

## **Worship Plan for Sunday, July 4, 2021**

Ezekiel 2:1-5, Psalm 123, 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13

**PRELUDE** *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* ELW #888 (Public Domain)

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING MUSIC** *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* ELW #890 (Public Domain)

### **GREETING** (ELW p. 98)

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.**

### **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 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.**

**KYRIE** (ELW pages 184-185, setting 8)

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (ELW pages 185-186, setting 8)

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING:** A reading from **Ezekiel 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." <sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 123** (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>To you I lift | up my eyes,  
to you enthroned | in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>**As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand | of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show | us your mercy.**

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O | LORD, have mercy,  
for we have had more than enough | of contempt,

<sup>4</sup>**too much of the scorn of the in- | dolent rich,  
and of the derision | of the proud.**

**MUSIC** *How Firm a Foundation* ELW #796 (Public Domain)

**SECOND READING:** A reading from **2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

<sup>2</sup>I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup>even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (ELW page 188, setting 8)

**GOSPEL:** The holy gospel according to Mark 6:1-13 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *Spirit of Gentleness*    ELW #396 (Augsburg Fortress)

**THE APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 105)**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

A: God of all, through the waters of baptism you claim people of all races, ethnicities, and languages as your beloved children. Sustain the baptized and increase their faith, that your gospel may be proclaimed throughout the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of the heavens, your creating Spirit animates the universe. We give you thanks for the moon and stars, for the planets and the Milky Way Galaxy, and for all the mysteries of the cosmos that remain unknown to us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of freedom, you have liberated us from sin and death and rescue us from all forms of spiritual, social, and political oppression. Defend us from tyrants in our midst and deliver us from all forms of slavery or corruption. Direct our freedom for works of liberation and wholeness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of compassion, you became vulnerable in the person of Jesus Christ in solidarity with the disempowered. Strengthen those who feel faint, give courage to those who fear, and bring wholeness to those in need especially those we name now in our hearts...*(pause)*. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of holiness, you send us out into the world to proclaim your love. We pray for our outreach ministries. Equip us as we leave this place to witness and serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: We give you thanks that in every time and place you call forth prophets who move us towards freedom. Thank you for those who work for human rights, community organizers, and all who strive for liberty for all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And, also with you.**

**OFFERING** *Before You, Lord, We Bow*    ELW #893 (Public Domain)

### OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.

Please gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks,  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 112 left side)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

**COMMUNION** *Lamb of God* (ELW page 191, setting 8)

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal,  
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

## **\*EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

P: Let us pray:

**C: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING** *God be With You Til We Meet Again* ELW #536 (Public Domain)

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

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