

**Church of the Divine Love**  
**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**PROPER 5**

**JUNE 6, 2021**

**10:15 A.M.**

**HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn **#209 – We walk by faith**

Opening Acclamation page 355

Collect for Purity page 355

Gloria (S-280 in hymnal) page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Genesis 3:8-15**

Psalm 130

Second Lesson: **2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1**

Gradual Hymn **#533 – How wondrous and great**

Gospel: **Mark 3:20-35**

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form VI page 392

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn – **#620 – Jerusalem, my happy home**

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer A page 361

Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal) page 362

The Lord's Prayer page 364

The Breaking of the Bread page 364

The Communion of the People

Communion Hymn – **On this day** (sung by Rachael Kikoler)

Post Communion Prayer

page 365

Dismissal Hymn #569 – **God the Omnipotent**

Dismissal .

### **Sermon Sunday June 6, 2021**

Genesis 3: 8-15; Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

#### **Sisters and brothers in Christ,**

Throughout history family has played a major role in everyone's life. From the very beginning the concept of family has always existed. When God created the world, he looked around and saw that everything was good, except for one thing, Adam was alone. And so, God created Eve right out of Adam's own body, and thus the first family was born. This was to be one of the best blessings upon mankind. They were to be one flesh, a family unit, to work together serving and loving God and loving one another. Families are essential for they are the building blocks of communities, and communities are the building blocks of nations. But as Genesis taught us, Satan slithered in, created doubt, caused division and mistrust, and just as quick as the family was created, it has been under attack ever since.

That battle and interior conflict has been around since Adam and Eve separated themselves from God and hid amongst the trees of the garden. It is seen in Israel wanting a king so it can be like all the other nations; forgetting that it has a unique calling, that it is to be different from other nations, that it is through Israel, the people of God, that God will act for the benefit of all people. This division and inner conflict are a reality of today's world and our lives. A marriage divided is a divorce. A nation divided results in vitriolic politics and in the extreme, civil war. An economy divided yields poverty and injustice. A community divided becomes individualism and tribalism, prejudice, and violence. Humanity divided is all these things on a global level. Faith divided is sin.

When you follow Jesus, you are going to be misunderstood. Depending on what Jesus has you to do, some people may think you are out of your mind. The praying, worshiping, obeying God's Word, the giving, serving, going on mission trips, becoming a missionary, saying no to sin, loving your enemies, forgiving people, all this can seem crazy to people. When you start talking about Jesus being God, dying on a cross for people's sins, resurrecting from the grave, coming again for His people, a heaven, hell, angels, the Holy Spirit, and on and on can sound like you are out of your mind to some people. We have unity in doing God's will. It's what unites us. All of us are here in part because of our desire to do God's will. But for us to be able to carry our God's will, we need Jesus' and the Holy Spirit's help because alone we can't do it because of the strong man Satan's hinderance. The Bible reminds us that "... our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." (Eph 6:12) namely Satan who seeks to destroy our family just as he did all the way back in Genesis. But we are too weak and sinful, thus we need Jesus' help.

We all know what it is like to live divided lives. You know those times when your outsides and your insides don't match up? That's what it means to be a house divided. You're one person at work another at home. You act one way with certain people and a different way with other people. Life gets divided into pieces. Behavior, beliefs, and ethics become situational. There is the work life, the family life, the prayer life, the personal life, the social life. Pretty soon we're left with a bunch of pieces. It seems that we are forever trying to put the pieces of our lives together. That's why the crowd has gathered around Jesus. That's why the religious authorities oppose him. That's why his family tries to restrain him. In their own way each is trying to put the pieces of their life together but it's not working. They won't fit. They have been found out. Their life and their world are neither what they thought they were nor what Jesus knows they could be. One reality has fallen and a new one is ready to rise.

