

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST July 6 & 7, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Life is not always easy. Life in and of faith is often less easy. In our readings today we encounter a few people who faced difficulty and challenges amid their godly callings. Ezekiel would be sent to speak the Word of God to a rebellious people who wouldn't happily receive the message. The apostle Paul would face his own personal struggles with his "thorn . . . in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7) as he brought the Gospel to many on his mission journeys. Jesus Himself would not be welcomed as Savior when He returned to His hometown of Nazareth. Though things were far from easy, God would bless the work that He called His people and His own Son to do. Even in our times of difficulty and challenges living as His people, we are reminded of the same truth from the Lord: "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

PRESERVICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" LSB 770, vv. 1-3

Please stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PSALM *Psalm 123*

Pastor: To You I lift up my eyes, O You who are enthroned in the heavens!

People: Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till He has mercy upon us.

Pastor: Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

People: **Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 123; 124:8; 32:5; 123:4; Ezekiel 2:5; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Mark 6:12

Pastor: Echoing the words of the psalmist, we lift our eyes to You, O Lord, enthroned in the heavens. As we do, we seek Your mercy. Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"

People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Though we lift up our eyes to You, our souls have had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

People: **As You claim us as Your own in Baptism through water and the Word, we struggle to live as Your children. As You call us in faith to trust in You, we face the contempt of others in the world around us. As You collect Your people together as Your church, we often fail to prioritize the work of Your kingdom and the mission You have set before us for the sake of others. We flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: The Lord calls His people and sends them to proclaim His Word, even amid the scorn and contempt of the world. He sent Ezekiel, along with a promise:

People: **"Whether they hear or refuse to hear, . . . they will know that a prophet has been among them."**

Pastor: He sent the apostle Paul, along with a promise:

People: **"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness."**

Pastor: He sent His own Son into the world, into our flesh, on our behalf. Though stricken, smitten, afflicted, and even rejected in His own hometown, the message of the Word made flesh continued to be proclaimed by the disciples:

People: **“So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent.”**

Pastor: Gathered together as His church, be affirmed and assured that almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. All of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

People: **Amen.**

INTROIT *Psalm 132:13–16; antiphon: Psalm 34:8*

People: **Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!**

5:30 & 10:30 – **Pastor:**

8:00 - **Choir:** For the LORD has chosen Zion;
He has desired it for His dwelling place:
“This is My resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
I will abundantly bless her provisions;
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
Her priests I will clothe with salvation,
and her saints will shout for joy.”

People: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

KYRIE *(spoken)*

People: **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, though we are unworthy, You show mercy. Though we are underserving, You pour out Your grace. Though we fail, You grant us forgiveness.

People: In our callings in faith and sent as Your people, sustain us through Your Spirit that we together as Your church may serve You in joy and gladness;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please sit**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Ezekiel 2:1–5* (Ezekiel's call)

¹He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you."

²And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me.

They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very

day. ⁴The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' ⁵And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 12:1–10* (Paul's vision and his thorn)

¹I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.

³And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—⁴and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶Though if I

should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

(continued...)

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Please stand

VERSE *Mark 6:13*

Pastor: Alleluia. They cast out many demons

People: and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 6:1–13* (Jesus rejected at Nazareth)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” ⁵And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶And he marveled because of their unbelief.

And he went about among the villages teaching.

Please sit

(10:30 ONLY) OFFERING

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

⁷And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts—⁹but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. ¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**HYMN** "Come, My Soul, with Every Care" LSB 779, vv. 1-6**SERMON** "NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER = OUR PRAYER" (Text: Nehemiah 1:3, 6-7)
*The Rev. Peter Gueldner***(5:30 & 8:00 ONLY) OFFERING** 8:00 – "We Walk by Faith" Summer Choir**CATECHISM** *The Third Article and Explanation: Questions 212–215***People:** I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**Pastor:** What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Pastor: What are the identifying characteristics of the Church?**People:** The identifying marks that guarantee the presence of the Church are the pure proclamation of the Gospel and the right administration of the Sacraments. Where these are, the Spirit creates faith. God's Word of promise is sure and does what it says.

