

**Lakeside Lutheran Church
2427 Eaton Ferry Road
Littleton, NC 27850
Contemporary Service
Lectionary 11
Sunday, June 13, 2021**



Website: www.lakesidelutheran.com
Email: admin@lakesidelutheran.com

Welcome to all who have come to worship today! Let us praise the Lord together by singing joyously, praying fervently, listening attentively to God's Word, and reaching out a friendly hand to one another. We share an open communion, all who come are welcome to share the Communion Table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Blessings to all!

Prayer for Worshipers: With thanksgiving we come to worship you this day, O Lord. You have blessed us with gifts of grace and goodness beyond our need and our deserving. Cause us always to recognize the source of our blessings and support, and to be ever grateful to the Giver. Hear our praises and prayers this day and speak to us through your Word that is interpreted by your Spirit. Send us from this time together with new joy and with the strength needed to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Our worship: Our setting is a community gathered around Word and Sacrament; communion with God and with each other. In our scripture reading, our musical offerings and at the table, God is in this place. We invite you to experience and give praise to our Creator God as you join in worship.

Participating in Today's Worship: **Director of Music:** Janice Thompson; **Assistant Director of Music:** Diane Colin; **Lector:** Scot Diuguid; **Ushers:** Jim & Susan Bersch, Flowers donated in honor of the 58th anniversary of Bob and Nancy Roegner.

THEME OF THE DAY:

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

WELCOME:

PRELUDE:

GATHERING:

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONG: Holy Ground W&P 59

**We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are
angels all around.**

Let us praise Jesus now.

We are standing in his presence on holy ground

GREETING:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2
Corinthians 13:13)

C: And also with you.

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to
your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you
are away, when you lie down and when you rise up.**

P: One does not live by bread alone,

**C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the
Lord.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray.

**C: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the
world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that
we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

**Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r, and love
our God is an awesome God**

**Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r, and love
our God is an awesome God**

**Our God is an awesome God!
Our God is an awesome God!**

WORD: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

L: A reading from Ezekiel.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make

high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 130

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

L: ¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

**C: ²to herald your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night;**

L: ³on the psaltery, and on the lyre,
and to the melody of the harp.

**C: ⁴For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**

L: ¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

**C: ¹³Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

L: ¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be green and succulent;

**C: ¹⁵that they may show how upright the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

L: A reading from 2 Corinthians.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.

¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

King of kings and Lord of lords: glory, hallelujah.

King of kings and Lord of lords: glory, hallelujah.

Jesus, Prince of Peace: glory, hallelujah.

Jesus, Prince of Peace: glory, hallelujah.

GOSPEL: : Mark 4:26-34

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Pastor Sherrie Hofmann

SONG OF THE DAY: Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW 512

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD:

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit. (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

P: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. (*Jude 1:20*)

P: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.
(*Jude 1:21*)**

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

P: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

P: Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation.
Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may
root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your
goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain,
bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering
drought. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty, homelessness and the sick.

Rebecca Barriger & Baby

Luke

Ilissa Beavers

Bruce Bredland

Adele Bryant

Carol Burt

Keith & Carol Carlson

Sara Chylack

Cecil Davis

Stephen Finch

Geneva Fitts

Betsy Freeman

Rita Gainey

Elizabeth Groeger

Karl Groeger

Douglass Gross

Bernard Harris

Linda Huntington

Carolyn Johnson

Dale Kittrell

Jane Maske

Valorie McArthur

Jane Miller

Alexa Molden

Sybil Pipho

Claire Rooks

Terry Rutan

Crystal Saner

Art & Charlene

Schindehette

Mary Spence

Paulette Thomas

Janice Thompson

Aimee Turner

Susan Zimmerman

Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians Janice Thompson and Diane Collin. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: We commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces especially those related to our church family.

Terry
Andy
Lt. Col. John D.
Captain Amanda
Mollie
KC

Remington
Austin
Parker
Heather
Major Mark
Nicholas

P: Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence. Lord in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

C: Amen.

PEACE:

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

(2 Corinthians 13:11)

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

C: And also with you.

OFFERING:

Thank you for sharing the gifts that God has given you to continue God's ministry in our church, community and the world.

Options for submitting your offering or building fund donation:

- Mail your check to Lakeside Lutheran Church, 2427 Eaton Ferry Road, Littleton NC 27850.
- Use your bank's web bill pay to send a check directly and with no fees to Lakeside Lutheran at the above address.
- Drop your offering envelope in the no-contact collection basket in the Narthex as you exit worship.