Jesus always stands before us as the image of unity, wholeness, integration. He is the stronger one. He does for us that we cannot do for ourselves. He puts our lives and houses back in order. Jesus offers a different image of what life might look like. He does so by revealing the division in our lives, the houses that cannot stand, and the crumbling of our kingdoms. Even when it is for our own good, with the offer of new life and intended for wholeness, that's a hard place to be. It means that one way or another change of some sort is coming. Most of us don't like that. It can be frightening. "He has gone out of his mind," the people say. The religious authorities accuse him of allegiance to Beelzebub, the ruler of demons. They project onto Jesus their own interior conflict and division. They have declared that which is holy, sacred, and beautiful to be unclean, dirty, and bereft of God. Their accusations say more about themselves than Jesus. Their accusations reveal the depth of the conflict and division within them. Their accusations are a way of avoiding themselves.

It's hard to look at the division and inner conflict within our lives. The beginning of wholeness, however, is acknowledging our brokenness. Where is our own house divided? How and to what extent have we created conflict and division within our relationships. In what ways do we live fragmented lives, parceling out pieces here and there? What is it that shatters your life? Anger and resentment, greed, insecurity, perfectionism, sorrow, and loss, fear, envy, guilt, and loneliness. There are all sorts of forces, things, events, sometimes even people by which our lives are broken and through which we are separated from God, others, and our self. Christ is stronger than anything that fragments our lives. He binds the forces that divide, heals the wounds that separate, and refashions pieces into a new whole. There is nothing about your life or my life that cannot be put back together by the love of God in Christ.

We have been called by God to do good works. We have to be on guard against anything that would hinder that work. One enemy of good works is pride. We must remember Samuel's words in this passage. God has called us to specific situations, and not anyone else. When we live in the world, we are influenced by the political and cultural environment more than we realize. Consequently, we often lose our ability to distinguish between what comes out of our environment and what comes out of our relationship with God. When we turn from God in sin, our worth is downgraded, but God does not stop loving us.

Samuel's sons abused their power just like some modern-day politicians and CEOs abuse their power. God warned the Israelites that most of the kings in their future would abuse their power. The people wanted stability and security, but they left God out of this desire. Sometimes we leave God out of our desires and plans also. We must always go to God for guidance, especially when we face life's challenges. Our desire to imitate the world may seem righteous at first, but it will result in destruction.

We need to ask God to give us the courage and conviction we need to stand apart from the sin-filled world. We need to stop the conversations that begin and end with, "I'll have what she's having!" and pour out our souls to God in honest prayer, seeking his heart, his plans and his will. When we do, the Holy Spirit will give us the tools we need to trust that where he leads and what he allows is what is best for us. **In Jesus's name. Amen!**

## 2 PENTECOST

10:15 AM      HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II  
(also on zoom)

### MONDAY

8:00 AM      AA MEETING

### WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM      AL-ANON MEETING

### THURSDAY

10AM-2PM    THRIFT SHOP

8:00 PM      AA MEETING

### SATURDAY

10AM-2PM    THRIFT SHOP

## 3 PENTECOST

10:15 AM      HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II  
(also on zoom)

11:15 AM      VESTRY MEETING

SUPPORT THE FOOD DRIVE DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

**OUTDOOR THRIFT SHOP SALE / 10AM-2PM SATURDAY, JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> / RAIN DATE JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup>**

Two cemetery plots for sale by owner. Must be a parishioner to be buried there.

\$2000 each. Contact Bob Gilbon 845-399-0945, or bob.gilbon@gmail.com.

**Prayer for Grace and Favor:**

**Dear God, we ask that you provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us; we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed.**

**We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but say, “these are the ones that the Lord has blessed.” Shine your light in us, through us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes.**

**Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. In Jesus Name, Amen.**

**PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Vera & Jose	Girard Bishop
Arlene Goodenough	Charlotte H.
Frances & Donna Mongelli	Bernie Walther
Nathan Treadwell	Irene
John Loubengeiger	Kim
Chris Dickson	Mo (Rachael)
Michael Echevarria	Warren
Del	Bill Conklin
Michael & Family	Anthony Paribello
Martinisi Family	Edward Lent & Family
Lois Kessler	Kate Jones
Kathleen	Barbara Curran
Children who are ill:	Christopher and his family
Franklin Tenesaca	Ciara
Aidan	Gabriel