



**6th Sunday After Pentecost
July 17, 2022**

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen, Interim Pastor

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

***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.

***Hymn** "Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" #520

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of Holy Spirit
be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Kyrie**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the
Unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

Amen.

Canticle of Praise – This is The Feast **p. 140**

***Prayer of the Day**

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a}Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 15

LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation --** p. 142

*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord**

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Come Seek The Ways of Wisdom" #971 ACS

***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 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**

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

A brief silence.

Ever-present God, in Christ you fill all things. As your church gathers to hear your word, share your meal, and receive your blessing, teach us to welcome strangers as we have been welcomed by you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you created all things, visible and invisible. Teach humankind to honor and protect all creation, including living things that remain hidden from our eyes such as air, atmosphere, molecules, and microscopic creatures. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you reconcile all things. Motivate those in power to end enslavement, dehumanization, or brutality of any kind (*in the spirit of Bartolomé de Las Casas, whom we commemorate today*) and to protect and improve the lives of Indigenous peoples. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Through Christ you bring peace. Assure all who are worried and distracted by many things of your constant presence. Soothe those suffering in mind, body, or spirit. Sustain all who are afflicted and those who serve as caregivers (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In Christ you make your word fully known. Inspire this worshiping community (*congregation may be named*) to abide fully in your word as we sit at the feet of Jesus. Bless the ministry of teachers and Bible study leaders. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In Christ you brought forth the firstborn from the dead. We give thanks for the saints you have gathered at your table. Gather us with them in your eternal glory. 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.

***Peace**

May the peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

***Doxology #884**

***Offering Prayer**

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.

***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. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

***Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 144

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.

Come to the banquet.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats or use the individual pre-packaged elements at their seats may stand to hear the words for individual distribution.

Distribution Hymns: #770 "Give Me Jesus" #754 "Jesus, The Very Thought of You"

***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.

***Sending Hymn** "I Love to Tell The Story" #661

***Dismissal**

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

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.

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Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pr. Kelley can be reached at 402-750-9944 (cell).

LWR kits will again be assembled in September. With the disasters and wars, they are needed more than ever. With the beginning of school sales coming soon, it will be a good time to purchase the items needed for both the school kits and personal care kits. Please bring to the church and place in the designated tote in the entryway. Any questions, feel free to ask Gloria Healy, 873-5107.

The Piecemakers sewing group will be gathering at church on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 1pm starting in July. All are welcome!

The Memorial Garden is in need of a little refresh. Donations would be greatly appreciated. Items needed include new mulch, fertilizer, a new hose, and plants/flowers. If you prefer a monetary donation, you can simply put "Memorial Garden" in the memo.

"The Chosen" bible study has concluded and will start back up in the fall. Another bible study, held in the evenings may begin if interest is expressed.

This Week's Events: July 17-24

Tues. 7:00pm

AA Meeting (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)

Sun. Jul 24 9:00am

7th Sunday after Pentecost**Worship Assistants for July:**

Organist: Ruth Chartier & Jacob Martin

Altar Guild: Cindy & Gail Ploen

Scripture Reader: Ann Hopp

Offertory Accountants: Irv Martin

Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton

Acolyte:

Crucifer:

Birthdays: 17 – Whitney Lloyd; 18 – Austin Riediger; 20 – Patti Christiansen, Brian Henschen; 21 – Shane Mitchell, Caleb Morgan, Payge Ronfeldt; 22 – Carla Boggs

Prayers

For those battling cancer: Doug Dahlke-Cancer has returned and seems to be spreading, waiting and hoping for a spot in a Car T cell transplant.

We pray for Ed Kunkel (Barb's son)- was hospitalized with Covid, now home but still dealing with problems; Kelly Martin; Derek DeWitt, Ben Erdmann, and Kassie Bain- deployed; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of COVID-19, extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

On Ushers' Table:

- Children's bulletins
 - LWR Kit Lists
 - 2022 July-September Devotional (large and small print available)
 - Sermon sheets for confirmation students
 - July Newsletter
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