



God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Sunday, June 13, 2021

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noisy offering chosen by Parish Ed: MLM sack lunch program & new mulch for the playground



PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 635, vs. 1 & 2

We Walk by Faith

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

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.

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

²²Thus 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.

²³On 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.

²⁴ 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.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

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

The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. (Ps. 92:12)

¹ It 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;**

³ on 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.**

¹² The 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;**

¹⁴ they 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 Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For 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.

[¹¹Therefore, 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. ¹²We 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. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And 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.

¹⁶From 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. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet 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.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.



CHILDREN’S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 663, vs. 1 & 2

Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word

1 Spread, oh, spread, almighty Word,
spread the reign of God the Lord.
Send forth our Creator's call,
heaven's gifts extend to all.

who, to save our human race
and to pay rebellion's price,
gave himself as sacrifice.

Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774-1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from
copyright administrator.

2 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,

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

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

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 (**especially**). 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.

PEACE share God's peace

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

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.

COMMUNION as you exit

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 542

O Living Bread from Heaven

1 O living Bread from heaven,
how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given
have filled my heart with rest.
O wondrous food of blessing!
O cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
in thankful song o'er flows.

2 My Savior, you have led me
within your holiest place,
and here yourself have fed me
with treasures of your grace;
for you have freely given
what earth could never buy,
the bread of life from heaven,
that now I shall not die.

3 You gave me all I wanted;
this food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted
the cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit
the favor you have shown;
and all my soul and spirit
bow down before your throne.

4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened
with heav'nly food, while here
my course on earth is lengthened,
to serve you, free from fear;
and bring me home to praise you
where none can peace destroy,
where I will ever raise you
glad songs in endless joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

George McElroy,
Nan Wolfe,
Jim Weeg,
Sheri Campbell,
Marge Bott,
Pete and Linda Cagle,
Kathy Hinkle,
Shane Paulson,
Ron & Ann Gardner,
Janet Schmidt,
Susan & Bill Roberts,
Phyllis Dettmer,
Madison Young

Family & friends:

Family of Paul Heath, cousin of Don Anderson,
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,
Corey, Son of Jim & Mary Weeg,
Marilyn, Sister-in-law of Mary Weeg,
Shirley, friend of the Weegs,
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,
Iris Howard, friend of Pete Cagle,
Evie Whitehill, friend of the Andersons,
Steele McLaren, friend of the Luins,
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,
Bruce Campbell, Brother-in-law of Joni Benz,
Steve Nelson, cousin of Louise Easterberg,
Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps,
Crissy, cousin of Tom Bryer ,
Caroline, aunt of Nancy Bryer ,
Jeff Needham, friend of St. Mark's,
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Shirley, neighbor of Mary Weeg,

Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Aeris, Great Niece of Tom Bryer,
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,
Karen Bannister, friend of Jane Scherrer,
Rob Boulter, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Dean Taake, Joyce Johnson's brother,
Gibby, friend of Erica Bryer,
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's
sister-in-law,
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade
Beck,
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stew-
art,
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Fami-
lies,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
Ivan, brother of Jane Stresewski,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thomp-
son,
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan Thomp-
son,