

Church of the Divine Love

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: PROPER 5

JUNE 11, 2023 9:00 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

*Please observe silence*

Prayer before worship – on insert

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn – (see hymn board for all hymns)

Opening Acclamation page 355

Collect for Purity page 355

Gloria (sung) page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **Hosea 5:15 – 6:6**

Psalm 8 50:7-15

Second Lesson: **Romans 4:13-25**

Gradual Hymn #

Gospel: **Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze (printed on insert)

The Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form IV page 388

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn #

Doxology (sung)	
The Great Thanksgiving:	
Eucharistic Prayer B	page 367
Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal)	page 367
Hymn during Consecration – on insert	
The Lord’s Prayer	page 364
The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer	page 337
The Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn #	
Post Communion Prayer	page 365
Prayer for Peace – on insert	
Prayer of St. Francis	page 833
Dismissal Hymn #	
Dismissal	

### **Sermon Sunday June 11, 2023**

Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 33:1-12; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13,18-26.

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

Everyone knows of people who do not seem to matter. We are aware that many children die of starvation and disease in many places in the world, even perhaps in our own cities and towns, but we do not know most of them personally. We see people in our daily walks all the time, but we do not know them. Whatever their stories might be, they do not seem to matter to us. They are unknown, and for the most part will remain that way. Only the most extroverted of us will strike up a conversation with these total strangers. The rest of us will, perhaps write them off as not very important. The reality is that we do not know for sure if other people matter in the world that is so large and complex that we find ourselves struggling for meaning. What may be just as clear is that most of us do not know if we matter. We exist from day to day and wonder whether anyone out there thinks of us as important, or even meaningful; anyone outside of our own loved ones anyway.

In fact, the thing that binds Matthew, the young girl who had died, and the bleeding woman together in these stories is that they were all untouchable by anyone in Jesus' position. As such, they were people without place, future, dignity, and in a very real sense, cut off from life, though only the little girl is dead. Of course, we see immediately that Jesus pulls each of these folks out of their situation and returns them, restores them, really, to a position of life and dignity again. He calls Matthew to leave his tax booth and follow him, and Matthew complies. Jesus' encounter with the bleeding woman, allowing her to touch his robes, rescues her from the destructive power that consumes her and makes her well or whole again. The little girl is invited to get up, and she does. Thus, Jesus follows the lead of the prophets, notably Elijah. But what is surprising about this is not only that they are brought in, but also what it means.

Recent biblical scholarship has pointed to the idea that what Jesus is about is the restoration of Israel itself. Each of these individual story's points to the greater story of Israel. This comes clearer when these two stories for today are linked with the verses that the lectionary has omitted. (Matt. 9:14-17) Here we have Jesus challenged by the disciples of John. Jesus's response includes imagery of the wedding feast, the patched cloak and the new wineskins for the new wine. All of these images are of the coming age of restoration that appears with Jesus himself. God is, in fact, establishing the new age in the midst of the present one. It is in this context that these stories must be heard.

Who is to be included in that new age? That was the question. Matthew includes these three stories, as well as the following stories of the healing of the lepers and the demoniac, to help us to see that the welcome of the new age will be much wider than was thought in Jesus' day. The call is to sinful Israel. That is the surprise. Not just to the sinful within Israel, but to the nation itself. Their exile is finally over. God is present again. But not to restore them alone. God now means to bring all people, even the least of them along for the ride. It is a call that will rankle the religious leaders in Jerusalem, and eventually leads to their putting Jesus to death. But it is at the same time incredibly good news. For the kingdom that is established, though not yet fully brought to bear, destroys the powers that enslave us, and bring healing and wholeness to all.

The good news here, thus, is twofold. Certainly, it was good news for Matthew, the bleeding woman, the little girl. They are restored to life and community again. Certainly, it is also good news for Israel as a nation. They too will receive once again their place as light to the nations and servant people. But hidden within these restorations is the call that goes along with the healing and forgiving power of God's grace. Once restored, each is called now to bear witness to the coming kingdom of God. That is to say, each bear witness to the reality that God is present and ruling in the world, in history, in the lives of people. They do not have to use words to do this. They are living signs of the reign of God. They point to Jesus as God's anointed, through whom God's plan comes to its decisive fullness.



WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	AL-ANON MEETING	
THURSDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP	
	8:30 PM	AA MEETING	
SATURDAY	10AM-2PM	THRIFT SHOP	
3 PENTECOST	9:00 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)

	Today	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Jess Berbeck	Anthony Giordano

SUPPORT THE FOOD PANTRY – DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

**PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Loving God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Especially we remember before you:

Grace Schinella	Lourdes S.	Kaylee
Bob Curley	Arlene Goodenough	Art

Chris Dickson	Kate Jones	Deb P.
Michael Echevarria	John Rocco	Bethany
Barbara Stinson	Michael & Family	Warren
Charlotte H.	Bernie Walther	Anthony
Mo (Rachael)	Phil Ryder	Carolyn
Anthony Paribello	Barbara Curran	Del
Ciara	Robert Sweat	Aidan
Sally & Roger	Sophia	Carol K.
Mary & Family	Christopher	Amy
Nathan Treadwell	Vincent	Judy
Celeste and Family		

All people and countries suffering from violence and hatred.

Help us speak words of encouragement and offer deeds of kindness to them.  
Bring us with them, into the unending joy of your kingdom. Amen

The departed: Tim

Prayer before Worship

Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it, the  
spirit of grace. Deliver us, when we draw near to you,

form coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that  
with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may  
worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen

Hymn to be sung during the consecration:

Father I adore you,  
Lay my life before you,  
How I love you.

Repeat twice with second verse starting with Jesus  
and third verse starting with Spirit.

Prayer for Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn  
but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So  
mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that  
all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince  
of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominions  
and glory, now and for ever. Amen

