

Church of the Divine Love

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 7

JUNE 27, 2021

10:15 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn #518 – Christ is made the sure foundation

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: **Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24**

Psalm 30

Second Lesson: **2 Corinthians 8:7-15**

Gradual Hymn #525 – The Church's one foundation

Gospel: **Mark 5:21-43**

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 – #411, vs 1,2,6 – O bless the Lord, my soul!

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 #9 – **Not here for high and holy things** (sung by Mo Kikoler)

Post Communion Prayer page 366

Prayer of St. Francis page 833

Dismissal Hymn #657 – **Love divine, all loves excelling**

Dismissal

Sermon Sunday June 27, 2021

Wisdom of Salomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15; Mark 5: 21-43

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

Do you ever feel like the bucket of your life has a hole in it? That it leaks faster than you can fill it? No matter what you do, how hard you work, where you go, what you try, you just cannot fill it up. Work, play, friends, and family all leave you feeling empty, restless, and searching. You cannot seem to get enough. The outflow is greater than the inflow. You are left drained of life: tired and weak, frustrated, and hopeless, angry, and resentful, sorrowful, and grieving, fearful that you will never have the life you want. If you know what that is like, perhaps you know the hemorrhaging woman in today's gospel.

The Gospel reading from Mark 5:21-43 is a pair of stories about faith and Jesus' power over life and death. The woman with the hemorrhage showed great faith despite obstacles. The story of Jairus and his daughter demonstrated great faith on the part of a religious leader. Both came from different social classes. Jairus was a well-to-do member of the religious establishment—a group that often opposed Jesus. The woman with the hemorrhage was poor and a social outcast. The difference in social classes did not matter to Jesus. He treated both equally.

We do not know her name. We do not know where she came from. She could be any one of us. She is anonymous, another face in the crowd. What we do know is that she is sick, desperate, and in need. She has been bleeding for 12 years. That is 4,380 days. In all that time no one has been able to help her. She is spent all she had: time, money, energy. She has only gotten worse. Day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year it is always the same. The woman's condition is more than physical. She is losing her life, its warmth, vitality, and fruitfulness. That is a spiritual matter. Life and death always are.

At one level this is a story of an individual woman. At another level it is the human story. Her story is our story. It is as much about men as it is woman. Drained of life, we go through the motions. We are alive but not really living. We feel disconnected, isolated, and alone. Often, we convince ourselves that once this or that happens everything will be better. As soon as he changes, as soon as she does what I want, as soon as the economy gets better, as soon as I get a new job, as soon as I have enough money, as soon as I have more time, as soon as I get through this project, as soon as We all have our as soon as.

I suspect the women spent many of the last 4,380 days thinking, as soon as.... Today, however, is different. Something in her has changed, shifted. She has heard about Jesus. Maybe she heard about his teaching, about him casting out demons, about him healing the sick, or about him calming the storm on the sea. We do not know what she heard about Jesus, but it was enough to make her believe she is more than a woman with a problem. She would no longer wait on others to fix her life. She refused to be identified with the circumstances of her life. Today she would reach beyond those circumstances and literally take matters into her own hand.

Deep within she knows, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." No matter how much we bleed, the truth of those words flows through our veins. She knows that Jesus offers a life that is wonderful, a life that can never be drained from her. She touched his cloak. In that moment she was transfused with and by the power of God. It was enough to touch. The connection was made, and a relationship established. Life no longer leaked out of her but flowed into her. The hemorrhage stopped but the healing continued. "Who touched my clothes?" Jesus asked. He was calling her out. He would not allow her to remain a nameless face in the crowd. He would not allow her to drift off into anonymity. He named her, "Daughter," and sent her on the path of peace. She would no longer be the stress woman. She is now a daughter. She has an identity, a place, and a relationship. She has been healed and made whole. She is now fully alive and free to go in peace.

That is the wonderful life Jesus offers each of us. We no longer must live drained of life. We too can know ourselves to be called, "Son" or "Daughter." We too can walk the path of peace fully alive. If we but touch his clothes we too will be healed. Every moment holds before us the opportunity to touch. That means we must reach beyond the circumstances of our lives. We can no longer live as soon as lives. It means we must take matters into our own hands. I am not suggesting that we are in control but that we have a choice and a responsibility. Our faith must be active and tangible. How do we do that? We begin by looking at the clothes Jesus wears. Sometimes he drapes himself in silence, solitude, and prayer. Sometimes it is mercy and forgiveness. Sometimes it is thanksgiving and gratitude. Other times it is compassion and generosity. Always it is self-giving love. The very attributes and characteristics of his life are the clothes he wears and the clothes we are to touch.

Nothing is too small for God. He notices the little things in our lives, just like Jesus noticed when the woman touched his cloak. Jesus always knows the intentions of our hearts and he distinguishes the touch of faith from the touch of a follower. Jesus gave out of his abundant power to heal, and we have been called to give out of our abundance and carry out God's work in our world. He calls us to love one another as he loves us-including showing love and compassion to those who are suffering. Jesus took people where they were and loved them into life. He is love in action. Loving is costly. It takes something out of us, just like each healing took something out of Jesus. We suffer when we work against God's will, especially when it conflicts with our own selfish desires. Sometimes his will interrupts our lives. When it does, can we adapt, or do we stick to our plans?

This Gospel passage shows the compassionate face of Jesus. He suffered with those who suffered, and he still serves the suffering today. He served those who reached out to him in vulnerable ways, and he still served them today. He showed compassion to the suffering and the grieving, and he still shows compassion to them today. This compassionate, suffering, servant attitude gives us hope for today and hope for the next life as well.

What is your need? What is your crisis? What is your fear? Take it to Jesus. Take it to him in whatever way works for you. He loves you. He is on your side. And he is waiting. Wherever you are living drained of life, touch the clothes of Christ. Connect to them in your own life. Let them transfuse you with his life, his love, and his power. Touch and be healed. Touch and be named. Touch and go in peace. **Amen!**

5 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

6 PENTECOST

9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
(also on zoom)

SUPPORT THE FOOD DRIVE DROP-OFF IN THE KITCHEN

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	Francisco Febres
Arlene Goodenough	Charlotte H.
Frances & Donna Mongelli	Bernie Walther
Nathan Treadwell	James
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

Girard Bishop

Irene

Children who are ill:

Christopher and his family

Franklin Tenesaca

Ciara

Aidan

Gabriel

Elodie