



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 16, 2021

Of the Land and Seasons-Summer Liturgy

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Place for Everyone . . .

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MOLLY HAGGERTY, Interim Pastor



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The *congregation*, or participants, *respond* with the lines in **bold type**.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have neglected to nurture the new growth you cause to sprout among us. We have failed to protect those tender and vulnerable in faith from the choking weeds of our indifference and inflexibility. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, rededicate us, and compel us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by

his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: *Morning Has Broken*
(ELW 556)

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.

KYRIE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Nurturing God, like a good shepherd you provide for the needs of your flock. When we grow tired in our labors, sustain us; when we grow complacent in our caring for others, restore our commitment to nurture and protect your faithful among us, especially those whose faith is new and tender; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First reading from Isaiah 55:10-13.

¹⁰For 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,

¹¹so 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.

¹²For 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.

¹³Instead 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65:9-13

READ RESPONSIVELY

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it
very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You pre-
pare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its in-
crease.**

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths
overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

GRADUAL HYMN

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-36

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

³⁴Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. ³⁵This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

"I will open my mouth to speak in parables;

I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON:

“God’s grandest majesty is in the smallest of stuff”

(Silence for a time of reflection)

HYMN OF THE DAY: *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*
(LBW 362)

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.**

INSTALLATION OF 2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God of the harvest, you sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into your field. Help your church throughout the world to be both diligent and patient, full of resolve and gentleness, that our witness may be faithful to your intentions.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of all space and time, your whole creation groans in labor pains, awaiting the gift of new birth. Renew the earth, sky, and sea, so that all your creation experiences freedom from the bondage of decay. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the nations, teach us your ways, that we may walk in your truth. Mend the fabric of the human family, now torn apart by our fearful and warring ways. Guide us by your mercy, grace, and steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of hope, you accompany those who suffer and are near to the brokenhearted. Open our hearts to your children who are lonely and abandoned, who feel trapped by despair, and all who suffer in any way (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the seasons, in the midst of summer, give us refreshment, renewal, and new opportunities. We pray for the safety of those who travel. We pray for those who cannot take the rest they need. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of life, those who have died in you shine like the sun in your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints of all times and places and saints close to us. Gather us with them on the day of salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE COMMUNION MEAL

THE OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Just as this broken bread was first scattered on the hills, then was brought together and became one, so let your church be brought together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours are the glory and the power through Jesus Christ forever.

Amen.

The elements were given as you entered.

Please peel the top film and take your bread.

The body of Christ given for you.

Amen.

Open your cup by peeling back the foil.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF SENDING FOR SERVICE

SENDING

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, home-bound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. A seed has been planted. Go forth being good soil.

Thanks be to God. We will!

POSTLUDE

*****WORSHIP TIME CHANGE*****

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021 9:00 AM

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