

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 13, 2021



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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A ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ORDER OF SERVICE

We Gather

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

(Please Stand as you are able)

Worship Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

All: Amen.

Worship Leader: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Worship Leader: God, our provider,

All: 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.

Worship Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

The Greeting

Worship Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

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.

(All may be seated)

The Lessons

First Lesson: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus 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.

On 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.

All 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.

Psalm: Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For 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.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And 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.

From 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. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

(Please Stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 4th chapter.

Praise to you O Christ.

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

He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet 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.”

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

The Gospel of our Lord.

Glory to you O Lord.

Sermon

Apostle's Creed

(Please stand as you are able)

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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,
hear our prayer.

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 and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musician(s) (*especially*). 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,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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, **hear our prayer.**

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

Amen.

(All may be seated)

We Come to the Lord's Table

In Holy Communion, we recall the saving acts of God through word and bread, and in gathering at God's family table to take part in this holy meal, are connected with Christ and with Christians of all times and places. In this sacrament we are fed with the Body of Christ to receive forgiveness of sins and to be strengthened and renewed for service in the world.

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: **We lift them up to the Lord**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared. And so, with all the hosts of heaven we praise your name:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might**

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving God, for Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

“Take and eat, this is my body which is 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.”

Hear us, most merciful God, and send your Holy Spirit upon us that in receiving our Lord’s body and blood that we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your world.

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**

(All may be seated)

The Distribution

All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are welcome at The Lord’s Table. Those not receiving the gifts of bread may come forward for a blessing.

The ushers will guide the congregation forward when it is time to come to the table. We will stand near the rail while remaining socially distant. Family groups may gather together.

Both wheat and Gluten free wafers are available. At this time, only the bread will be shared at Communion.

Post Communion Sentence and Prayer

Pastor: May the body of our Lord Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Worship Leader: 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 and care for the world and those who dwell in it.

In your name we pray.

All: Amen.

We Are Sent

Blessing

Worship Leader: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

All: Amen.

Worship Leader: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God

Sending Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—
The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing
to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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Postlude

Announcements

This week's flowers are given in thanksgiving by the Stephens Family in celebration of Andrew and Philip's high school graduation.

Important Dates to Remember:

Next council meeting is Wednesday, July 7 at 6:30 pm

Next Fellowship Breakfast will be on Thursday, June 17 at 9 am at the Palace Diner

Next Pub Night will be on Thursday, June 24 at 6:00 pm at Schatzi's

Please sign up to provide flowers for worship – the flower chart is in the narthex

Pastoral care is being coordinated by our First Lutheran Shepherds. If you are not sure who your Shephard is, please contact FELC President, Nancy Slingerland at

President@firstlutheranpok.org

Thank You to Today's Servers:

Rev. Arlene Wilhelm, Homilist

Peter Slingerland, Deacon

Eric Hepp, Organist

Andrew, Philip, and Lisa Stephens, Readers

Lorna Davis and Diane Wood-Miller, Greeters

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