

Date: 08/29/26 Season: PENTECOST 14 (GREEN)

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

In celebration of our baptism, we worship
In the name of God: Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

HEALING LITURGY

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Let us pray:

O God, in the Lord Jesus, you healed, and you gave hope. Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole.

O Lord of life hear our prayer.

Spirit of peace, move where hearts are hardened and histories are heavy.
Bring reconciliation between nations divided—between Russia and Ukraine,
Israelis, Palestinians and Lebanese, Israel and Iran, America and Iran.
Where conflict burns in Sudan, Myanmar, and Haiti,
bring protection to the vulnerable and wisdom to those in power.
Heal minds burdened by fear, grief, and trauma.
Restore clarity where there is confusion, and serenity where there is distress.
Rebuild what has been broken—homes, livelihoods, and trust between people.
Let compassion rise where anger once lived,
and let peace take root where violence has endured.

O Lord of life hear our prayer.

Restore to wholeness, O Triune God, whatever is amiss in our lives, and in this nation.

O Lord of life hear our prayer.

Strengthen our trust in you so that we might not hesitate to bring our concerns to you, O Lord of life.

Amen.

LAYING ON HANDS

Sisters and brothers, Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Come as you are able and receive laying on of hands and anointing. You may kneel or stand at the Altar Rail. Those who are unable to come to the Altar Rail, let a Shepherd know and we will come to you.

ABSOLUTION

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 879

For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

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

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

THE FIRST READING FROM JEREMIAH 15:15-21

- ¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
- ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
- ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
- ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
- ¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
- ²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
- ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING FROM ROMANS 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue

hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

When it is Difficult to Follow

Pastor Orin W Cummings

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 808

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour;
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

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

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

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, all of God's creation and open our hearts to God's will.

A brief silence.

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters, especially for the people of Nepal following the flooding and mudslides. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence and war. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit, especially William, Mary Lou Lomas, Jolynn Szesny, the Powell family especially baby Elliott, Bob Ockree, Sally McCarville, Claire, Jennie Rohy, Ginny Erickson, Wanda Wilson, Gabe Derr, Allison Gregory, David Grochowsky, Andrew Langr, Mark Krueger, Steve Cowden and Beverly Carlson. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

For the faithful departed, especially David Adams, Sherry Dogwiler, and Juanita Steinbaugh, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ACS 993

God Is Here Today
Dios está aquí



Dios es - tá a - quí, tan
God is here to - day; as

cier-to co-mo el ai - re que res - pi - ro, tan
cer - tain as the air I breathe, as

cier-to co-mo la ma - ña - na se le - van - ta, tan
cer - tain as the morn-ing sun that ris - es, as

cier-to co-mo que le can - to y me pue-de o - ír.
cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Text: Javier Gacías Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948
Music: DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ, Javier Gacías Mateo
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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

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Bind Us Together, Lord

Refrain
F Dm Gm

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

C⁷ F

can - not be bro - ken, Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F C⁷ F C⁷ F

1 There is on - ly one God. There is on - ly one King.
2 You are the fam - 'ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

C⁷ F C⁷ F *Refrain*
Bl²C

There is on - ly one Bod - y; that is why we can sing.
You are God's cho - sen de - sire, . . . you are the glo - rious new wine.

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
Music: Bob Gillman, b. 1946

TABLE BLESSING

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Compassionate God,
 through the gifts of bread and wine
 our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
 Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
 may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus,
 through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
 one God,
 ✝ bless, heal, and hold you
 today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN**ELW 798**

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 my name. Let me quell the fear in -

know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.

Saturday 5:30 p.m.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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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****Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!****In the name of Christ. Amen.****OFFERING***(Please place gifts in the plates as you leave)***POSTLUDE**