



St. John Lutheran Church ELCA Waseca, MN

Sunday, June 27, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

GATHERING

Introduction

In our First reading, the Apostle Paul contrasts the treasure of God's abundant love and mercy in our lives with our human frailty (which he compares to easily broken clay jars). Why? So that it can be clear that this treasure comes from God and not from us. In our Gospel lesson, Jesus invites us: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Jesus offers a yoke to tired listeners and tells them that a yoke will give them rest. The yoke as a means of rest was a strange idea. Jesus understood the yoke as a symbol of surrender and obedience to God's wisdom as embodied in his Son. Generally, our instinct is not to connect surrender or obedience with the idea of freedom. Through the image of the yoke, however, Jesus invites us to give way to his leadership in our lives and to accept it as graceful and positive, bringing us rest.

Welcome and Announcement

Ministry Moment: Fabric Kits

Marie Tesch

(please stand)

Call to Worship

P Brothers and sisters, boys and girls—

C come and worship!

P Even if you're tired and worn out—

C come and worship!

P Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—

C come and worship!

P Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—

C come and worship!

P See if you can discover how Jesus wants to use you—

C come and worship!

P For Jesus is humble and gentle,

and he will give us everything we need to follow him.

Opening Hymn: (sheet)

Come Now Is The Time To Worship

~Refrain~

***Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.***

1. *One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God. One day ev'ry knee will bow.
Still, the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose. You now.*

~Refrain~

***Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.***

2. *Willingly we choose to surrender our lives. Willingly our knees will bow.
With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and gladly choose. You now.*

~Refrain~

Prayer of the Day

P: *The Lord be with you!*

C: **And also with you!**

P: *Let us pray:*

P: *Almighty and ever-living God,*

C: **throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise (purple) #90 Lord, I lift your name on high (2 times)

*Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross,
my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.*

(please be seated)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

When we carry out God's ministry, we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

R The Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

Gospel Acclamation #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. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus wants those who are burdened to learn from him, and he promises the gift of rest for our souls. Intelligence is not needed to receive this gift, but simply a willingness to receive him.

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Hymn (cranberry) #715 Christ, Be Our Light

1. *Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.*

~Refrain~

***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.***

2. *Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.*

~Refrain~

3. *Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.*

~Refrain~

4. *Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.*

~Refrain~

***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.***

5. *Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come.*

~Refrain~

Message

Treasure in Clay Jars

Pastor John Omans

Message Song (purple) #43 Glory and Praise to our God

~Refrain~

***Glory and praise to our God, who alone gives light to our days.
Many are the blessings he bears to those who trust in his ways.***

1. *We, the daughters and sons of him who built the valleys and plains,
praise the wonders our God has done in ev'ry heart that sings.*

~Refrain~

2. *In his wisdom he strengthens us, like gold that's tested in fire.
Though the power of sin prevails, our God is there to save.*

~Refrain~

3. *Ev'ry moment of ev'ry day our God is waiting to save,
always ready to seek the lost, to answer those who pray.*

~Refrain~

4. *God has watered our barren land and spent his merciful rain.
Now the rivers of life run full for anyone to drink.*

~Refrain~

(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 is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.*

C Amen.

*P If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

*P Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.
All your sin is forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.*

C Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

Hymn (cranberry)

#178 Hear Our Prayer

**Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
peace to all people , hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.**

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

*P Share a greeting of Christ’s peace with one another.
(We share Christ’s Peace)*

(please be seated)

Stewardship Minute

Once again, we are gearing-up at St. John to assemble Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Kits – this time assembling Fabric Kits on Thursday, July 8th. These kits help people coping with poverty. According the LWR website, the global demand for Fabric Kits is higher than ever. If you would like to donate for this project, please see the needs listed in our bulletin announcements. If you have questions, please call Marie Tesch.

Offering Invitation *(offering may be placed in offering plates located at corner of side aisle)*

Offering Prayer

P Merciful God,

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen

Lord's Prayer

P *Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.*

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.

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.**

SENDING

(please stand)

Sending Song (purple) #26 Canticle of the turning

1. *My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest.*

Could the world be about to turn?

~Refrain~

***My heart shall sing of the day your bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.***

2. *Though I am small, my...God, my all, you...work great...things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for your yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.*

~Refrain~

My heart shall sing of the day your bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

3. *From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant...from his throne. The hungry poor shall...weep no more, for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.*

~Refrain~

4. *Though the nations rage from...age to age, we remember who holds us fast: God's...mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp. This saving word that our forbears heard is the promise which holds us bound, 'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.*

~Refrain~

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

PLEASE WAIT FOR USHERS TO EXIT YOU OUT OF PEWS.

Leaders in the Service

Pastor: John Omans

Organist: Jan Macklay

Acolyte: Kaden Elias

Reader: Sam Macklay

Ushers: Diane Blowers, Linda Sandborg

Council Person: Ann Ruedy

Videographer: Pam/Dominic Grunzke

Facebook Live: Curtis Yess

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