



**The Third Sunday After Pentecost**  
***June 13, 2021***  
***Worship with Prince of Peace***

***--There is a place for you here--***

**Prelude**  
**Welcome**

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

## **Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, we come before you small and a little weary. Be present in this place now. Refresh us with your presence. Give us the strength that comes from being rooted in you. Guide us into your ways, we pray.

**Amen.**

## **Time for Confession and Forgiveness**

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 go?**

**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.  
**you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.**  
**Amen.**

## **Song: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;

streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.

While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;  
may I still thy goodness prove.

- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
"Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.

## **Call to Worship:**

This is the day the Lord has made,

**Let us be glad and rejoice in it!**

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone,

**but by every word that comes from you.**

Bless us as we hear your word.

**Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

## **Prayer of the day**

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Word**

### **Children's Moment**

First Reading: **Ezekiel 17:22-24**

<sup>22</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig  
from the lofty top of a cedar;  
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one  
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it  
on a high and lofty mountain.

<sup>23</sup>On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,  
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,

interposed his precious blood.

- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

and become a noble cedar.  
Under it every kind of bird will live;  
in the shade of its branches will nest  
winged creatures of every kind.  
<sup>24</sup>All the trees of the field shall know  
that I am the LORD.  
I bring low the high tree,  
I make high the low tree;  
I dry up the green tree  
and make the dry tree flourish.  
I the LORD have spoken;  
I will accomplish it.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

### **Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15**

<sup>1</sup>It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;  
<sup>2</sup>**to herald your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night;**  
<sup>3</sup>on the psaltery, and on the lyre,  
and to the melody of the harp.  
<sup>4</sup>**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;  
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.**  
<sup>12</sup>The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree,  
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.  
<sup>13</sup>**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD  
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**  
<sup>14</sup>they shall still bear fruit in old age;  
they shall be <sup>l</sup> green and succulent;  
<sup>15</sup>**that they may show how up right the LORD is,  
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

**Gospel Greeting** (*sing it out!*):

**Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia,  
Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia!**

**Gospel: Mark 4:26-34** <sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God  
is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,<sup>27</sup> and  
would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout  
and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of  
itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the  
head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his  
sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The gospel of the Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Gospel response, sing it out!)*

**Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia,**

**Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia!**

## Message

### Hymn of the Day: He Comes to us as One Unknown

#### He Comes to Us as One Unknown

1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -  
 2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -  
 3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and  
 4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and  
 5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -  
 heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in  
 part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -  
 foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the  
 birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a  
 dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but  
 dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
 cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.  
 tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.  
 sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
 not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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## **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**

**--Non-perishable food drive to support the pantry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Edith Stein.**

**--Thirsty Thursday: Pictures to [prandall22@gmail.com](mailto:prandall22@gmail.com). Theme: We hold you in our heart!**

### **Offering Prayer**

**Amen.**

### **Prayers of the Church**

**Let us come before God, who is one and who is three, in prayer.**

*A brief silence.*

**Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musician, Carole. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.  
**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Blessing**

May the blessing of God,  
who provides for us, who feeds us, and who is with us wherever we go,  
be upon you, now and forever. **Amen!**

## **Sending Hymn: For the Fruit of All Creation**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 For the fruit of all creation,<br>thanks be to God.<br>For these gifts to ev'ry nation,<br>thanks be to God.<br>For the plowing, sowing, reaping,<br>silent growth while we are sleeping,<br>future needs in earth's safekeeping,<br>thanks be to God. | In our worldwide task of caring<br>for the hungry and despairing,<br>in the harvests we are sharing,<br>God's will is done.  |
| 2 In the just reward of labor,<br>God's will is done.<br>In the help we give our neighbor,<br>God's will is done.  | 3 For the harvests of the Spirit,<br>thanks be to God.<br>For the good we all inherit,<br>thanks be to God.<br>For the wonders that astound us,<br>for the truths that still confound us,<br>most of all, that love has found us,<br>thanks be to God. |

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

## Thanks for joining us!

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