OFFERING SONG: God is Here Today

ACS 993

God is here today;

as certain as the air I breathe,

as certain as the morning sun that rises,

as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.
God is here today;
as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THE 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.

SENDING:

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant ELW 659

- 1 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**5 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Message:

Cradle of Life

In the parables of the growing seed and the mustard seed we hear Jesus using agricultural imagery to give us some sense of what the kingdom of God is about. Our reflections and interpretations of these parables usually focus on what they tell us about God's kingdom and how God works in our lives. From these two parables we can gather that the kingdom grows. More specifically, we may say that God provides harvest and shelter. One of the points of parables is to engage our thinking and to keep us asking questions. What else might we see here?

The mustard seed grows into a shrub in which birds can make nests. Bird nests are one of the small wonders of this world. The sort of nest one might find in a tree may be made from sticks, grasses, and spider webs. The bird gathers all of this and may add saliva to weave it into a well-shaped cup to cradle the eggs that will hatch into new life. All of this is done with a beak and two

feet. In these nests we see resourcefulness, patience, skill, and elegant design. In the shade of the mustard bush the bird has the freedom to construct something beautiful, practical, and life-giving.

Perhaps this is part of what it means for us to live in God's kingdom. Through Jesus we are given the freedom to use our gifts to make beautiful, practical, life-giving things. We build houses and neighborhoods, families and relationships; we make art and music, friendships and promises. In the shade of grace we are given space to thrive, not simply for our own sake, but for the sake of the world. We can gather in the things of resurrection life: forgiveness, kindness, mercy, compassion, and love. Woven together these acts of faith lead to hope, and hope is always a cradle for new life.

Announcements:

- **June 13, 2021,** It is Care to Share at Lakeside Lutheran this Sunday, so if you care to share (and I'm sure you do), then bring your canned goods and other non-perishable food items to the Sunday service and we will make sure it gets to the community food banks for distribution. Additionally, this Sunday we are promoting one of the many local charities our Church supports - Hannah's Place. Hannah's Place provides shelter for abused women to enable them to get back on their feet. This is the very definition of a worthy cause, so you are encouraged to donate this Sunday to Hannah's Place. Make your check out to 'Hannah's Place,' and we will, again, make sure it gets to the right place. Thank you!

- **June 21, 2021**, at 11 am Sara's Circle is holding a Women's Spring Salad Luncheon. All women of the church are encouraged to bring a salad to share and also to wear their "best" hat and to bring a baby and middle aged photo of themselves. Come out and enjoy this time of inspiration, fellowship and fun!
- **GWOH** - The Evangelism Committee would like your help with feeding the children lunch at John 3:16 Summer Camp. Check out the sign up board in the narthex for the dates available. Thanks so much for your help!
- **Until All are Fed.** Lakeside Lutheran Church is partnering with ELCA World Hunger to raise funds for our food bank ministry. Lakeside Lutheran recently was awarded a \$500 Daily Bread Matching Grant from ELCA. The website is open through June 20th and we are happy to report that we met the \$500 match goal, so we are eligible for the \$500 match from ELCA. Fundraising still continues and all monies raised will go to our food bank at Lakeside Lutheran to help our neighbors at Lake Gaston. The fundraising website for our church is at http://support.elca.org/site/TR/Events/General?px=1069392&pg=personal&fr_id=1422 . Thank you for your support!
- **Sign up for Flowers:** The sign up book for sanctuary flowers is located in the narthex. Cost to sponsor flowers is \$35 per vase per week. Please drop your check (marked

“flowers” in the memo line) for payment in the offertory when you leave worship.

- Sharon Larsen was asked to fix a **cross necklace** for a member “pre-covid”. That necklace is finished and is at admin’s desk. Please come by and claim your necklace.
- While Lakeside Lutheran Church is now meeting in person for both the Contemporary (8 a.m.) and Traditional (9:30 a.m.) services, we continue to livestream our services 9:30 am services on YouTube for your convenience. Be sure to subscribe on YouTube at:

[Lakeside Lutheran Church ELCA - YouTube](#)

- **Sunday Mornings at 11 am – Christian Education:** Materials are available in the narthex on the round table. Please help yourself if you would like to join.