Pastor: What are some other outward indications that the Church is present?

People: **Such things as gatherings for prayer and worship, the fruits of faith, and suffering for Christ also serve as good outward indications that the Church is present without guaranteeing it. The Church also uses the Office of the Keys to rebuke and to forgive sins, as well as to consecrate ministers to preach and teach on behalf of all.**

Pastor: What is the mission of the Church on earth?

People: **The Church's mission is to confess and proclaim the forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake by preaching the Word, administering the Sacraments, sending missionaries, and establishing new congregations and by the daily witness of the baptized children of God, His royal priesthood.**

Pastor: What are some of the privileges and responsibilities of members of the Church?

People: **We should regularly receive the Word and Sacraments within the community of believers.**

Pastor: We should belong to congregations that confess and teach the pure Word of God.

People: **We should beware of and avoid false teachings, false teachers, and organizations that promote false teaching.**

Pastor: We should tell others about Jesus, participate in works of mercy and service, and support the ministry of the church with prayer and financial gifts.

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the people of God in Christ Jesus, for His church, and for all people according to their needs. God of continued mercy, Your power is made perfect in weakness and Your grace is sufficient for us. As You called people of the past to proclaim the way of salvation, so also use us as Your instruments to proclaim the Gospel and to live as lights even among scorn and despising from a sinful world. Sustain Your church to remain strong in faith until the day You make all things new. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Sending Father, strengthen laity to live as Your church each day among our neighbors, pointing to Your light and Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Compassionate Father, we face daily the trials of this world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh. Often a “thorn in the flesh” is a barrier to our faith and trust in You. Remind us Your grace is sufficient and Your power is made perfect in weakness. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Additional petitions may be added.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Hear us, dear Lord, as we pray as you taught us:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

(The 5:30 & 8:00 services conclude on page 10 with the Benediction and Closing Hymn.

The 10:30 service continues below with the Sacrament.)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who together unites us as one in Your Body, the church. By His forgiveness we are reconciled, and through His Spirit we are declared Your children, together as a family of faith.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: We thank You that You call us by name, and we pray we continually heed Your voice of invitation. Even as You call us now to this Table to receive our Savior's body and blood, let Your servants hear Your word of forgiveness and grace to strengthen and sustain us. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✕ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✕ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

Please sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

1. Let us break bread together on our knees,
 Let us break bread together on our knees;
 When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
 O Lord, have mercy on me!

2. Let us drink wine together...
 3. Let us bow ‘round the altar...
 4. Let us praise God together...

Public domain, Traditional Spiritual

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” LSB 686, vv. 1-4

Please stand

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

People: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: As we have been called, gathered, and enlightened through Your Spirit as Your church, You have sustained and nourished us that we may live as Your people in this present life and at Your time rejoice in life everlasting. Your grace is sufficient and Your forgiveness is assured.

People: **Strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you.

People: **Amen.**

Please sit

CLOSING HYMN “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” LSB 761, vv. 1-4

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3.
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Pastor	Rev. Peter Gueldner
Music	Nancy Simonson; 8:00 – Summer Choir
Elders	5:30 – Mark Quinlan; 8:00 – Curt Becher; 10:30 – Wayne Meyer
Worship Assistants	5:30 – Richard Delaske; 8:00 – Brian Fuchs, Brent Peterson; 10:30 – Mark Prieve
Lectors	5:30 – Donna Rae Schultz; 8:00 – Randy Helbling; 10:30 – Marilyn Wilkowske
Greeters	5:30 – Pat Langevin, Dave Geyer; 8:00 – Lynette Schaapveld; 10:30 – Billie Jo Weeg, Deb Malmanger
Ushers	5:30 – Dan & Judy Valentyn; Dave Schuenke; 8:00 – Jim Cross, Vernon Cross, Wayne Dalluge; 10:30 – Wayne Nelson, Bob Reichert