



**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**July 11, 2021**

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*A Place for Everyone . . .*

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The Rev. Linda Hostetter, Interim Pastor



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

*Peace to all who enter God's house for worship today.  
We pray that all will find strength, security, and fellowship with God and with one another.*

Congregation, please **stand/sit** as you are able.

**P** Presiding Minister   **C** Congregation   **A** Assisting Minister

### **Welcome to our Visitors**

*If you are a visitor, please see one of our greeters and fill out our gold visitor's slip.  
We hope that you will come back and worship with us again!*

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

## **THE GATHERING**

### **PRELUDE**

*Please stand.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**C** Amen.

**P** Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God, our provider,

**C** help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

**P** Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C** Amen.

# GATHERING HYMN: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* (red hymnal #697)

## Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;

2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal-ter, Lord, who cares?

3 When my fee-ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.  
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.  
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional

Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

## GREETING

**P** From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray. O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ Amen.

*Please be seated*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15

*Amos is not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he is an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicts with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encounters at Bethel.*

<sup>7</sup>This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line  
in the midst of my people Israel;  
I will never again pass them by;

<sup>9</sup>the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,  
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,  
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the  
sword."

<sup>10</sup>Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup>For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel must go into exile  
away from his land.’ ”

<sup>12</sup>And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the  
land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there;  
<sup>13</sup>but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s  
sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

<sup>14</sup>Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a  
prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore  
trees, <sup>15</sup>and the LORD took me from following the  
flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people  
Israel.’ ”

📖 This is the word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 85:8-13

📖/🙏 *by whole verse*

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak  
peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their  
hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; right-  
eousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and right-  
eousness shall look down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will  
yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>**Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall pre-  
pare for God a pathway.**

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

*In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**L** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6th chapter.

👉 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29

*As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.*

<sup>14</sup>King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup>But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup>But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>17</sup>For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. <sup>18</sup>For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup>And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup>for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup>But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

<sup>22</sup>When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." <sup>23</sup>And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup>She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." <sup>25</sup>Immediately she rushed back to the



king and requested, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”<sup>26</sup> The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.<sup>27</sup> Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison,<sup>28</sup> brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.<sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

## **GOSPEL RESPONSE**

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.      **C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

## **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

*(Silence for a time of reflection)*

*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Faith of Our Fathers*  
(green hymnal #500)

## **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 INTERCESSION**

**ℒ** Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

**ℒ** Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

**☞ hear our prayer.**

**L** Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain (*especially*). Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian(s) and maintenance workers, for our office staff, and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died. United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## **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.*

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

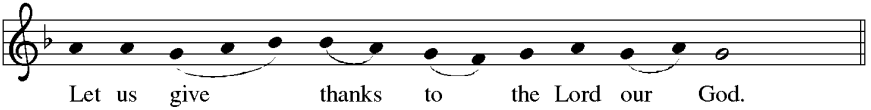
*Please stand*

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

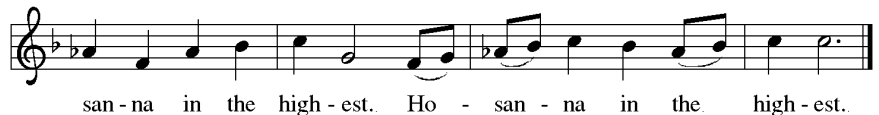
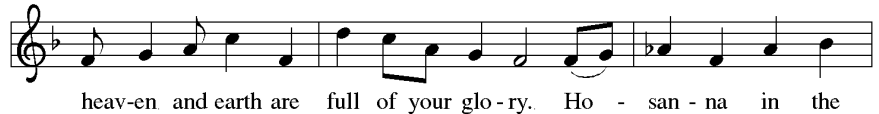
**C** Amen.

## DIALOGUE



## THE PROPER PREFACE

### THE SANCTUS



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

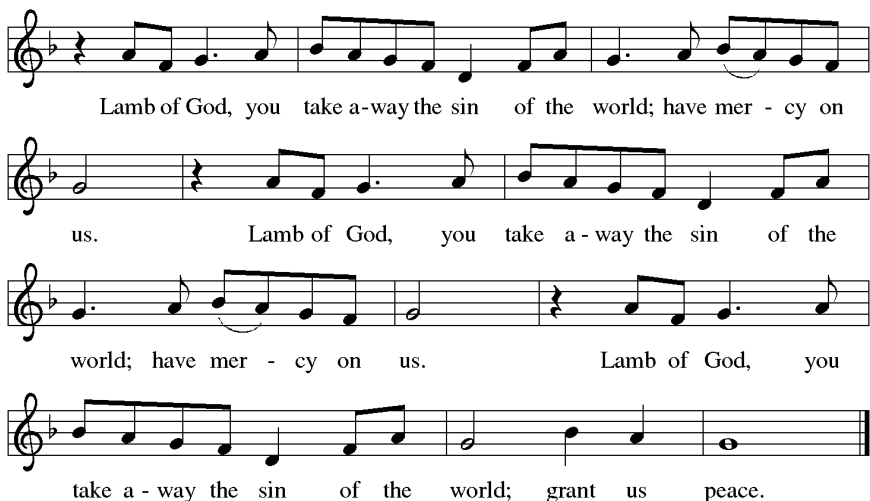
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**☐** Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come!

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please come forward to receive the bread, then proceed to the chalice to receive the wine or continue to the second chalice to receive grape juice. Those who do not yet commune may come forward for a blessing.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Please be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: *Blessed Assurance*  
(blue hymnal #699)

*Please stand*

## BLESSING

☐ The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☑ Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF SENDING FOR SERVICE

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

☐ Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

☑ Amen.

### BENEDICTION

☐ The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever.

☑ Amen.

### DISMISSAL

☐ Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

☑ Thanks be to God. We will!

### POSTLUDE

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