St. Timothy Lutheran Church Sharing God's Love Together



f you are a visitor with us today, we welcome you in the name of Christ. We encourage our guests to join us in the communion meal because Jesus welcomes all to his table of grace, uniting and filling us for love and service. Christ is our host and our food, bearing to us God's forgiveness and grace through this harvest of field and vineyard.

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY/LECTIONARY 7

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Welcome

You may stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God.

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children.

We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected.

We have rejected your word

when it made us confront ourselves.

We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.

Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation.

Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Spirit, Open My Heart



GREETING

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

You may be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

A reading from Genesis.

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

3Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

4Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. 6For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. 7God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. 9Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. 10You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. 11I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" 15And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

²For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.

³Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.

⁶The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸Refrain from anger, leaverage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

¹⁰In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.

¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;

you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

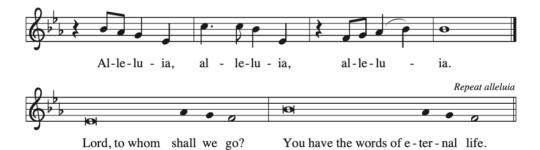
⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

You may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Gospel Luke 6:27-38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

SERMON

Kristopher Rhude

HYMN OF THE DAY

Mercy, We Abide in You

You may stand.





PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the ... God of grace,

hear our prayer.

... we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

Let us remember to offer ourselves—our time, our abilities, our possessions—for the ongoing ministry of St. Timothy and the whole Church. Besides bringing your offering to worship you may also send it by postal mail or use our online giving option at www.sttim.org.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,

. . .

in the name of Christ our light.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

...

in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

Come to God's table.

There is a place for you and enough for all.

You may be seated. We receive the body and blood of Christ and share in the life of God as we receive the bread and wine or grape juice, and hear the words:

The body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you. *and each person may respond:*

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



Table of Plenty

You may stand.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SENDING

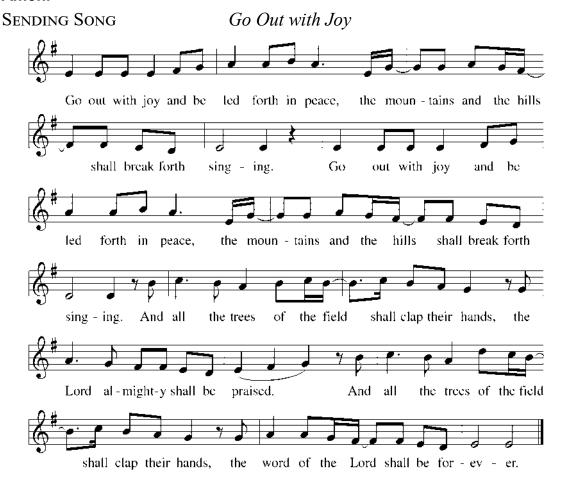
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name,

H bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

Amen.



DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Pastor Kristofer Rhude

Music Desma Johnson

Cantor Adrian and Bob Johannsen

Assisting Minister Steve Solomon

Video Jody Emerson

Audio Jim Helgason

Ushers **Debby Love-Sudduth, Dee Holland**

Altar Care Smith Family



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GOSPEL MESSAGE

February 20, 2022

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Cocreators in Christ's Reign

Jesus' words in today's gospel reading are challenging. But more than a list of dos and don'ts, today's text is an invitation to enter a countercultural way of living: a lifestyle that meets antagonism with mercy, scarcity with generosity, and selfishness with abundant love. It is not a call to passivity or silence, to complicity in injustice, or to acceptance of the way things are in order to avoid conflict. Instead, it is a call to let God's merciful justice and compassionate grace define our stories, our relationships, and our very existence so that we might be agents of change. It is a call to experience the freedom that only Christ can give. It is a call to join God as cocreators of a new kingdom where Christ's reign turns what we think we know on its head.

We practice this countercultural lifestyle every time we gather for worship as we remember who we are and whose we are as God's beloved children, and as we confess the ways we have not lived up to this identity. We are shaped by God's words of justice, mercy, and grace, and we enter into a story that extends far beyond ourselves. We name the hurting places in our world, places of hatred and abuse and scarcity, and pray that God's Spirit will transform them into wellsprings of new life. We share the peace of Christ with one another, refusing to let the forces of hatred and division have the last word. We practice generosity. We gather at God's abundant table to partake in bread and wine that unite us with Christ and with all who share this meal around the world. Finally, we are sent forth with God's blessing to be agents of love and mercy, to show with our lives the transforming power of God.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156 Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.

Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921

Friday, February 25, 2022

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please call Dorothy Kirk with any new or changed prayer concerns at 375-1043.

Please remember in your prayers:

Marjorie Knight, pray that she becomes stronger.

The family and friends of Nancy Opsata.

Carolyn Hawes, being treated for BPDCN.

Diane Bakhit who is recovering for neck surgery.

Josh Bakhit who has a brain tumor.

Phyllis Cook who has a lung condition.

Ed Olson, undergoing cancer treatment.

Sandy Hoskin, undergoing cancer treatment again.

Colbie Schueneman, grandniece of Adrian, with a neurodegenerative disease.

Healthcare workers and essential workers on the front line of the pandemic.

All service members, fire fighters, and police officers (and their families).

For those living in war-torn regions and all refugees.

For the mission of this congregation, the Monterey Bay Conference, and the entire Sierra Pacific Synod, and for our leaders and for the leaders throughout the world.

Please continue to pray for the ongoing concerns of these listed here.

Torie Hamilton Rodger Marty Bonnie Bennett Jim McMullins Bill Reynolds Mary Lee Slater Marjonie Gabriel Tom Brown Aaron Grieg Byron Heppert Jacqueline Graham Gloria Llenaresas Riley Ann Holland Ronnie Lyons Irene McCloud Thomas Ansley

Linda Henderson Beverly Schneideman Justice Gaudoin Peter Kracht Isabella Silva Mark Northcutt Helen Leikam

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Sharing God's Love Together

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, 2/20 Worship 10:00 am

Wednesday, 2/23 Bible Study 2:00 pm

Next Week

Sunday, 2/27 Worship 10:00 am

Wednesday, 3/2 Bible Study 2:00 pm

Wednesday, 3/2 I Help Women 5:15 pm

- **Preparing for communion:** Our online Sunday worship will include communion. As you feel called, prepare to share in communion by setting aside some bread or crackers, and some wine or juice, as you have them available. If you need any of these items, please contact Ida Barber.
- Offering: Please remember your offerings to St. Timothy. Offering can be mailed to the church office, sent automatically using your bank, or online by visiting our website www.sttim.org.