

# **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

July 20, 2025 10 A.M. Worship

Celebrating the Risen Christ through Acts of Love, Care and Justice

# THEME OF THE DAY (YEAR C)

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life. (Lectionary 16)

**PRELUDE** Give Me Jesus Richard Billingham

# **TOLLING THE WORSHIP HOUR**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.



Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt. Music: LIEBSER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

#### **GREETING**

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW #167



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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with You.

And also with you.

Let us pray... Eternal God,

you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# **CHILDREN'S SERMON / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 18:1-10a Pew Bible, pg. 12

The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

<sup>1</sup> The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup> And

Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10a</sup> Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is "Christ in you." Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

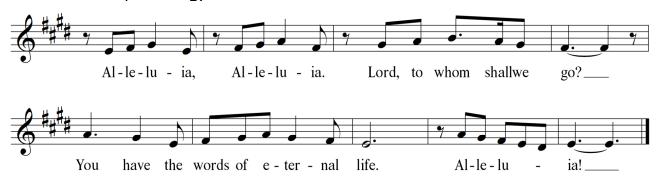
<sup>15</sup> [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, <sup>23</sup> provided that you continue securely

established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

<sup>24</sup>I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup> I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

# **ALLELUIA VERSE** (ALL sing)



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# **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 10:38-42

Pew Bible, pg. 845

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, chapter 10 **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>38</sup> Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my

sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

**SERMON** 

**Pastor William Jon Irons** 



Text: African American spiritual Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version

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# PROFESSION OF FAITH — 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 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.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

(after each petition) God of grace, hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with one another.

# MEAL

# **GATHERING OF GIFTS**

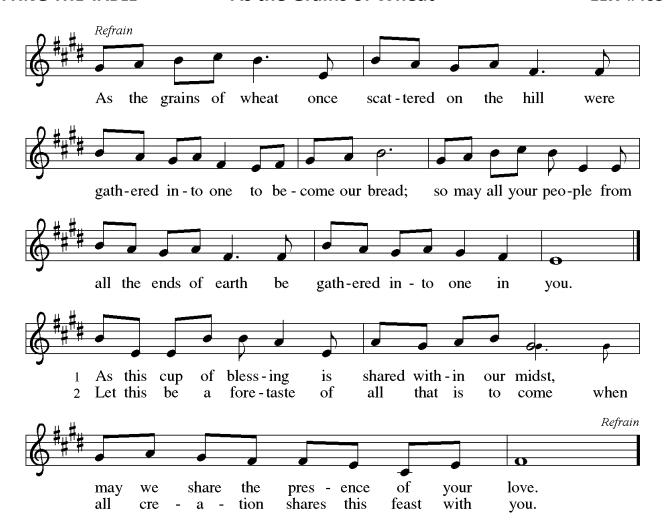
Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

Walter Pelz

Scan here to give online.

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Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

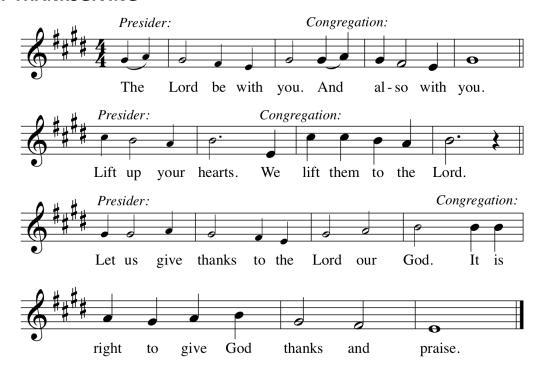
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# **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray...Creator God,

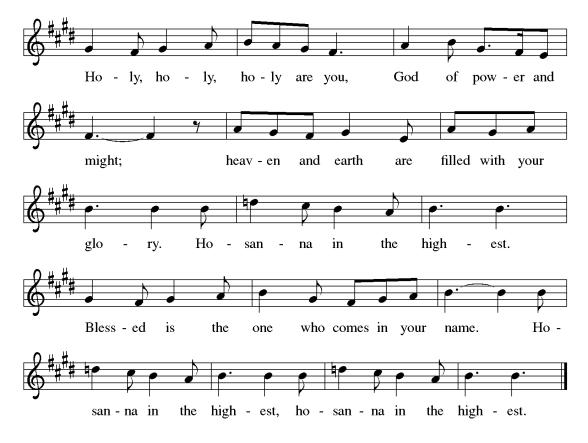
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



"It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn:

