**Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Worship**

*For music performed by Deb & Ben please see the links in the description box below the YouTube video or visit the Sermons page of the church website. Lyrics for the music can be found at the end of this worship liturgy.*

**☩** indicates you are invited to make the sign of the cross.

Congregation speaks the **Bold** text.

Opening

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

whose steadfast love is everlasting,

whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Prayer 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, to believe it, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

10 For 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, 11 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. 12 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. 13 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65:1-13 (read in unison)

**1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;**

**to you shall vows be fulfilled.**

**2 To you, the one who answers prayer,**

**to you all flesh shall come.**

**3 Our sins are stronger than we are,**

**but you blot out our transgressions.**

**4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!**

**They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

**5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,**

**O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.**

**6 You make firm the mountains by your power;**

**you are girded about with might.**

**7 You still the roaring of the seas,**

**the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.**

**8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;**

**you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

**9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.**

**10 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;**

**with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

**11 You crown the year with your goodness,**

**and your paths overflow with plenty.**

**12 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,**

**and the hills be clothed with joy.**

**13 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 3 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, 4 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. 5 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. 6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 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, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

  9 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 Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 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. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen!”

  18 “Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 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. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 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. 22 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. 23 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 the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

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.**

*\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, your word has been sown in many ways and places. We pray for missionaries and newly planted congregations around the world. Inspire us by their witness to the faith we share. Especially we pray for our Synod prayer partner Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Rose City and Nan Dehnke their pastor.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Creating God, the mountains and hills burst into song and the trees and fields clap their hands in praise. We pray for the birds and animals who make their home in the trees, and for lands stripped bare by deforestation. Empower us to sustainably use what you have given.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Reigning God, we pray for our nation’s leaders. Increase their desire for justice and equality. We pray for our enemies. Bridge the chasms that divide us and guide authorities to a deep and lasting peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, care for all who are in need especially all those affected by the Covid virus. For those who are doubting, renew faith. For those who are worrying, provide comfort. For those who are struggling, ease burdens. For those in fear, give hope.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, revive your church and our congregation. Nourish and nurture the seeds of faith you have planted, that we might grow as disciples. Replace what has been depleted. Sustain our ministries especially our partnership with Loaves and Fishes, our partnership with Kairos House, and our Youth Ministries and deepen relationships with the wider community.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have died in the faith. Comfort us in the sure and certain hope of the bodily resurrection to come when we will be joined with all your faithful in your presence forever.

Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Offering

*Normally during this time in worship, we would now receive the offering. Thank you to our electronic givers and all those who have lovingly continued to send in your offerings so the missions and ministries of the church can continue. LCS mail is checked several times a week so offering checks made out to LCS can be mailed in and will be safely collected and deposited.*

Lord’s Prayer

Let us pray together as our Lord Jesus taught us to pray saying…

**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.**

Benediction

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God**.

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**As Rain from the Clouds – ELW #508**

*Lyrics with musical note accompaniment unavailable*

**Verse One**:

As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,

as snow from the heavens refreshing the land.

Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow

and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand.

**Refrain**:

We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;

we thank you, good gard’ner, for your tender toil.

We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield,

for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.

**Verse Two**:

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.

**Refrain**:

We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;

we thank you, good gard’ner, for your tender toil.

We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield,

for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.

**Verse Three:**

As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,

awaking 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.

**Refrain**:

We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;

we thank you, goo gard’ner, for your tender toil.

We bless you, best farmer, for hundred-fold yield,

for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.