

Concordia Lutheran Church & St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The SIXTH Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2020

Topic: The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Time: July 12, 2020 10:00 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82324470555?pwd=Z3dCRVpwSlpjaTRZXQvRHpmaUhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2447 0555

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Today I extend our appreciation, on behalf of St. Mary's Church, to Pastor Douglas Barclay for his presence over these past five years. Douglas "met" the people of St. Mary's long before I arrived, and when I did, Karen Fedorchak, Deacon Emeritus, immediately connected us. Even before we knew each other, Deacon Karen invited Douglas to preach (with my eager consent) at our Celebration of New Ministry. Thus, began our new friendship.

From the beginning we seemed to call out the best in each other, and have a gift for enjoying each other's parishioners. My fondness grew as our collaborative projects grew, from joint Holy Week services, "trying on" a shared musician, developing a joint music committee, planning a collaborative music program (which was interrupted by the pandemic). Through Douglas' witness and encouragement, we became founding members of Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance.

My appreciation grew throughout this time, for Douglas' wise counsel, his visionary leadership, and willingness to stretch himself and others for the sake of the gospel, for the hope of the resurrection. As I look back, we have lived into my mantra that collaboration is a good all its own. We do not collaborate because we are desperate or as a matter of convenience. We collaborate because our relationships matter; we are friends.

The blessings of a colleague like I have had in Douglas may only come once in a lifetime. For this I give all my thanks to God.

And I speak for St. Mary's as we pray Godspeed on your new journey with the people of Trinity Lutheran Church, Manhatten Beach, CA. We will miss you and I will miss you, my dear friend in Christ.

The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson
Rector, St. Mary's Church

Reverend Johnson leads

OPENING SENTENCE

We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks, calling upon your Name and declaring all your wonderful deeds. *Psalm 75:1*

CONFESSON

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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. ***Amen.***

Pastor Barclay leads

THE INVITATORY

Leader: O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People And your glory all the day long.

Minister and People

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Invitatory Morning Psalm

Psalm 63:1-8

Deus, Deus meus

O God, you are my God; **from break of day I seek you.**

Psalm 63:1-8 *Deus, Deus meus*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no
water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy
place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;
*
my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,
*

and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will
rejoice.

My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

O God, you are my God; **from break of day I
seek you.**

Reader from St. Mary's

FIRST LESSON ISAIAH 55:10-13

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,
so 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.

For 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.

Instead 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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to
God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HYMN *What Is This Place*

1. What is this place where
we are meeting? Only a
house, the earth its floor.
Walls and a roof
sheltering people,
windows for light, an
open door. Yet it
becomes a body that
lives when we are
gathered here, and know
our God is near.

2. Words from a far, stars
that are falling, sparks
that are sown in us like
seed: names for our God,
dreams, signs and
wonders send from the
past are all we need. We
in this place remember
and speak again what we
have heard: God's free
redeeming word.

3. And we accept bread at
this table, broken and
shared, a living sign.
Here in this world, dying
and living, we are each
other's bread and wine.
This is the place where
we can receive what we
need to increase: our
justice and God's peace.

Reader from Concordia

THE EPISTLE ROMANS 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin,

he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the

Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Reader from St. Mary's

CANTICLE K A Song of Our Adoption

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *
for you have blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, *
that we should be holy and blameless before you.

You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ,

*
according to the good pleasure of your will,
To the praise of your glorious grace, *
that you have freely given us in the Beloved.
In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ,

Deacon Fedorchak reads

THE GOSPEL MATTHEW 13:1-9,18-23

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in

Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Ephesians 1:3-10

the forgiveness of our sins,
According to the riches of your grace *
which you have lavished upon us.
You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, *
the mystery of your will,
According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, *
as a plan for the fullness of time,
To gather together all things in Christ, *
things in heaven and things on earth.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and

they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.

