

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2020
10:00 AM Service
Holy Communion



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Services: Sunday - 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday - 10 AM • Saturday - 5 PM
Our Sunday services are livestreamed

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

During this time of social distancing: Please sit in one of the spaces in a pew marked with a piece of white masking tape. People in the same household may sit together, but everyone else should sit 6 feet apart.

Restrooms: Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

Hymnals, Prayer Books and Bibles are in a bookcase in the back of the church. If you would like to use one, please take one and return it in the box after the service.

We have gluten-free wafers available: Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

Symbols in the Bulletin: **P** Priest, **D** Deacon, **C** Congregation, **L** Leader

A gentle reminder: please silence your mobile phone before the service.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Air

F. Peeters

[Please maintain reverent silence during the prelude.]

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Please remain seated.]

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

☞ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

☞ **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

☞ **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GATHERING HYMN

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers

H. 509 vs. 1,3,4

[Please stand when invited.]

***Spirit divine, attend our prayers, and make this house thy home;
descend with all thy gracious powers, O come, great Spirit, come!***

***Come as the fire, and purge our hearts like sacrificial flame;
let our whole soul an offering be to our Redeemer's Name.***

***Come as the dove, and spread thy wings, the wings of peaceful love;
and let thy Church on earth become blest as the Church above.***

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

☞ The Lord be with you.

☞ **And also with you.**

☞ Let us pray.... Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-13, Psalm 65:9-14, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
[Please be seated.]

The First Reading:

📖 *The First Reading is taken from Isaiah Chapter 55...*

Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and don't return there without watering the earth, making it conceive and yield plants and providing seed to the sower and food to the eater, so is my word that comes from my mouth; it does not return to me empty. Instead, it does what I want, and accomplishes what I intend.

Yes, you will go out with celebration, and you will be brought back in peace. Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you; all the trees of the field will clap their hands. In place of the thorn the cypress will grow; in place of the nettle the myrtle will grow. This will attest to the Lord's stature, an enduring reminder that won't be removed.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

Metrical Psalm 65

[Please remain seated.]

Tune: Jesus Shall Reign

***You visit all the earth, O Lord,
And water it abundantly;
Your stream runs full; preparing grain,
You make provision rich and free.***

***You drench the furrows, smooth the fields,
Make soft the ground with heavy rain;
You crown with goodness all the year
And leave rich paths across the plain.***

***May desert fields be filled with herds,
And hills be clothed with gladness, too;
May meadows clothe themselves with flocks
And fields with grain and sing to you.***

The Second Reading

℣ *The Second Reading is taken from Romans, chapter 8...*

So now there isn't any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. God has done what was impossible for the Law, since it was weak because of selfishness. God condemned sin in the body by sending his own Son to deal with sin in the same body as humans, who are controlled by sin. He did this so that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us. Now the way we live is based on the Spirit, not based on selfishness. People whose lives are based on selfishness think about selfish things, but people whose lives are based on the Spirit think about things that are related to the Spirit. The attitude that comes from selfishness leads to death, but the attitude that comes from the Spirit leads to life and peace. So the attitude that comes from selfishness is hostile to God. It doesn't submit to God's Law, because it can't. People who are self-centered aren't able to please God.

But you aren't self-centered. Instead you are in the Spirit, if in fact God's Spirit lives in you. If anyone doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, they don't belong to him. If Christ is in you, the Spirit is your life because of God's righteousness, but the body is dead because of sin. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your human bodies also, through his Spirit that lives in you.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *O Christ, the Word Incarnate*

H 632 v.1

[Please stand.]

***O Christ, the Word Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance that from the scripture's page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.***

The Gospel

℣ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

☩ **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

℣ That day Jesus went out of the house and sat down beside the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he climbed into a boat and sat down. The whole crowd was standing on the shore. He said many things to them in parables: "A farmer went out to scatter seed. As he was scattering seed, some fell on the path, and birds came and ate it. Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow. They sprouted immediately because the soil wasn't deep. But when the sun

came up, it scorched the plants, and they dried up because they had no roots. Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorny plants grew and choked them. Other seed fell on good soil and bore fruit, in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one. Everyone who has ears should pay attention.

“Consider then the parable of the farmer. Whenever people hear the word about the kingdom and don’t understand it, the evil one comes and carries off what was planted in their hearts. This is the seed that was sown on the path. As for the seed that was spread on rocky ground, this refers to people who hear the word and immediately receive it joyfully. Because they have no roots, they last for only a little while. When they experience distress or abuse because of the word, they immediately fall away. As for the seed that was spread among thorny plants, this refers to those who hear the word, but the worries of this life and the false appeal of wealth choke the word, and it bears no fruit. As for what was planted on good soil, this refers to those who hear and understand, and bear fruit and produce—in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎵 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Cindy Roehl

[Please be seated.]

THE SERMON HYMN

A Sower Came from Ancient Hills

[Please stand.]

Tune: Kingsfold

***A Sower came from ancient hills and cast good seed abroad:
his field, ten thousand human hearts; his seed, the word of God.
And some who listen would not hear, and some who heard forgot.
But some received in fertile soil the truth the Sower taught.***

***A sower walked through out the land and, everywhere he trod,
he sowed his life because he was himself the Seed of God.
But then, atop a barren hill, beneath a darkening sky,
they threw God’s Seed on Stony ground and left it there to die.***

***O Christ, you come among us still, the Sower and the Seed.
As once you sowed the truth of God in glowing word and deed,
implant your Word in waiting hearts, and let it there take hold,
until it bears in fruitful lives a harvest hundred fold.***

THE NICENE CREED

☩ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please sit, stand or kneel, as you choose.]

