



First Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 12, 2020 • 6th Sunday after Pentecost

As we continue to reopen the church and gather in person for worship again, there will be several important announcements coming to your email inbox! Please make sure you are getting the Friday announcements and email office@flcmhk.org or call 785-537-8532 if you are not receiving them.

This weekend! We have a congregational meeting and vote ONLINE. Voting will be a very simple Google Form; you will receive it in your email. Make sure that you are receiving the church announcements and be on the lookout for the vote on Friday July 10!

If you are part of the Cleaning Crew for this service, thank you! Worship would not be possible without you! After you receive Communion, head to the narthex closet, where cleaning supplies and printed instructions will be available to get you started.

Prelude

Gathering

Welcome & Announcements

† Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C: We give thanks that we are one united body, joined together even with those who cannot be here in person.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

C: We confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy

we have peace with God through Christ Jesus,

through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

In the + name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God,

C: We thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Be seated.

The Word

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-14 (Read Responsively)

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of
your temple.**

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

You still the roaring of the seas,

the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;

you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness,

and your paths overflow with plenty.

**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

† Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, eleventh chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P: This concludes the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated.

Children's message

Reflection

Pastor Liz Kocher

Special music

Anne Otte

APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess what we believe.

C: 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

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

Meal and Sending



Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray,

C: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours,
and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Water and word, wine and bread:

these are signs of your abundant grace.

Nourish us through these gifts,

that we might proclaim your steadfast love

in our communities and in the world,

through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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

Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.

**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.**

Explanation of Holy Communion

All are welcome to God's table. During this time when we are especially aware of safety, communion will be served as a dismissal. At the conclusion of the service, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the narthex. Communion servers will offer you a tray, where you will pick up a cup of bread (gluten-free available), and a cup of wine or grape juice. Holy Communion elements have been prepared with attention to health and safety.

Dismissal

P: Let us pray,

**C: God of the welcome table,
in this meal, we feast on your goodness
and are united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.
Amen.**

P: God nourishes us at the table to live as disciples.
Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Anyone is welcome to stay and pray at the communion rail before you exit.

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