# SANCTUS ELW #191



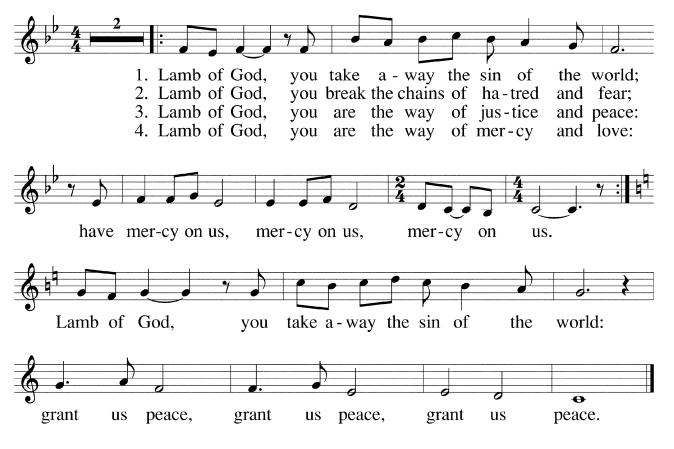
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#### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

# THE LORD'S PRAYER (contemporary text)

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.

# **LAMB OF GOD**



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# **COMMUNION HYMN** There Is a Longing in Our Hearts



Text: Anne Quigley, b. 1955

Music: LONGING, Anne Quigley

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# **TABLE BLESSING**

# **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray...Mothering God,

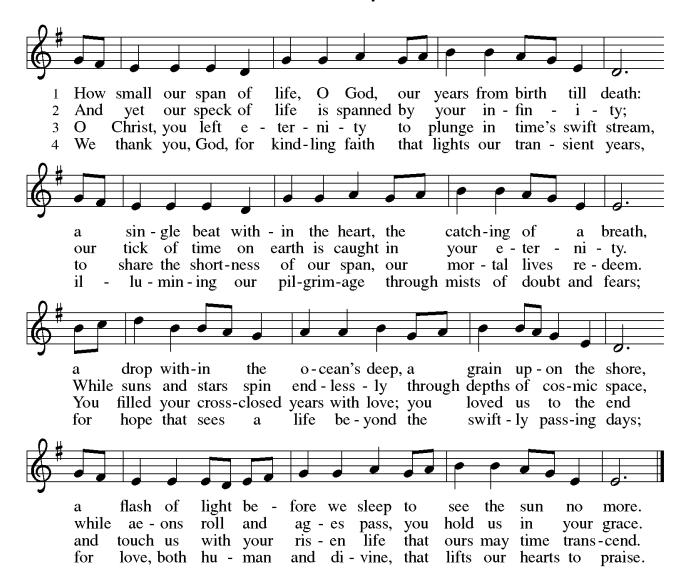
you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

# SENDING

# **BENEDICTION**

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit  $\pm$  bless you and give you peace.

Amen.



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 Music: KINGSFOLD, English traditional Text © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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# **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.



#### **Resurrection Lutheran Staff**

#### Ministers

Pastor [ext. 115] Office Administrator [ext. 110] Director of Children's Ministry and Education [Ext 116]

Director of Youth Ministry [ext. 118]

Director of Worship & Music [ext. 114]

Rev. William Jon Irons [pastorbill@rlcplano.org]

Misti Retan [misti@rlcplano.org] Betsy Boyd [betsy@rlcplano.org] Ann Loeffler [ann@rlcplano.org] Jim Loeffler [jim@rlcplano.org]

#### **Volunteer Staff & Leadership**

Council President Council Vice President Council Secretary **Council Treasurer** Liaison for Worship Liaison for Witness Liaison for Learn Liaison for Serve Liaison for Ancillary Ministries Liaison for Support / Facility Supervision

Butterflier Editor (Newsletter)

**School Supply Project** 

AM's & Acolyte Coordinator

Altar Guild & Flowers

Bruce Fisher [brucewfisher@gmail.com]

Kathy Barrett- [kwbarret@verizon.net] Beth Smith [fraubeth@att.net]

David Frost [fros@Raytheon.com] Amy Gebrian [a4704g@verizon.net]

Marylou Boardman [g777879@yahoo.com] Katherine Bandy [kmbmilton@gmail.com]

Sharon Bosse [lemonade@GTE.net] Sallie Diamond [dithr@aol.com]

Mark Waterman [mvwaterman@sbcglobal.net]

Rita Fischer [nygiantfan2@verizon.net] info@theschoolsupplyproject.org

Lynn Waterman [joyfullynn@sbcglobal.net]

Jan Frum [jlfrum@verizon.net]

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