And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." 23And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? 24If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. 26And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. 27But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

28“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; 29but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— 30for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

31Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. 32A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” 33And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” 34And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! 35Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — “Be Part of God’s Crazy Family”

Interim Pastor Bill Nelsen

Hymn — no. 684

“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”



1 Cre - at - ing God, your fin - gers trace the bold de -
2 Sus - tain - ing God, your hands up - hold earth’s mys - t’ries
3 Re - deem - ing God, your arms em - brace all now de -
4 In - dwell - ing God, your gos - pel claims one fam - ’ly



signs of far - thest space; let sun and moon and stars and
known or yet un - told; let wa - ter’s frag - ile blend with
spised for creed or race; let peace, de - scend - ing like a
with a bil - lion names; let ev - ’ry life be touched by



light and what lies hid - den praise your might.
air, en - a - bling life, pro - claim your care.
dove, make known on earth your heal - ing love.
grace un - til we praise you face to face.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: PROSPECT, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1979 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Blessing of Graduates — *in-person only, see pages 8 and 9*

*Affirmation of Faith — 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 power of 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 Intercession

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

God of wholeness, we pray for believers all over the globe. Unify us in service of the gospel, that we may work together as beloved siblings to share your love with all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, we pray for creation; the gardens, waterways and creatures near to us and diverse forms of life that remain unseen. Teach us to treat the natural world with reverence, seeking restoration when human divisions have caused harm to your beloved creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all people, we pray for harmony among the nations. Cast out from us unclean spirits of greed and fear, that we may work in solidarity with one another for the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of abundance, we pray for those who are oppressed or in any need. Encourage those who have begun to lose heart. Strengthen and renew us with your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of righteousness, we pray for this holy house of worship. Set our gaze upon things eternal, that in thanksgiving for your mercy, we may extend grace to more and more people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the ages, in your goodness you have sent us faithful witnesses for every time and place. We give you thanks for those saints who now rest in your eternal mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Offering

Please remember to give financially to support our ministry.

You can write a check and mail it to the church office or give online at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=283920>.

Departing to Serve God's World

Announcements

Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be part of God's crazy family. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn — no. 543

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”



1 “Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 “Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 “Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.”
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.”
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

Acknowledgements

From sundaysandseasons.com. © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and broadcast by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SASo20319.

"Confession and Forgiveness" written by James E. Janecek, in Seeds of Faith: Service Prayers for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways archive. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-c/p/pentecost-ordinary-time-21.html>

Words and music of hymns and worship songs under copyright are reprinted and broadcast using OneLicense #A-724285.

"Come and Fill Our Hearts" Text Psalm 136:1; Taizé Community; Music Jacques Berthier, text and music © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Online Assistants

Pastor/Presider: Pastor Bill Nelsen
Director of Music: Cantor Emily Bruflat
Lector/Assistant:

In Person Assistants

Pastor/Presider: Pastor Bill Nelsen
Director of Music: Cantor Emily Bruflat
Greeter/Reader: Beth Winterfeldt
Ushers: Tom Thorkelson

Announcements

Updated Policy: Singing in Worship

- After consulting with our Health Advisory Team, beginning this Sunday, vaccinated individuals are allowed to sing with their masks on!
- Note that it can get difficult to do this for a prolonged time; taking breaks as needed is encouraged. You must keep your mask on, covering both mouth and nose, while singing.
- If you are not vaccinated at this time, we ask that you refrain from singing and continue to listen only.

Monday Night Worship!

- Gone for the weekend? Miss church for some reason? Need spiritual renewal in your life?
- This Monday and throughout the summer, join Pastor Bill at 7:00 p.m. for summer church!
- Hear Sunday's sermon and sing along with a variety of musical styles led by members of our congregation!

Bible Study Starts Monday!

- A study of Isaiah begins in just a few days on Monday, June 7 at 9:30!
- The study will continue weekly on Mondays at 9:30AM in the conference room at the church.

