



St. John Lutheran Church ELCA Waseca, MN



Sunday, August 8, 2021

11th Sunday of Pentecost

GATHERING

The prophet Amos, in our first lesson, was a farmer, who was active as a mouthpiece for God’s word. His primary message is that things are “out of line” in this world, and that God’s people are called to act in love, compassion, and justice toward their neighbor in need. In our gospel lesson, to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God’s mercy in responding to one’s neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the “gospel that has come to you”—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Ministry Moment

**Carpet Update*

Ann Ruedy

**Undie Sunday & National Youth Gathering*

Nadine Omans

(Please stand)

Call to Worship

P Are you awake? Are you alert?

C Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

P Are you watching the signs? Are you interpreting what is happening today?

C Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

P Do you see opportunities for ministry?

Do you see the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the needy?

C Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

P Come, let us worship and let us work in the reign of God.

C Christ has extended the invitation: let us work together in the reign of God on earth.

Gathering Hymn:

#68 I was glad

~Refrain~

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

- 1. Called from ev’ry nation, called from ev’ry race, gathered here for worship in this holy place; God is here among us, lift your hearts and sing, make the walls and rafters ring.*

~Refrain~

***I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."***

2. *Words that must be spoken, grace that must be heard, mercy and forgiveness from God's holy word, here will be repeated; peace to all proclaimed, shouted out in Jesus' name.*

~Refrain~

3. *Here the poor are welcomed, here the lost are claimed. Broken lives are mended, deepest fears are named. Here the wise are children and the weak are strong. Here, in Christ, we all belong.*

~Refrain~

Prayer of the day:

P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also, with you!

P: Let us pray together:

P: O Lord God,

C your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise (purple) #98 Morning had broken

- 1. Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*
- 2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.*
- 3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning, God's recreation of the new day!*

(Please be seated)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Amos 7:7-17

Amos, a shepherd from the southern village of Tekoa, is called by God to preach against Israel, the Northern Kingdom, in a time of economic prosperity. Today's reading illustrates how Amos's stinging criticism of Israel alienated him from those in authority, including King Jeroboam and the priest Amaziah.

⁷This is what [the Lord God] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

¹⁶“Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.

You say, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.’

¹⁷Therefore thus says the Lord:

‘Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parceled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.’”

R The Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

Gospel Acclamation (purple) #7 Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the tenth chapter.*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

1. ²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘

Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?”³⁷He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

(Please be seated)

Children’s message

Message: Listening to the prophets – Amos Pastor John Omans

Message Song (purple) #95 Make me a channel of your peace

- 1. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love; where there is injury, your pardon, Lord: and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.*
- 2. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope; where there is darkness,...only light; and there there’s sadness, ever joy.*
- 3. O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.*
- 4. Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.*

(Please Stand)

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 into hell. 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

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us + all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

C **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

P: Lord, hear our prayer

Prayer Response: #92 Lord, listen to your children praying

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

Sharing The Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: We share Christ's peace with each other (virtual high-five, wave, or virtual hug)

(please be seated)

THANKSGIVING

Stewardship Moment

We give thanks that we can once again resume our trips to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota! It has been a long 20 months of pandemic-time since we were able to send a mission team to visit. This is a joint-mission venture between Grace and St. John Lutheran churches in Waseca. This trip in August (date yet to determined) will be about renewing relationships and building new ones! And our mission team will bring school supplies for the Red Shirt school and for people around the reservation area. A list of items needed is in our August Lifeline, and available on the table in Trinity Hall. Any questions, or for information to travel to Pine Ridge with our mission team, contact Sue Erdman. Thanks be to God!

Offering invitation (spoken by Pastor)

(Offering may be placed in offering plates near exits)

Offering prayer

P Blessed are you, O God, for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity, through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The 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 too give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy, tender, gentle God Heaven and earth are full of you.

Hosanna, hosanna in the high and in the low ones.

Blessed is the one who comes in your name

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**C: 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.

Communion

(All baptized Christians are invited to come to the Lord's Table. Children who haven't had instruction are invited to come for a blessing. They're asked to fold their hands. Children who are receiving communion please extend your hands. Grape juice is available -- please say "Grape juice" to the server.)

Gluten Free Wafers are available upon request.

COVID-19 instructions: Please come down the center aisle, pulpit side first, then lectern side. Please maintain social distancing. Receive the bread and wine and proceed to the side aisle, where you may remove your mask and eat/drink the bread and wine. For those with mobility issues, the bread and wine will be available at a side station near the side aisle.

Invitation to Communion

*P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God!
Come, the banquet is ready.*

Hymns During Communion

Hymns (cranberry) #465 As the Grains of Wheat

~Refrain~

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in you.

1. As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love.

~Refrain~

2. Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with you.

~Refrain~

Hymn (purple)

#121 Seed, scattered and sown

~Refrain~

Seed, scattered and sown; wheat, gathered and grown: bread, broken and shared as one, the Living Bread of God. Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands; one cup that is shared by all; the Living Cup, the Living Bread of God.

*1. Is not the bread we break a sharing in our Lord?
Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ out poured?*

~Refrain~

*2. The seed which falls on rock will wither and will die.
The seed within good ground will flower and have life.*

~Refrain~

*3. As wheat upon the hills was gathered and was grown,
so may the church of God be gathered into one.*

~Refrain~

Hymn (purple)

#122 Seek ye first

- 1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.*
- 2. Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.*

Prayer after Communion

P God of the welcome table, 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.

C Amen.

Dismissal of Homebound Communion

P Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are sick/homebound/imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Blessing

P Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of the holy Trinity, + one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C Amen.

(Please stand)

SENDING

Sending Hymn (purple) #128 Soon and very soon

- 1. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King?*
- 2. No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!*
- 3. No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King, no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.*
- 4. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.*

Sending

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PLEASE WAIT FOR USHERS TO EXIT YOU OUT OF PEWS.

Leaders in the Service

Pastor: John Omans

Pianist/Organist: Al Tonn

Guitarist: Mike Harvey

Reader: Rodney Born

Ushers: Mary Meyman, Sue Michaels

Communion Prep: Merrill & Mary Schultz

Acolyte: Brody Overland

Council Person: Ann Ruedy

Videographer: Gyles Randall

Facebook Live: Curt Yess

Thank you to all these members of St. John for offering their time and talents.