☩ Let us pray to God, who is made known in Jesus Christ:

℣ Heavenly Father, direct our way to you in this season and always. Let the congregation of Good Shepherd be a place where your son Jesus is known and your peace is shared.

☩ We thank you for everyone who has gathered to worship you today, in this place and in every place. We ask you to bless all people in their walk with you.

℣ Sovereign Lord, bless and guide the leaders of the Church: Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Barry and Michael, our Assisting Bishops; for Becky, our Rector, Cindy, our Deacon, and Ann, our Priest Associate.

☩ We for ourselves and all ministers, lay and ordained, who serve your church, that all that is done in your name indeed proclaims your glory.

℣ We pray for our leaders, that they may be guided by your Wisdom and be dedicated to the common good.

☩ Give them strength and courage to know and accomplish your purposes in the midst of the evil of these days.

- Ⓔ Let your nurturing love today strengthen those who are seeking the resolve to make tough decisions, take on new responsibilities, or break free from bondage. Bless all who are suffering from any grief, illness, or adversity, especially [*add names from notebook*] and those we now name aloud or in our hearts. [*Leave time. . .*] Help them to know they are not alone.
- ☞ **Give them peace, courage, hope and renewal, and through their struggles may they come into closer communion with you, the One who redeems and restores.**
- Ⓔ We thank you for the blessings of this life, especially the flowers that grace our sanctuary, and for the birthdays this coming week of Phil Beauchamp, Mary Ratliff, Linda Johnson, John Russotto, John Scott, Carol Cretella & Jennie Hett. For those celebrating anniversaries this week: Charlotte & Dick Smedley and Kevin & Cindy Matson Let all Creation rejoice.
- ☞ **Give us one more blessing: hearts that know how to see and thank you for the countless gifts you bestow upon us.**
- Ⓔ Living God, bless those who have died, [*especially add names from notebook*] and those we now name aloud or in our hearts. [*Leave time . . .*] Let light perpetual shine upon them.
- ☞ **Bring them into your light and love, and comfort those who grieve.**
- Ⓔ We pray that together we may live the promises we make in our baptismal covenant:
- ☞ **to proclaim by word and action the good news of God in Christ, to love all neighbors as we love ourselves, and to strive for justice and peace, respecting the dignity of all people. Let us offer ourselves to one another and to the living God through Christ. Amen.**

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION:

[*Please stand or kneel, as you choose.*]

- Ⓔ We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. [*Silence is kept.*]
- ☞ **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**
- Ⓔ Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

[Please stand. **During this time of social distancing**, a wave or bow, accompanied by a smile and “the Peace of the Lord be with you,” will do nicely.]

P The peace of the Lord be always with you.

C **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

D O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

THE OFFERTORY

Give Me Jesus

Spiritual

[Please be seated.]

THE PRESENTATION

[Please stand when invited by the Deacon.]

D We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God’s world.

THE PRESENTATION HYMN

With gratitude and humble trust

H. 705 vs 3

***With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to thee,
to serve thy cause and share thy love with all humanity.
O thou who gavest us thyself in Jesus Christ thy Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.***

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C [Revised]

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.**

P It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

C **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

P At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being. From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

G **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

P But still we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Savior. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

G **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

P Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

A **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

S 147

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

P In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

G **Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised;

P Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, creator of all.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

P And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

P Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains were gathered and made into this one Bread.

C **So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*[You may be seated. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn to go to the altar rail. **During this time of social distancing, we need to approach the altar rail one at a time.** Small cups with a wafer and wine will be on the altar rail. Please pick them up and consume them in turn when the server invites you to with the words, "The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven" and "The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation." Place the cups you used into the basket on the altar rail. When you are finished, please return to your seat by the side aisle.]*

THE CHANT

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

H. 487

***Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife; such a life as killeth death.***

***Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length; such a strength as makes his guest.***

***Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.***

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

☞ Let us pray...

☞ **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

[Please stand.]

☞ God bless your eyes to see the world as God sees, your lips to speak to others as if to Christ, your hands to work and heal in the power of the Holy Spirit, your minds to discern what is excellent, admirable, true, holy, just, pure, lovely, and worthy of praise. Our Triune God, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless your hearts and set them on fire.

☞ **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us

H. 344

***Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace:
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.***

***Thanks we give and adoration for thy Gospel's joyful sound:
may the fruits of thy salvation in our hearts and lives abound:
ever faithful, ever faithful to thy truth may we be found;***

***so that when thy love shall call us, Savior, from the world away,
fear of death shall not appall us, glad thy summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with thee in endless day.***

THE DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

THE POSTLUDE

Prince of Denmark's March

J. Clarke

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	Becky Robbins-Penniman
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Priest Associate	Ann Chaplin
Organist	Robert Moncrief
Acolyte/Crucifer	Joe Nixon
Lectors	Frank Kneen & Sandy Kneen
Prayers of the People	Miriam Benítez Nixon
Ushers	Marc Jacobson & Alan Mackay
Building & Grounds	David Thornton