

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 18, 2023

9:00 am

Prelude

Welcome

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community.**

We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Righteous God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest.**

We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn ELW #526 "God is Here"

- 1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all your varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**
- 2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honestly of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.**
- 3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants**

of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

- 4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe.**

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Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Readings and Psalm

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

At Sinai God assured Israel, "You shall be my treasured possession," and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God's will.

²[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

Psalm: Psalm 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!

²**Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.**

³Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

⁴**Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.**

⁵Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8

We are no longer God's enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me and has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. *Alleluia.* (Luke 4:18)

The Holy Gospel according to the book of Matthew, beginning with the Ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it.

¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off

the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²²and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”]

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW #575 “*In Christ Called to Baptize*”

- 1. In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace and gather a people from each land and race. In deep, flowing waters, we share in Christ’s death, then rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.**
- 2. In Christ called to banquet, one table we share, a haven of welcome, a circle of care. Although we are many, we share in one bread. On cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our head.**
- 3. In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach the lifegiving gospel; God’s love we will teach. By grace may our living give proof to our praise in costly compassion reflecting Christ’s ways.**
- 4. Unite us, amount us, O Sprit of love, for you are within us, around us, above. Equip us for service with gifts you bestow. In Christ is our calling, in Christ may we grow.**

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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.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Prayer

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

Sending Song: ELW #535 "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

Refrain: **Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

- 1. Christ the Lord to us said; I am wine, I am bread, I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. *Refrain***
- 2. Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel. *Refrain***

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Concert and Cream: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

Hotdogs/Brat, Chips, Pie & Ice-cream, \$5.00 per person, Concert by: Lake Crystal Community Band starting at 6:30 pm. All are Welcome!!

Church Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

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