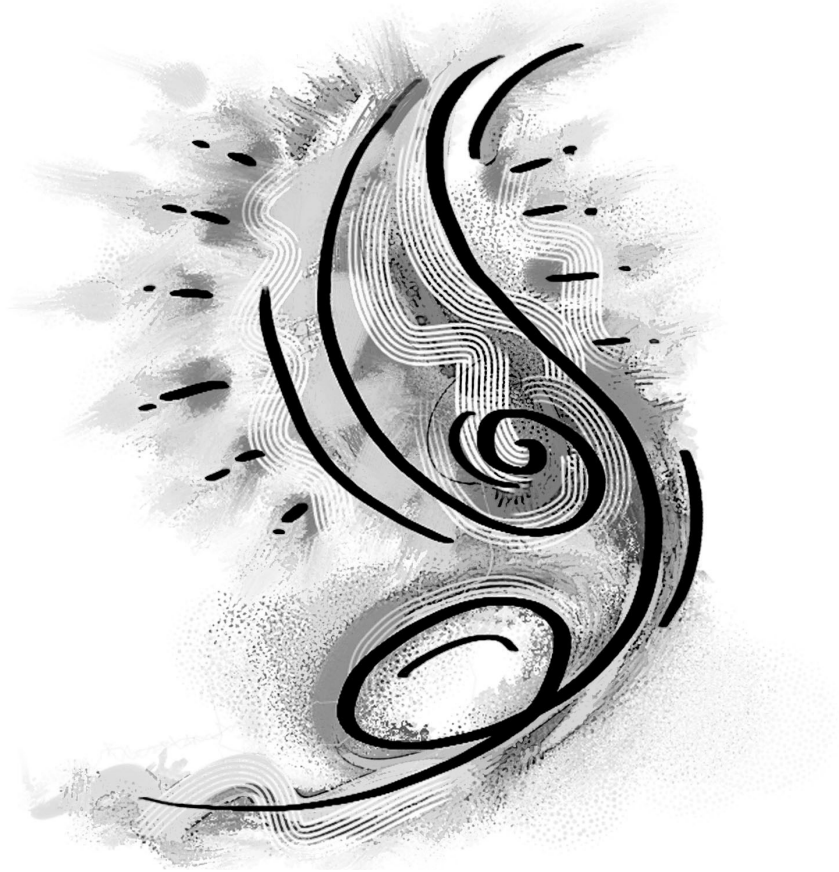


Worship Folder



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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Grace Lutheran Church

July 11-12, 2020

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

(the assembly stands as you are able)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

C: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(the assembly may be seated)

GATHERING HYMN

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

(the assembly stands as you are able)

GREETING

P: The steadfast love of God, the life of Jesus Christ, and the growth of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

P: Lord have mercy

C: Christ have mercy

P: Lord have mercy

PRAYER OF THE DAY *Unison*

**Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

(the assembly may be seated)

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

(Response after first and second reading)

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11)

[¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

²**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

³Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your
temple.**

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

⁷You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.]**

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of
God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves
with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(the assembly stands as you are able)

**All: Alleluia. The word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart.
Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

(the assembly may be seated)

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Word of God Incarnate”

(the assembly stands as you are able)

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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

(Response after each petition)

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

(the assembly may be seated)

OFFERTORY MUSIC

OFFERTORY PRAYER

(the assembly stands, as you are able, as the gifts are brought forward)

P: Let us pray...God of goodness and growth,

C: all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

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.

P: It is indeed our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...*(concluding)*... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER/WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

(All who desire to receive Christ's presence are invited to participate in the Eucharist)

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(the assembly may be seated)

REFLECTION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(the assembly stands, as you are able)

P: Let us pray...God of the welcome table,

C: in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen.

(the assembly may be seated)

SENDING HYMN

“As Rain from the Clouds”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(the assembly stands, as you are able)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PRAYERS

Alecia Lewis, Jan Charter, Don Furze, Larry Nelson, Marge Weber, Vicki Piontkowski, Michele Amelotte, Bethany Popour, Joanne Nicholls, Gordon Hansen, Deb Nitchman's Family, Kay Zinsli, Diane Prevost, Tammy Furze, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Emma Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Hazel Werblow, Sharon Anderson, Laura Hyatt (Kristin Rich's partner), Rob VanCleave, Donna Schafer, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Kevin Reiser, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Barb Agius, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, Yvonne Stoll, Joseph Hansen, Scott Coddington, and Cody Gustin. We also remember the family of Richard Scott, who passed away on Thursday, July 2.

Prayer Concerns: We are still taking prayer concerns to be included in the weekly bulletin – now becoming weekly news and announcements and more. Please do have the persons permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than just our congregation will know about it.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In observance of our covenant with the LARCC (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Congregational UCC) parishes of Alpena, we pray each week for a specific ministry of one of the 5 LARCC parishes. This weekend we pray for the RCIA/Adult Ed at All Saints Catholic Parish.

CHURCH OFFICE OPEN LIMITED HOURS

The Church Office is open Tuesday-Thursday, from 8 a.m. - noon. We ask that you please wear a mask when in the building. Please log in on the sheets as you enter the Office Lobby. Please also log out as you exit the building, noting the areas of the building that you were in.

CHRIST IN OUR HOMES

Devotionals for the next quarter of July - September are available in the office lobby. If you are not venturing out yet, phone the office and a copy will be mailed to you.

DO YOU NEED A FACE MASK?

Several church members have been making some for the hospital and are willing to make some for church members. Please call the office and let us know if you would like one. We will get one to you.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Talking About Race - Adult CE ZOOM at Grace for July 12th at 11:30 am.

We continue looking at YouTube of a conversation on race. We only went 11 minutes into it with our reaction and discussion filling up the rest of our time last Sunday. So join us as we continue to listen to this conversation and how we hear the comments.

You can watch the video in the link from the Wired Word sent out. Even if you couldn't make last week's class it will be easy to join in this week's conversation as we will view the video as part of class and talk about the new parts of the conversation. If you are not on the Adult CE class email list, please contact Pastor Tom to be added and get this week's materials.

ONLINE WORSHIP RECORDINGS

From our website or Facebook page you can access a video that we have made of scripture, prayers, music and a meditation for the week. Please let others, family, friends and church members know about this. We hope these recorded services are meaningful. It is GOD'S WORD and it needs to be out there. The world so needs to know of God's love and grace and peace and justice and strength right now. *THANKS*

MISSION TRIP POSTPONED UNTIL 2021 - COLLECTING BOTTLES/CANS

A special thank you to Grace members and friends who continue to support our community mission trips. Due to Covid we canceled all fundraising this spring which led us to postpone our trip until June 2021. We are continuing to raise funds over the next year with the hope we will be able to have a trip next year.

With that said, we hope you would consider donating your cans/bottles that have been accumulating at your home over the last several months to our 2021 mission trip fund. You can bring your returnable to Grace starting on June 13.

Thank you, Vicki, Staci & Marsha, Mission Trip Leaders

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Average needed each week to meet budget	\$ 4,415.00
Weekly giving - July 5	3,630.00

This week we received:

14 envelopes and 2 new Give+ payments made from our website

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 119 W. Dunbar St., Alpena, MI 49707

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