

**Church of the Divine Love**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**PROPER 8**

**JUNE 26, 2022**

**9:00 A.M.**

**HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn **#525 – The Church’s one foundation**

Opening Acclamation page 355

Collect for Purity page 355

Gloria page 356

Collect of the Day - lectionary sheet insert

First Lesson: **1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21**

Psalm 16

Second Lesson: **Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

Gradual Hymn – **#518 – Christ is made the sure foundation**

Gospel: **Luke 9:51-62** (extra verse on insert)

Sermon – The Rev. Jean Lenord Quatorze

Nicene Creed page 358

Prayers of the People, Form IV page 388

The Confession of Sin page 360

The Peace

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn **#458 – My song is love unknown vs. 1,2,3,5 & 7**

Doxology (sung)

The Great Thanksgiving:	
Eucharistic Prayer B	page 367
Sanctus (S-130 in hymnal)	page 362
The Lord's Prayer	page 364
The Breaking of the Bread, Anthem & Prayer	page 337
The Communion of the People	
Communion Hymn – #655 – <b>O Jesus, I have promised</b>	
Post Communion Prayer	page 365
Prayer for Peace – on insert	
Prayer of St. Francis	page 833
Dismissal Hymn – <b>Swing low sweet chariot (on insert)</b>	
Dismissal	

### **Sermon Sunday June 26, 2022**

1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1,13-25; Luke 9: 51-62.

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

He set his face to go to Jerusalem. We all have a Jerusalem. We all set our faces to go in a particular direction. What is your Jerusalem? In what direction is your face set? And how does your Jerusalem compare with Jesus' Jerusalem?

Most of you have probably heard enough of my preaching and teaching to know that I am talking about more than just Jerusalem the city in Israel. I'm talking about Jerusalem as a metaphor and symbol for the values that guide and describe our life, values by which we live and for which we die. What if setting our face to go to Jerusalem is about walking a path of integrity and authenticity? What if it's about becoming our best and truest selves? What if Jerusalem is about living a life that is truly worth living? I am not talking about getting what I want out of life, having it all my way, promoting my personal opinions, or accomplishing my individual agenda. It's less about what we do and accomplish and more about becoming who we were created to be. It's about a destiny and purpose that give value, meaning, and significance to our life and the lives of others. Jerusalem is about God's dream for our life coming true. That dream is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ.

I think this Jerusalem on which Jesus has set his face describes the life we want for ourselves, our children, and those we love. It's the kind of life I want. What about you? Isn't Jerusalem what you really want and at some level why you follow Christ? My experience of Jerusalem, however, is that it often eludes me and always challenges my priorities, beliefs, decisions, actions, and relationships. It usually asks me more questions than it answers. I suspect that is true for you as well. We all live and struggle

with the question of Jerusalem. Have we set our faces to go to Jerusalem? That question underlies so much of what is happening in our lives and our world today. We've set our faces on something less than Jesus' Jerusalem. The tragedy all day life, mass shootings in the schools, in the churches, in the hospitals, have awakened us once again to the question of Jerusalem and the direction in which our faces are set.

Recently someone came to see me to talk about her spiritual journey, to ask questions, and think out loud about her life. She wanted to know if she was on the right track. It was really a conversation about setting her face to go to Jerusalem. You have probably had times when you have said to yourself, I love my life, and it felt as if everything had come together in just the right way. There was integrity and authenticity in what you were doing and who you were becoming. There was a fullness to your life that you couldn't explain but you knew it was there and that it was real. That was about Jerusalem and setting your face to go there. Likewise, you have probably had times when life felt empty and impoverished. You were restless and searching for something more. Maybe it was in your work, your marriage, or your faith. Maybe it was figuring out what was next in your life. Regardless, that also was about Jerusalem.

Today's gospel has much to say about the current events of our world and our life's circumstances. It's a challenging gospel. It shines a light on the conflicts we experience and the ways in which our opinions and loyalties are torn and pulled in different directions. It reveals our divided hearts and our broken relationships. It names the reality that we, like James and John, are often quick to want to call down fire from heaven to consume those who oppose or reject us. While James and John might be willing to kill for Jerusalem Jesus is not. That's simply not the way of Jesus. That's not who he is. He is, however, willing to give himself and die for Jerusalem. For Jesus Jerusalem is about healing and wholeness, mercy and forgiveness, peace, the dignity and holiness of all humanity, reconciliation with God and each other, overcoming death, and life fully lived. In that regard, Jerusalem is a place of hope, transformation, fulfillment, and new life. Let's not turn away from that. Let's set our faces to go to Jerusalem.