As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of our Savior.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

THE HYMN *As Rain From The Clouds*

The Rev. Douglas Barclay

1. As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the havens refreshing the land. Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God for the dew of your word; we thank you, good gardener for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.	2. As grain that is scattered your word has been sown on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand. Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word; we thank you, good gardener for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer for hundred-fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.	3. As rays of the sun shall your word light the world, a waking and warming and healing our land. Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God for the light of your word; we thank you, good gardener, for your tender toil. We bless you best farmer for hundred-fold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.
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THE APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Barclay leads

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 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

Reverend Johnson leads

THE PRAYERS

Leader: Hear our cry, O God.

People: And listen to our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Reader from Concordia leads.

Let us pray to the Lord,
who is our refuge and stronghold.

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the health and well-being of our nation,
that all who are fearful and anxious
may be at peace and free from worry:

For a blessing on our local community,
that our neighborhoods may be places of trust
and friendship,
where all are known and cared for:

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the isolated and housebound,
that we may be alert to their needs,
and care for them in their vulnerability:

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we
pray,

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

to the mercy and protection of God.
Merciful Father,

For our homes and families,
our schools and young people,
and all in any kind of need or distress:

**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Reverend Johnson COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pastor Barclay PRAYER: WAKE US, O GOD

Wake us, O God, so that the sin of racism is purged from this land; break down the barriers that oppress all people of color; strengthen our resolve to work personally for justice; deliver us from complacency, indifference, and a return to the status quo; protect all who protest and all who are commissioned to protect and to serve; heal our addiction to privilege and power; and lead us, by your grace, to build your new community of love; we ask this in the name of Jesus, our brother. Amen.

Reverend Johnson

A PRAYER FOR THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD

God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty
and loss.

Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your
holy fire.

Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,

bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in
the Spirit.

Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in
common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored
and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

N.B.: This new collect has been composed by a national team of Lutherans and Episcopalians. Written "to unite us in common prayer and revive us for common mission" during this crisis. In the spirit of Pentecost, Presiding Bishop Curry and his Lutheran counterpart, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, invite congregations to pray the new collect from Pentecost through the first Sunday in September.

INTERCESSIONS

Intercessions and Thanksgivings follow.

Now I invite your prayers for all the needs of the world God so loved, silently or aloud.
After each petition we pray,
Lord, in your mercy. Hear our Prayer.

THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF CALL

The representative of the synod addresses the pastor who is departing.

Douglas, on June 28th, 2015, the congregation of Concordia Lutheran Church called you to be pastor: to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach, to announce God's forgiveness, to preside at the Lord's table and to foster the work of justice and peace according to the call of the Gospel. With the gospel you have comforted God's people in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of their loved ones. Sharing joys and sorrows, you have been central to this congregation's life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in service to this community, and in

God's mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we bid you farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

First, I invite you and this assembly to confession and forgiveness as you give thanks for all the good that has been and give voice to the need for God's mercy and reconciliation for those times where you have fallen short of the love of God and neighbor.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor Barclay:

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my siblings, that I have sinned by my
own fault in thought, word, and deed.
In all that I have done or left undone in my call
as your pastor,
where I have missed the mark or failed this
community,
where I have harmed you or your families
through actions or words,
where I have not been a strong enough voice for
the oppressed,
where I have been complicit in racism or white
supremacy,
where I have not honored the image of God in
you,
where I have not faithfully set before you the
high demands of the Gospel,
where I have preached ease and comfort rather
than challenge and choice,
I ask your forgiveness. I pray God Almighty to
have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and
bring me to everlasting life.
**Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon,
and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.**

The Assembly:

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.
**Where I have not supported you as a servant
of Christ,**
**Where I have not honored the image of God
within you,**
in things that I have done or left undone,
**in times when I chosen comfort over
challenge,**
**in my complacency in the face of racism and
white supremacy,**
**in my failure to live into the demands of the
Gospel,**
**Where I stifled the voice of the poor and
oppressed,**
I ask your forgiveness.
**I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.**
Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon, and
forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

The representative continues.

