

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JUNE 19, 2022

*This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING REFLECTION**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path  
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,  
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

**Set us again on the path of life.**

**Save us from ourselves  
and free us to love our neighbors.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins  
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

**Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

*"Rise, Shine, You People" ELW #665*

**GREETING**

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**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray

**O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **FIRST READING — Isaiah 65:1-9**

*The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.*

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.

<sup>2</sup>I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;

<sup>4</sup>who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.

<sup>6</sup>See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;  
I will indeed repay into their laps

<sup>7</sup>their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,  
says the Lord;  
because they offered incense on the mountains

and reviled me on the hills,  
I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord:

As the wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, “Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it,”  
so I will do for my servants’ sake,  
and not destroy them all.

<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,  
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;  
my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

Word of God. Word of Life  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **SECOND READING—Galatians 3:23-29**

*For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.*

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* ELW page#172

The Holy Gospel according to the eighth chapter of Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **GOSPEL—Luke 8:26-39**

*Jesus’ mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus’ work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God’s mercy and power.*

<sup>26</sup>Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me” — <sup>29</sup>for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man.

(For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup>Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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

**MESSAGE**

Rev. Judy Thompson-Reitz

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” ELW #843**

**THE APOSTLE’S 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**

## **THE PRAYERS**

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you hear the cries of those who seek you. Equip your church with evangelists who reveal the continuous call of your outstretched hands and your promises of a home in you.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of the earth. Restore places where land, air, and waterways have been harmed. Guide us to develop and implement sources of energy and food production that do not destroy the earth.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of those who are marginalized or cast out. On this Juneteenth observance, guide us continually toward the end of oppression in all its forms, especially white supremacy. Bring true freedom and human flourishing to all your beloved children.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of those who suffer. Come to the aid of all who are homeless, naked, hungry, and sick. Bring peace to any experiencing mental illness, that they can clearly recognize your loving presence.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of those who celebrate and those who grieve on this Father's Day. Nurture mutual love and tender care in all relationships. Comfort those for whom this day brings sadness or longing.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful departed whose lives proclaimed all you had done for them. At the last, unite us with them as we make our home in you.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

**Amen.**

## **WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray:

**God of abundance:**

**you have set before us a plentiful harvest.**

**As we feast on your goodness,**

**strengthen us to labor in your field,**

**and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,**

**in the name of Jesus.**

**Amen.**

### **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **THE 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.**

*Holy, Holy, Holy* ELW page 144

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.  
Come to the banquet.

*Lamb of God* ELW page 146

### COMMUNION HYMN

*"One Bread, One Body"* ELW #496

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God,  
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds  
and fed us with your mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others,  
both friend and stranger,  
that all may come to know your love.

This we pray in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### BLESSING

The God of peace,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life

this day and always.  
**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ELW #886  
(Vs. 1, 3 & 4)**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God’s Word.

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