Prayers

- We offer prayers of thanksgiving for our high school graduates: Kody Braun, Madison Doose, Tyler Erickson, Audrey Kennedy, Anna LoFaro, Dakota Matheson, Elizabeth Orth, Katie Petersen, Jakob Rimstad, Owen Schaffer.
- We pray for the family of Sheryl Strand whose mother, Mildred Loffredo, recently died.
- We pray also for Pastor Harold Shudlick, friend of the Malms and Paul Berkeland, Sharon's brother, both of whom are undergoing special surgeries.
- We offer a prayer for healing to Aileen Bipes, who is safely recovering from knee surgery.
- We pray for the families of Eunice Amos and Melissa Palmquist, whose memorial services were held yesterday.
- We lift up continued prayers for those on our long-term list: Tom Johnson, Tom Michels, Dick Muesing, Abigail Christenson, Betty Gustafson, Elgene Lund, Tom Stenson, Chuck Petry, Paul Aasen, Bob Cady, Marion Peterson, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, and Urusla McRostie.

High School Graduates Commissioning Service

Introduction

Pastor Bill: Today we celebrate our First Lutheran young adults who are graduating from high school and are taking another step in their life and faith journey. I invite the following graduates to come forward: Kody Braun, Madison Doose, Tyler Erickson, Audrey Kennedy, Anna LoFaro, Dakota Matheson, Elizabeth Orth, Katie Petersen, Jakob Rimstad, and Owen Schaffer. We also invite their parents to come forward along with Calleigh Carlson, our Director of Youth and Family Ministry.

Pastor Bill: Kody, Madison, Tyler, Audrey, Anna, Dakota, Elizabeth, Katie, Jacob, and Owen, we begin this special ceremony by remembering your connection with the church that began through your baptism. And so, I ask of you, do you intend to continue in the covenant that God made with you in Holy Baptism, to live among God's faithful people, to hear God's word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through your words and deeds, and to use your education in service to people, following the example of our Lord Jesus? If so, answer, "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

Graduates: "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

Pastor Bill: On this important day that we mark you "stepping into the world" we bless each of you with the gift of a quilt. And we say a special word of thanks to all of our faithful and skilled members who prepared these quilts.

Let us pray: God of creation, we ask your blessing on these young women and men as they take another step into your world and begin another chapter in their lives of faith and service. Bless them and grant them your gifts: joy as they live among your faithful people, eagerness in sharing the good news of Christ through their words and actions and dedication in serving all people following the example of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

Presentation of the Quilts

Director of Youth and Family Ministry: Today we present a quilt to each of you, our high school graduates, and we ask the help of your parents in presenting these gifts. These quilts are signs of the love we as a congregation have for you. Each stitch of these quilts represents the love God has given us to share with each other. We hope you see these quilts as signs of our continued care for you. On this day when we ponder your graduation and what this means for your lives, we take this opportunity, as your congregation and with your parents, to share these signs of blessing. (The quilts are handed to the parents.)

The graduates kneel.

Pastor Bill: I now ask the parents to wrap each of you in these quilts. There was once a day when your parents held you in their arms and rocked you to sleep. They cuddled you in a blanket to keep you warm, comforted, and safe. Soon you will be launching a new life, away from the safety and security of your home, family, church, and community, and yet you will never be alone.

The graduates rise and face their parents.

Parents: As you go into the world, may these quilts be a reminder of our love for you and the support of this congregation. We thank God for the gift that you have been in our lives. Whatever you do, you will always be a part of our hearts. Wherever you go, remember this event and that you are never alone.

Pastor Bill: Kody, Madison, Tyler, Audrey, Anna, Dakota, Elizabeth, Katie, Jakob, and Owen, wherever you wander, remember the warmth of these quilts, the love of your parents, the prayers of this church, and the power of God the father, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. And as a sign of your acceptance of these special gifts on this day, please reply, "With the help of God we promise to remember."

Graduates: "With the help of God, we promise to remember."

Pastor Bill: Graduates, we commission you now for a life filled with vision, meaning, hope, and lots of God's blessings. Let the congregation now rise and honor these young adults with our applause.