

*St. John Lutheran Church* <sup>of</sup>  
*Cat Spring*  
www.stjohncatspring.org

Whoever does  
*God's* will  
is my  
brother and  
sister  
and Mother. Mark 3:35

*June 6, 2021*

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**of Cat Spring**

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We welcome all people from all walks of life to join us; whether you are seeking answers to questions about faith, or already have a strong relationship with Christ. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. In keeping with the teachings of Jesus and the witness of Martin Luther, we acknowledge that we are both sinners and saints in need of the grace and love of God.

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,

**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing of the Prayer Shawls**

**Gathering Hymn**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

**LBW 439**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## Kyrie

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,

for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

For your people here who have come to give you praise,

for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, and defend us, O God.

**Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise: *Now the Feast and Celebration*

### Refrain

Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom;  
praise and glory forevermore!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God. *Refrain*

2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*

3 For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us people of God;  
to make all things new. *Refrain*

## Prayer of the Day

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## First Lesson

Genesis 3: 8-15

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The LORD God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

Here ends the reading

## Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Here ends the reading

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. (Repeat)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the third chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, ‘He has gone out of his mind.’ And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, ‘He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.’ And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, ‘How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

‘Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin’— for they had said, ‘He has an unclean spirit.’

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.’ And he replied, ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.’

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

### **Children’s Sermon**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Stephanie**

**Hymn of the Day**

*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

**LBW 389**

**Nicene Creed**

P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, let us confess our faith

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, he only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## Prayers of Intercession

P: Hear us O God;

**C: Your Mercy is Great**

## Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you

**C: And also with you**

## Offertory

Your gifts to the mission of God that we share may be placed in the plate in the Narthex. Ushers will bring forward at this time

## As the Grains of Wheat

### *Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within  
our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love.  
*Refrain*
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to  
come  
when all creation shares this feast with  
you. *Refrain*

## Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray

**C: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts

**C: We lift them to the Lord**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise**

## Preface

## Holy, Holy, Holy

**Holy, Holy, Holy are you. God of power and might. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in your name, Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

## **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered into one of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us

**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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

P: Taste and See that the Lord is good.

### **Canticle: *Lamb of God***

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you break the chains of hatred and fear: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God you are the way of justice and peace: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you are the way of mercy and love: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.**

### **The Distribution**

*All who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to partake. Please fill out an attendance card to indicate your intention to participate and hand it to the usher.*

### **The Post Communion Canticle: *Thanks be to You***

- 1 Praise to you, O God of mercy: Thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly: Thanks be to you forever!
- 2 From of old you loved and sought us: Thanks be to you forever!  
Truth and justice you have taught us: Thanks be to you forever!

Bridge: Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love, remembering your covenant of life with us.

- 3 Praise to you O God of mercy: Thank be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly: Thanks be to you forever. Thank be to you forever!

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

## **Blessing**

The world now is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything. **Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn**

*This is My Father's World*

**LBW 554**

## **Announcements**

## **Doxology**

**C: Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