If we are going to set our face on Jerusalem then we must first face up to ourselves; the condition of our lives, the state of our world, and the direction we are headed. That means taking an honest look at what's going on and answering some hard questions. If Jerusalem reveals Jesus to be our chief cornerstone, in what direction then have we set our faces when we choose to build on the foundations of private opinions, personal agendas, and party loyalty? If Jerusalem is about the dignity and holiness of all humanity, then we cannot remain on the sidelines, silent, or indifferent in the face of injustice, discrimination, or prejudice. What would it mean and ask of us if in those situations we set our faces to go to Jerusalem? If Jerusalem is about peace, what then do we do about the wars we wage, military spending, and the defense industry? What do we do with the violence in our thoughts, words, and actions? How do we bring peace to the human heart?

If Jerusalem is about reconciliation with each other, on what basis do we scapegoat a people or a religion? What does it say if we exclude the foreigner, deny the refugee sanctuary, or build walls? Do we reconcile only with those who are like us? If Jerusalem is about the defeat of death, and life fully lived, what then are the implications for our response to gun violence in this country? How does Jerusalem inform our conversations and debates about gun control and the responsible ownership and use of guns? If Jerusalem is about the truth of God revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, how can we continue to invest our time, money, energy, beliefs, and votes to protect, promote, or impose on another our personal and individual truths?

If we set our faces to go to Jerusalem, then we have to wrestle with these, and a thousand other questions like them. I'm not asking these questions as a judgment or criticism of you or anyone else. I just don't think we can avoid asking and wrestling with them in light of today's gospel. These questions stand at the intersection of Jesus' gospel and today's world, his life, and our lives. I'm not suggesting what your answers ought to be. I don't know. I have no answers for you or me. I don't have clear or easy answers to any of those questions. I struggle with those questions in my own life, and I'm as torn as you are on these things. But I stand with you in wanting to set my face to go to Jerusalem.

Setting our face to go to Jerusalem means letting go of seeking approval and identity from our families, social groups, and political parties. It requires a reordering of priorities. It is an all or nothing proposition. We may have to grow into the implications of Jerusalem for our lives, but we are either on the road to Jerusalem or we are not. What do you need to let go of in order to set your face to go to Jerusalem? When have you followed what you wanted rather than the greater truth of Jesus? What values do you continue to hold that are no longer valuable and no longer point to Jerusalem? Those questions aren't for you only. They are questions I also must answer.

Today's gospel does not allow for excuses, justifications, running away, or hiding. Our lives are too important, and we matter too much to allow for that. To struggle with the questions raised by today's gospel is the beginning of setting our face to go to Jerusalem. Let's not turn away from Jerusalem and let's not turn away from each other. Let's stand together and set our faces to go to Jerusalem. **Amen.**

### Masks optional with social distance seating

3 PENTECOST	9:00 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)
	10:00 AM	VESTRY MEETING	
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	
4 PENTECOST	9:00 AM	HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II	(also on zoom)

SUPPORT THE FOOD DRIVE – DROP OFF IN THE KITCHEN

	Today	Next Week
Eucharistic Minister	Deb Giordano	Roe Prosser
Altar Guild	Deb Giordano	Roe Prosser
	Jess Berbeck	Marie Quatorze

**PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Give to all who suffer the refreshing waters of your compassion and healing. Make them dwell in the safety of your care even in the midst of all that troubles them. Especially we remember before you:

Carol K.	Harriet Capers	Bob Curley
Julia	Arlene Goodenough	Celeste
Chris Dickson	Kate Jones	Grace Schinella
Michael Echevarria	John Rocco	Robert Sweat
Martinisi Family	Michael & Family	Warren
Charlotte H.	Bernie Walther	Theresa K.
Mo (Rachael)	Bill Conklin Sr.	Laura
Anthony Paribello	Barbara Curran	Taylor
Ciara	Gabriel	Aidan
Elodie	Del	Dorothy

People of Haiti	Chrissy Neville	Vincent
Maggie & Family	People of Ukraine	Amy E.
Nathan Treadwell	Christopher & Family	Tim
Bob Lazevnic	Jen & Family	Anthony
John Mulligan		

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







