

St. John's Lutheran Church
June 16, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

(An usher rings the church bells 5 minutes before church service starts)

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude – Linda Ranney

(Acolyte -When music starts light candles)

Thanksgiving For Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn “As Rain From the Clouds” ELW#508 v. 1, 3

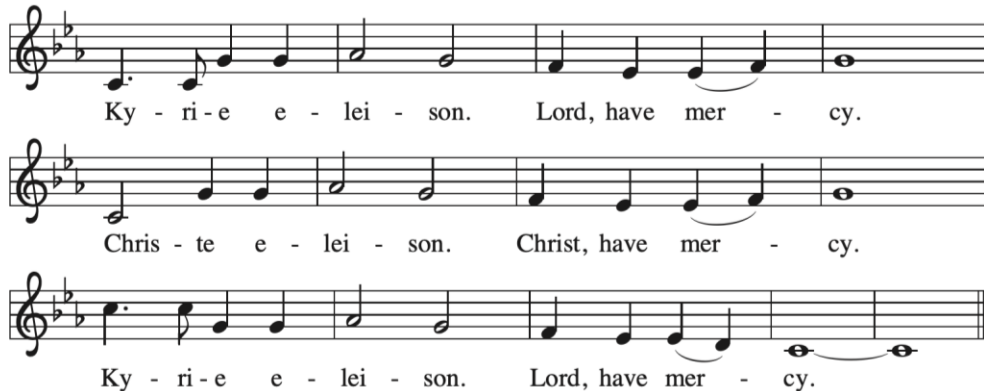
1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the heavens refreshing the land. Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world, awaking and warming and healing our land. Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the light of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

Apostolic 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.**

Kyrie ACS pg. 31



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Canticle of Praise ACS pg. 31



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, **you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I

make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. [¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation ELW pg. 142 (*Please stand*)

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 4th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

Sermon - Rev. Gary Hedding (*Please Sit*)

Hymn of the Day “God of the Fertile Fields” ACS#1063 v.1-4

- 1 God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
that all in ev'ry land be clothed and fed.
- 2 We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share, teach us like you to care for people ev'rywhere,
that all may live.
- 3 As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign
grows. Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused, no humble task
refused your love bestows.
- 4 God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one:
we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you. Guide all we say and do.
Your will be done.

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.

Prayers of the People

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

Petition: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

(Ushers collect offering. Begin at the back of the sanctuary on the inside aisle and collect as you move to the front and continue around to the outside aisle returning with the offering to the Gathering Area. One usher collects offering from balcony.)

Offering – *"In Every Age"* by Janèt Sullivan Whitaker, Mark Lundin

(Acolyte will collect the offering from the ushers to place on the altar during Offertory)

(Observe a time of silence and reflection)

Offertory "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" ELW#512 v.1

(Please stand)

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood. When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, **you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW pg.144



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

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 Table *(Please Sit)*

(Acolyte- comes forward for communion. The 2 ushers will go to the front of the Sanctuary and begin releasing worshippers to receive a wafer and wine.)

Lamb of God ACS pg. 40



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn *"Almighty God, Your Word is Cast" ELW#516 v.1-4*

- 1 Almighty God, your word is cast like seed into the ground; now let the dew of heav'n descend and righteous fruits abound.
- 2 Let not the sly satanic foe this holy seed remove, but give it root in ev'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy, but let it yield a hundredfold the fruits of peace and joy.
- 4 So when the precious seed is sown, life-giving grace bestow, that all whose souls the truth receive its saving pow'r may know.

Post Communion Blessing (*Please stand*)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, **Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn "*The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve*" ELW#551 v.1-3

(*Acolyte – Extinguish candles*)

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.
- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free; where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

Sending

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Linda Ranney

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Altar Flowers: In memory of Dan Bunce by Cheryl Mattison.

Serving at worship today:

Pastor – Rev. Gary Hedding

Worship Assistant – Kathy Freitag

Lector – Cora Klawiter

Acolytes – Emory Hanson, Owen Dekan

Ushers – Sam Pederson, Mike Torud

Greeters – Dramus Peuse, Brian Wagner

Communion Servers – Cheryl Mattison, Margaret Kinderman, Diana Hogenson

Camera System – Scott Olsen

Power Point- Lois Mai

Musicians- Linda Ranney, organ/piano; Mark Lundin, Director of music