**Faith & First**

## Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

## ~ July 7, 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 *“How Firm a Foundation”*** LBW # 507 ELW #796

Vs. 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
 is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
 What more can he say than to you he has said
 who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Vs. 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

Vs. 3 "When through fi'ry trials your pathway shall lie,
 my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
 The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
 your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

Vs. 4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
 my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
 and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
 like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

 **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: God of the covenant,

***C:*** ***in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of live, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

**Word**

**First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

*In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today’s reading recounts God’s commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God’s word to a people unwilling to hear.*

 [A voice] said to me: “O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.” **2**And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. **3**He said to me, “Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. **4**The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God.’ **5**Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

**Psalm 123**

1To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

**2As the eyes of the servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid look to you, O Lord our God, until you show us your mercy. Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy.**

3Have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

**4too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud. Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy.**

**Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

*Christians do not boast in their own accomplishments. Rather, Christians boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ’s grace is sufficient for us.*

**2**I know a person 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. **3**And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— **4**was caught up into paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. **5**On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. **6**But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, **7**even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+12%3A2-10&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-29014a)] me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+12%3A2-10&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-29014b)] **8**Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, **9**but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+12%3A2-10&version=NRSVUE#fen-NRSVUE-29016c)] is made perfect in weakness.” So I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. **10**Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ, for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

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

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

**\* Gospel: Mark 6:1-13**

*At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God’s word and relieve affliction.*

[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. **2**On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! **3**Is 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. **4**Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown and among their own kin and in their own house.” **5**And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. **6**And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. **7**He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. **8**He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff: no bread, no bag, no money in their belts, **9**but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. **10**He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. **11**If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” **12**So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. **13**They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**Sermon**

 **Hymn of the Day “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”** WOV #684

***Refrain: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness***

 ***calling and free, Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,***

 ***stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.***

Vs. 1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,

 then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;

 and over the eons you called to each thing:

 “Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.” ***Refrain***

Vs. 2 You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,

 and you goaded your people with a law and a land;

 and when they were blinded with idols and lies,

 then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,

 then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;

 and down in the city you called once again,

 when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

 ***Refrain***

Vs. 4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.

 From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;

 our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.

 With bold new decisions your people arise. ***Refrain***

\* **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 bur ied; 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.

Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands mold the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you speak and the nations listen. Open those who govern to the cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those seeking freedom, and those in search of community In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint

And all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, you gather us into your house of many dwelling places. We give you thanks for our faithful departed (especially). Inspire us by their lives of faith until, with them. We rest forever at our journey’s end. 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 “We All Are One in Mission”** WOV #755

Vs. 1 We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
 Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
 A single, great commission compels us from above
 To plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

Vs. 2 We all are called for service to witness in God's name;
 Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same:
 To touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace
 So ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

Vs. 3 Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
 Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.
 We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
 Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

**\* Dismissal**

 L: Go in peace. Love your neighbor. ***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***