Join Zoom meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738865427>

Password for entry: 238527

- Daily Faith Practices Bible Study at 9 a.m. each Wednesday. Material are available each week. Please let Ken Hinrichs know (khinrichs77@gmail.com) and he will send it to you.

Join Zoom Meeting # 84581372630; Passcode: 089118

- **Small Groups** will meet on Zoom May 20th at 7pm. Call Bruce or Kathy Bredland with questions 240-638-6809 or 301-602-1653.
- Any information that is to be posted in the **Bulletin** must be received in the Church Office no later than 4:00 pm on the Tuesday before. Please send to admin@lakesidelutheran.com
- Christian Education materials for next quarter are now available in the narthex.
- Learn more about our church by visiting us at www.lakesidelutheran.com. Like us on Facebook.
- Small Groups Bible Study will meet at 7 pm May 6 & 20 via Zoom. Call Bruce or Kathy Bredland with questions 240-638-6809 or 301-602-1653.

Upcoming Commemorations

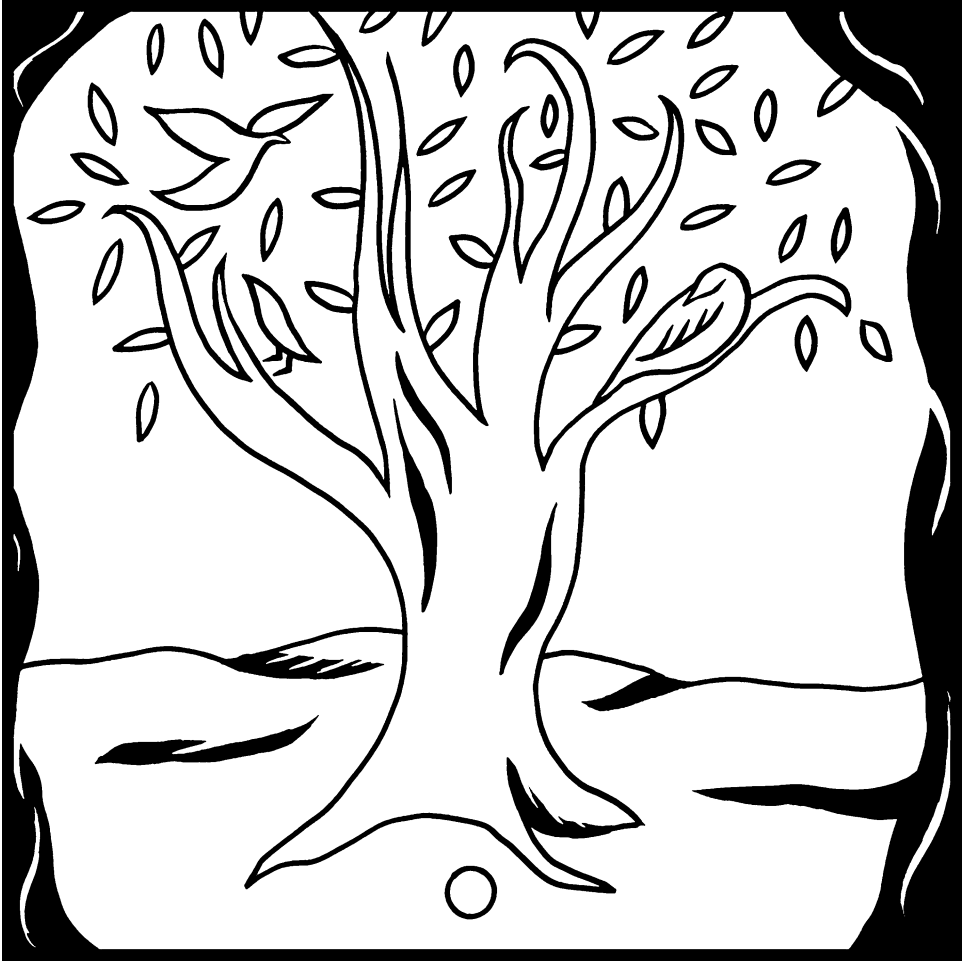
**Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, died 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around 379
Monday, June 14, 2021**

The Cappadocian fathers, as the three men in this group are known, explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Basil's monastic rule forms the basis for Eastern monastic life. Gregory of Nazianzus defended orthodox Christianity in Constantinople. Gregory of Nyssa, Basil's younger brother, wrote on the spiritual life. Macrina, older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa, was the leader of a community dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer.

Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015

Thursday, June 17, 2021

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.



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