Date: __09/06/25_____ Season: ___PENTECOST 13____

PASTOR_Rev. Orin W Cummings, PhD VICAR Abbey Knappman

ASSISTING_David Siewert LECTOR Irene Chaloupecky

ORGANIST_Marilyn Boston A/V_Drew Bowman

DISTRIBUTION MINISTERS_Vicar Abbey and David Siewert

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK Supper and Scripture lleen Kendall

GATHERING

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

God blesses those who refuse evil advice

and would not follow sinners or join in sneering at God.

In celebration of our baptism, we worship

In the name of God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

Rejoice over us as ones who were lost

and have been found.

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven! Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 532

Gather Us In



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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APOSTOLIC 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WORD

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

THE FIRST READING FROM DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

15 "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. 16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18 I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. 19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, 20 loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING FROM Philemon 1-21

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

- ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ⁴I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

CASUAL SERVICE w/HOLY COMMUNION Saturday 5:30 p.m.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN ELCA

GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel. The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 14th Chapter Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

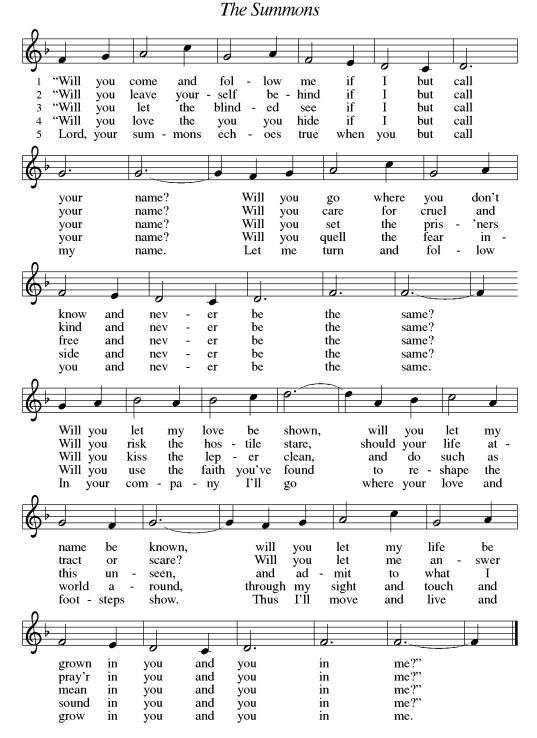
The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Orin Cummings

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 798

Will You Come and Follow Me



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and open our hearts to your will.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace, receive our prayer.

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Bring peace to nations at war or in political instability, especially in Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Haiti. Equip leaders for actions that further the common good. God of grace, receive our prayer.

We pray for those who are hungry, unhoused, lonely or sick, especially Linda, Renee, Seth, Sheila, Shephard, Julie, Pat, Cindy, Rev. Steven, Ray, David, Tom, Lynnox, Thelma, Jacob, Louise, Carol, Yvonne, Bill, Matt, DJ, Mark, Bob, Tommy, and Beverly. We remember those mourning lives lost to recent shootings. May all who suffer find comfort and healing through your love and the compassionate care of those around them. God of grace, receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, deepen our support of one another, and empower us to share our faith that may transform lives. God of grace, receive our prayer.

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints, especially Ben Schultz and Sue Youker. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace, receive our prayer.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN ELW 485

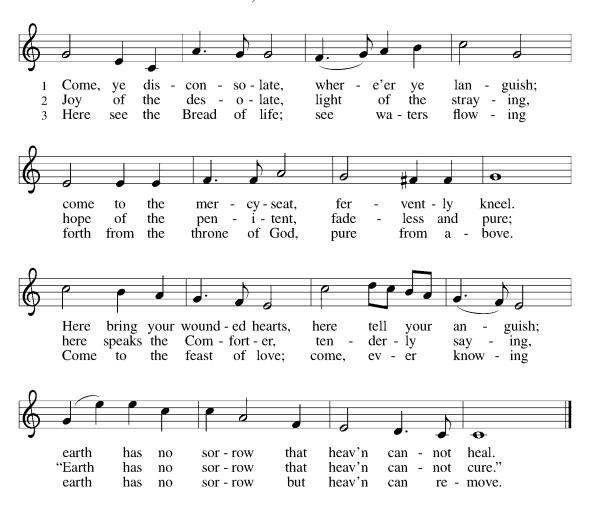
I Am the Bread of Life



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6
Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM
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DISTRIBUTION HYMN ELW 607

Come, Ye Disconsolate



Text: Thomas Moore, 1779–1852, sts. 1–2; Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872, st. 3 Music: CONSOLATOR, Samuel Webbe Sr., 1740–1816

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Pastor/Assisting Minister/Lector/Vicar/Cantor/Congregation

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,

+ bless you now and forevermore.

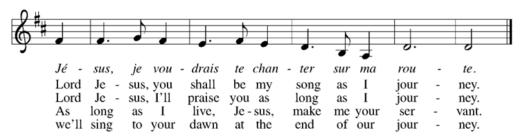
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 808

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song







Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931 Music: Les Petites Soeurs, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community Text and music © 1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus Tr. ⊙ 1970 Stephen Somerville

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, we:

Welcome all to worship;

Make disciples;

Hunger for ministry;

Nurture youth;

Gather resources for growing ministries;

Offer healing and care to all in need.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERING

(Please place gifts in the plates as you leave)

POSTLUDE