People of God, members of Concordia Lutheran Church,
do you release Douglas from the office of pastor?
We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Those representing this community, ecumenical and interfaith leaders,

do you now send Douglas forth, giving thanks for his work and for the witness of this community of faith?

We do, and we give thanks with hearts of gratitude.

Douglas, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with Concordia Lutheran Church and to this community?

Response: I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry and witness together.

Yesterday I formally released the symbols of office. Today, as I give thanks for the ministry we have shared, I ask God to continue the good work begun in you:

I was called to be among you to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins. You are called to remember the waters of baptism, continue the work of healing and reconciling. May Christ's forgiveness give you the freedom to remember.

I was called to be among you to preside at the Lord's Supper. You are called to feast upon the Presence and Grace of God. May you know the love of Christ always.

I was called to proclaim the good news. You are God's living word and signs of the confessional foundations of our faith. May your witness be bold.

I was called among you so that we might work together for justice and peace. You are workers for justice in this community. May God strengthen you for this mission.

May all we have shared be a sign of Christ's love for you and for me, and for all of God's creation; And may we be sent out in witness to this love and the power of the resurrection.

The representative continues.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ

you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock.

You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service.

We give you thanks for the ministry of your servant Douglas among the people of God in this place.

You watch over our going out and our coming in:

bless this time of ending and beginning.

You surround your people in every time and place:

keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:

prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;

heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.

Help Douglas, his partner Sean and all of us

to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.

Bless his call to the people of Trinity Lutheran Church in Manhattan Beach, California.

As Douglas been a blessing to us,

so now send him forth to be a blessing to others;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

Go into this world of grave to serving God with gladness;
be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honor all people;
love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And may the Blessing of Almighty God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in Peace by Karen Armogida

Your presence will linger
Throughout our lives
Your words that have inspired
us. Live on in our lives
Your face so expressive
Smiling and lighting the way
Will be remembered and
Part of who we are.

Go in peace to serve the world
Go with our love
Go with our prayers
Go in peace.
You led us to action
In causes that matter to all
You gave us courage
To stand up and lead

You filled us with music
That gave us joy
And will be shared
Hand to hand and heart to heart.
Go in peace to serve the world
Go with our love
Go with our prayers
Go in peace

Reverend Johnson leads

THE BLESSING

May God give you the grace never to sell yourself short,
grace to do something big for something good,
grace to remember that the world is too dangerous now for anything but truth
and too small for anything but love,
And may the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

Amen.

THE HYMN *Holy God, We Praise Your Name*

1. Holy God, we praise your name; Lord of all we bow before you. All on earth your scepter claim, all in heav'n above adore you. In finite your vast domain, everlasting in your reign.	raising; cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: "Holy, holy holy Lord!"	from morn to set of sun through the church the son goes on.
2. Hark! The glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are	3. Lo, the apostolic train join your sacred name to hallow; prophets swell the glad refrain, and the white-robed martyrs follow; and	4. Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you, though in essence only one; undivided God we claim you and, adoring bend the knee while we own the mystery.

Deacon Winzler dismisses the assembly

Leader: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

NOTES:

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DAILY READINGS FOR JULY 13-18

Monday – July 13

Levitcus 26:3-20
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
Psalm 92

Tuesday – July 14

Deuteronomy 28:1-14
Ephesians 4:17-5:2
Psalm 92

Wednesday – July 15

Proverbs 11:23-30
Matthew 13:10-17
Psalm 92

Thursday – July 16

Isaiah 41:21-29
Hebrews 2:1-9
Psalm 86:11-17

Friday – July 17

Isaiah 44:9-17
Hebrews 6:13-20
Psalm 86:11-17

Saturday – July 18

Isaiah 44:18-20
Matthew 7:15-20
Psalm 86:11-17