

July 4, 2021
6th Sunday after
Pentecost

Mt. Calvary, Upper Northfield
St. John's, Mahone Bay

Prepared By Pastor Brooklynn Lane



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Sunday, July 4, 2021

Service of the Word

GATHERING

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

CALL TO WORSHIP – (written by Thom M. Shuman)

You awaken the sun, O God,
to guide us into the new day:

**Your name, O God, like your praise,
sings in every person.**

You speak your Word, O God,
to guide us into your kingdom:

**Your hope, O God, like your joy,
echoes in every soul.**

You guide us to those who are
looking for you:

**Your love, O God, like your name,
fills the emptiness of every heart.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS – (written by Thom M. Shuman)

When we look at the relationships we hope to have with one another, and with God, we must admit how broken we are. But, as we gather in the presence of God, we are promised forgiveness and healing, if we will confess our sins. Please join me, as we pray to the One who never ceases to love us,

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

You know how stubborn we can be, Holy God. You call us to serve others, and we stay in the coolness of our own homes. You would send us to where the hopeless live, but we are reluctant to leave the comfort of our complacency. You would feed us on the peace and joy of your word, but we pull our chairs up to the tables of those who serve false promises.

Forgive us, Guiding God. Transform our defiance into discipleship, and our rejection of others into the

resurrection of welcoming all people as sisters and brothers in Christ. Help us to love as faithfully as you have always loved us, and send us forth to take the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We open our lips and confess our hearts. God hears our words and make us new, sending us out to bring hope and joy to all the world.

We hear the good news, we believe the good news, we will live out the good news. Thanks be to God. Amen!

GATHERING HYMN

Beautiful Saviour - Evangelical Lutheran Worship #838
Sing Along: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uGII_jOJZA

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

Let us pray,

God of grace and powerful weakness,
at times your prophets were ignored, rejected, belittled, and unwelcome.
Trusting that we, too, are called to be prophets,
fill us with your Spirit,
and support us by your gentle hands,
that we may persevere in speaking your word
and living our faith. Amen.

FIRST READING – Ezekiel 2:1-5 (NRSV)

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. 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. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' 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 (NRSV)

To you I lift up my eyes,

to you enthroned in the heavens.

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.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,

for we have had more than enough of contempt,

too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,

and of the derision of the proud.

SECOND READING – 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 (NRSV)

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. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. 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, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, 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. 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 READING – Mark 6:1-13 (NRSV)

The holy gospel according to Mark

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. 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! 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 offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 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.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 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

Here Is Bread - Evangelical Lutheran Worship #483

Sing Along: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwtvELk79tg>

APOSTLE'S 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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – (written by Sundays and Seasons)

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

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.

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 of the mysteries of the cosmos that remain unknown to us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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.

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. This morning we pray for Arlene Parks. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

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.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

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

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living - Evangelical Lutheran Worship #881

Sing Along: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Elv6XLO5Lqs>

DISMISSAL

We will go to let the Joy of creation lead us into this new day.

We will sing glad choruses of hope to a world in despair.

We go to walk with our Heart's Love beside those whose hearts are broken.

We will touch boastful tongues with peace,

we will offer compassion to those frozen with fear.We will go with your gentle wisdom, Spirit of grace,
to walk the streets of the kingdom.

**We will bring healing to grudges held far too long,
filling those who grieve with the laughter of hope.**

Let us go in peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **Worship In Person** on Sunday July 4 @ 11 am. Sunday Worship Services can be found on St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church YouTube page. As well, a link to worship will also be posted on our Facebook page and a link will also be sent out Sunday morning via email.

● **E Transfer:** Now another option to make a payment, memorial donation, offering, etc through E transfer. No password required. Please indicate your envelope number as well as to where the money should be allocated. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

● The church is looking for a couple of volunteers for **Altar Guild** for the month of July. If this is something you feel you can commit to and would like to get involved with a form of church life please let Pastor Brooklynn or Kelly know. Thank you for giving some prayerful consideration to this request.

● **Wednesday Walking Club:** Are you looking for some fellowship and enjoy the outdoors? Please join Pastor Brooklynn every Wednesday morning (weather permitting) as we enjoy a leisurely 45 min stroll through the Town of Mahone Bay. Please meet at the church for departure at 9:30 am. Everyone is Welcome.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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