**Faith & First**

## Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

## ~ July 21, 2024 ~

**Gathering**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Confession & Forgiveness** WOV pg. 10

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***C: Amen.***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

***C: Amen.***

***\** Entrance Hymn *“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”***

LBW #250 ELW #533

Vs. 1 Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,  
 where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer.  
 Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace!

Vs. 2 Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me;  
 where we find thee and adore thee, there a heav'n on earth must

be.  
 To my heart, oh, enter thou, let it be thy temple now!

Vs. 3 Here thy praise is gladly chanted, here thy seed is duly sown;  
 let my soul, where it is planted, bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
 so that all I hear may be fruitful unto life in me.

Vs. 4 Thou my faith increase and quicken, let me keep thy gift divine;  
 howsoe'er temptations thicken, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 as my guiding star through life, as my comfort in all strife.

Vs. 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed;  
 may I undisturbed draw near thee while thou dost thy people feed.  
 Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

**Greeting** *WOV pg. 28*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Kyrie***WOV pg. 28*

P: Kyrie eleison:

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: Christe eleison:

***C: Christ, have mercy.***

P: Kyrie eleison:

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

**\* Hymn of Praise** *WOV pg.29*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone

are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,

And peace to God’s people on earth.

**\* Prayer of the Day**

P: O God,

***C:*** ***powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully***

***feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole***

***people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son,***

***Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

**Word**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6**

*Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.*

1Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. 2Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

3Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. 4I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

5The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

**Psalm 23**

1The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**2The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

3You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

**Second Reading**: **Ephesians 2:11-22**

*The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.*

11Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—12remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

13But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

19So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

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

**\* Gospel**: **Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

*When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.*

30The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. 31He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. 32And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.

34As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

53When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. 54When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, 55and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. 56And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”**

LBW #497 ELW #332

Vs. 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;  
 lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.”  
 I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;  
 I found him in a resting place, and he has made me glad.

Vs. 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give  
 the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.”  
 I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
 my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

Vs. 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light;  
 look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”  
 I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
 and in that light of life I’ll walk till trav'ling days are done.

\* **Apostles’ Creed** *WOV pg. 33* 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.

**\* The Prayers**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land: Through the One who is the cornerstone of a firm foundation, join us together and build us up as a temple of mercy and peace. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the creation: Cause new trees to be planted. Restrain the melting of polar ice caps. Save land from destruction. Like a shepherd tends her sheep, raise up from among us caretakers of all you have made. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations and heads of tribes: Where peace seems far off, bring it near. Where justice seems fleeting, bring it to light. Where discord seems relentless, bring harmony. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the health and well-being of family, friends and neighbors: Heal those who are sick especially

Give courage to all who struggle with addiction. Touch with your tender care all who reach out to you in pain. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this assembly and for the faith communities represented this week at the ELCA Youth Gathering: Nurture the faith of young people as they encounter new experiences and people. Break down dividing walls and inspire collaboration among people of every age. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for those who have died (especially): Make us certain in Christ we are no longer strangers and aliens but citizens with the saints in the household of God. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

***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.***

**Meal**

**Peace**

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

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we

offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God,

***C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us – our selves, 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.***

**\* Great Thanksgiving** *WOV pg. 36*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.***

**\* Words of Institution** *WOV pg. 36*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 39*

***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.***

**Communion Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep

you in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Canticle** *WOV Pg. 40*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell every-

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God,

and lead us forth in joy with shouts

Of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

**\* Prayer** WOV Pg. 41

P:Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

***C: Amen.***

**Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 41

P: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn “The Church’s One Foundation”** LBW #369ELW #654

Vs. 1 The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
 she is his new creation by water and the word.  
 From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Vs. 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth,  
 her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
 one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
 and to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.

Vs. 3 Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,  
 by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
 yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: “How long?”  
 and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Vs. 4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,  
 she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
 till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
 and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Vs. 5 Yet she on earth hath union with God, the Three in One,  
 and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
 Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,  
 that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

**\* Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***