



**JULY 12, 2020**

# Prince of Peace

**A SOWER WENT OUT  
TO SOW**

**MATTHEW 13**



**Sunday July 12, 2020**

**The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

**Call to Worship** *Amazing Grace, Alex Fisher*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be God, the one who made us,

The one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

Source of all life,

**We confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.**

**We fear that we are not good enough.**

**We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**

**Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love,**

**Willing to speak for what is right, Act for what is just,**

**And seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray: 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, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Children's Moment**

## First Reading Isaiah 55:10-13

<sup>10</sup> 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, <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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.

## Psalm 65: [1-8] 9 -13

[<sup>1</sup> Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;  
and to you shall vows be performed,

**<sup>2</sup> O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.**

<sup>3</sup> When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

**<sup>4</sup> Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts.**

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.**

<sup>5</sup> By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,  
O God of our salvation; you are the hope  
of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

**<sup>6</sup> By your strength you established the mountains;  
you are girded with might.**

<sup>7</sup> You silence the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

**<sup>8</sup> Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;  
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.]**

<sup>9</sup> You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain,  
for so you have prepared it.

**<sup>10</sup> You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,  
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.**

<sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

**<sup>12</sup> The pastures of the wilderness overflow,  
the hills gird themselves with joy,**

<sup>13</sup> the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,  
the valleys deck themselves with grain,

**they shout and sing together for joy.**

## **Gospel Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

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

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

## **Message**

### **Song: Thy Holy Wings #613**

**Bred Dina Vida Vingar**

1. Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me,  
And let me rest securely through good and ill in thee.  
Oh be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place,  
And let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.
2. Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast  
Where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest.  
Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place,  
And let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.
3. Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood.  
Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.  
Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small,  
And while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.

## **Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

## **The Peace**

### **Announcements**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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

*A brief silence.*

Prayers: *each petition ends: Hear us, O God.*

The response is: **Your mercy is great.**

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.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reigning God, we pray for our nations leader's. 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.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, care for all who are in need (especially). For those who are doubting, renew faith. For those who are struggling ease burdens. For those in fear, give hope.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Renewing God, revive your church in this place. Nourish and nurture the seeds you have planted, that we might grow as disciples. Replace what has been depleted. Sustain our ministries and deepen relationships with the wider community. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Blessing:**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement  
Grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
In accordance with Christ Jesus.

And may the blessing of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit  
be upon you all the days of your life.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn: "Come, We that Love the Lord" 625**

## **Marching to Zion**

1. Come we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord  
And thus surround the throne and thus surround the throne. *Ref.*

2. Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;  
But children of the heav'nly King, but children of the heav'nly King  
May tell their joys abroad, may tell their joys abroad. *Ref.*

3. The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets  
Before we reach the heav'nly fields, before we reach the heav'nly fields  
Or walk the golden streets or walk the golden streets. *Ref.*

4. Then let our songs abound, and ev'ry tear be dry;  
We're marching through Immanuel's ground,  
we're marching through Immanuel's ground,  
to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. *Ref.*

### *Refrain*

We're marching to Zion, beautiful Zion:  
we're marching to Zion, the beautiful city of God

## Dismissal

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; Be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; Render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; Support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Thanks for joining us!

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