



July 12, 2020 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE: "Song for Sienna" Brian Crain / "Jesus the Light of the World"
"Jesus Christ the Light of Life" AFLBS concert choir, featuring Jennifer Albright choir member
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Welcome & Announcements

Invocation: Psalm 100:2 "Serve the Lord with gladness. Enter into His presence with singing."

Call to Worship Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" FLBC Choir

I want to walk as a child of the Light; I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.
I'm looking for the coming of Christ, I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Prayer of Confession

L: Let us Pray...Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (brief silence)

L: Most merciful God

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. **Amen**

Absolution: Words of Comfort & Forgiveness

Hymn of Thanksgiving: "Jesus I Adore Thee" FLBC choirs

Jesus, I adore thee, word of truth and grace, Who in glory shineth light upon our race.
Christ, to thee surrendered, my while heart is bowed. Alpha and Omega, thou true Son of God.
Taste and touch and vision to discern thee fail; faith that comes by hearing, pierces through the veil.
I believe whate'er the Son of God hath told. What the truth hath spoken that for truth I hold.
Word of God incarnate, Lord of life and light, teach me how to love and worship thee alright.
Holy Spirit, ever bide within my heart, speaking thy commandments, telling all thou art.
Wondrous revelation, verity and grace, lo, in glory's heaven I see thee face to face. Light of endless light
Whom heaven and earth adore, fill me with thy radiance, now and evermore, now and evermore.

Verses of the Day: Zechariah 9:9-12 (responsively)

L: Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your King comes to you; triumphant and victorious is He, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

C: He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and He shall command peace to the nations; His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

L: As for you also, because of the blood of My covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

C: Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L: Thanks be to God

Invitation to Participate in the Prayers of the Church: Strengthened by the Spirit who gives us wholeness through the forgiveness of sin, gracious words to speak, and hearts of compassion, let us bring our hopes, fears and needs to the one God who hears.

Merciful God, we thank You for Your Word to guide, correct, teach, inspire and comfort us. Give us wisdom to carry Your wisdom and understanding to be bearers of Your goodwill for our neighbors, with obedient hearts as we follow Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

Amazing Creator, the miracle of life, birth, growth, and death sustains and renews Your creation. Bless our work in farming, animal husbandry, gardening, planting and reaping for life giving food, and spirit-filled fellowship. Bring forth an abundant harvest of food and souls. Keep our farmers safe and solvent. Guide our pastors, leaders and teachers. Teach us to cherish life. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

God of Peace, teach us to seek Your peace, which is not as the world gives, but is spiritually satisfying. Help all leaders of the nations, states, cities, and political subdivisions to set aside worldly ways and prejudices, to lay down weapons that kill the body, cyber-weapons, cruel technologies that deprive others of life, liberty and happiness. Help us to work together for the common good of all people. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

Generous God, although we live in a land of plenty, we know there are those without enough to eat, without clean, healthy water, or adequate shelter from the heat and cold. Open our eyes and hearts to the misery of others and help us to address the systems that perpetuate their suffering. Direct us through the gifts with which You bless us. Bless the work of those who work so that others may eat and thrive. We pray for our farmers, our employers, our parents and grandparents, extended families, and the mentors of our youth, especially as Ignite reopens. Use us to heal in whatever situations You place us. We especially pray for the families of our church, that they may be instruments of Your peace, the families of Steve & Mary Sovick, Hilma Stadstad, Earl & Mary Steinbrenner, Jeanie Stout, and Sandy Sulvedt. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

Wonderful Counselor, raise up leaders for Your church who will lead according to Your will, inspire others, and who will tend the harvest. We pray for those in the foreign mission fields of the Philippines, China, Estonia, and especially the missions we support here at home. We pray especially for Pastor Paul's granddaughter, Lydia, who is close to You now. We hold her suffering and that of her family close to our hearts. Be their comfort and guide. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, we also pray for those we love in our community. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend Your servant Aggie Gaetz. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech You, a sheep of Your own fold, a lamb of Your own flock, a sinner of Your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of Your blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in Light. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

God of our forebears, bless the memories we cherish of those who now worship You in heaven. Give all who worship You a peaceful expectation of eternity and a peaceful death when our time comes. Lord in Your mercy; **C: Hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to You, God of mercy, especially in this time of need, grateful and respectful of your protective hand. We are joyously relieved and confident that all things are in Your hands. Thank You, dear Father. **C: Amen.**

In Preparation to Hear the Word: "Open My Eyes Lord" Praise & Worship (Blue Hymnal p. 633)

First Reading, Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

(After Sarah had died and was buried in Canaan, the land promised by God to Abraham, Abraham called his most trusted servant and made him swear to find a good wife for Isaac from among their kinsman, promising that the angel would lead him.) So he *(probably Eliezer of Damascus, the chief servant of his household to whom total charge of Abrahams possessions was given)* said, "I am Abraham's servant.³⁵ The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys.³⁶ And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has.³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live *(Mesopotamia, literally between the two rivers, Tigris & Euphrates)*³⁸ but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'⁴² "I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going!⁴³ I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,"⁴⁴ and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" --- let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.'⁴⁵ Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.'⁴⁶ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels.⁴⁷ Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter, are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms.⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son.⁴⁹ Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or

to the left."⁵⁸ And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will."⁵⁹ So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men.⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes."⁶¹ Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.⁶² Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi and was settled in the Negeb.⁶³ Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming.⁶⁴ And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel,⁶⁵ and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself.⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

Second Reading Romans 8:1-11:

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.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" Songs 4 Worship

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus said, **"But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,"¹⁷ "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn."¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon";¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;²⁶ yes, Father, for such was Your gracious will."²⁷ **All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him.²⁸ "Come to Me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.³⁰ For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."****

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God**

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" Songs 4 Worship

Children's Sermon / Adult Sermon

Post Sermon Hymn: "I Need Thee Every Hour" The Ultimate Collection

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 Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

P: The peace of the 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.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly right and salutary ... we praise Your name and join their unending hymn: **“Awesome God”**

Words of Institution (Jesus own sermon to us)

Lord’s Prayer

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

Stations for Distribution of Holy Communion.

Please maintain a 6-foot distance from the family unit in front of you. Feel free to take prayer time after you arrive back at your pew.

L: The body of Christ given for you; the blood of Christ shed for you. **C: Amen**

Distribution Songs: “Table of Plenty” By Dan Schutte

Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty!
God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.
O come and sit at my table where saints and sinners are friends.

“One Bread, One Body” John Michael Talbot

One bread, one body; One Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many; Throughout the earth
We are one body in this one Lord: Gentile or Jew
Servant or free; woman or man, no more (repeat)

P: Communion Blessing.

Benediction

P: Jesus is alive! **C: And that makes all the difference.**

Hymns of Praise and Thanksgiving to Close:

“Take the Name of Jesus With You”

“Jesus is the Sweetest Name I Know”

The Ultimate Collection (Blue Hymnal P. 235)

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: **“How Beautiful”** Praise & Worship
“Song for Sienna” Brian Crane Piano