

**SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**July 10 & 11, 2021  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

**Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace  
Pastor Scott Hackler – Pastor Gary Benson**

***OUR VISION***

“To help our congregation and community know Christ and grow in faith, so we can run the race of life with grace, hope, peace, and joy.”

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP: “Living Light”** ..... Fred Bornhoeft

**INVOCATION**

**P:** We worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”**

*Refrain*

Just a closer walk with thee, / grant it, Jesus, is my plea; / daily walking close to thee, / let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak but thou art strong: / Jesus, keep me from all wrong; / I'll be satisfied as long / as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain*

Through this world of toil and snares, / if I falter, Lord, who cares? / Who with me my burden shares? / None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain*

When my feeble life is o'er, / time for me will be no more; / guide me gently, safely o'er / to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain*

Text: traditional. Public Domain.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Gracious God, our provider, help us.

**C: Too often we live as though your blessings and provisions are scarce. 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. Turn us always to you. Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

**P:** Beloved people of God, Jesus has turned to you. He is the manna from heaven that comes to feed and nourish you. He is the worker of miracles and the Bread of Life who provides more than enough. He is God's mercy and through him you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C: Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE: “This Is the Day”**

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it. / This is the day that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

## **THE READING: Amos 7:7-15**

This is what [the Lord God] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.” Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, ‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.’” And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.” Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

**P:** Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **THE PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13**

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you. Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven. The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness shall go before the Lord and shall prepare for God a pathway.

**P:** Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **THE GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29**

King Herod heard of [the disciples’ preaching,] for Jesus’ name had become known. Some were saying, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.” But others said, “It is Elijah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.”

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, “It is

not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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

**SERMON: "Do I have a stomach for this?"** ..... *Pastor Scott Hackler*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"**

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways / to keep his statutes still! / Oh, that my God would grant me grace / to know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your word / and make my heart sincere; / let sin have no dominion, Lord, / but keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, / a stricter watch to keep; / and should I e'er forget your way, / restore your wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in your commands, / 'tis a delightful road; / nor let my head or heart or hands / offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Public Domain.

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**C: 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 into hell. 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**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Lord God, your gracious gifts sustain us.

**C: Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC: “Break the Bread, Pour the Wine”** ..... Fred Bornhoeft

**THE LORD’S SUPPER: WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P:** Let us pray: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he come to us in his holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P:** 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.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**C: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Strengthen us in this meal and make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**P:** Lord Jesus, you teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**BLESSING AND PRAYER**

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Let us pray,

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

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

**C: Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”**

My faith looks up to thee, / thou Lamb of Calvary, / Savior divine! / Now hear me while I pray, / take all my guilt away, / oh, let me from this day / be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart / strength to my fainting heart, / my zeal inspire; / as thou hast died for me, / oh, may my love to thee / pure, warm, and changeless be, / a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread / and griefs around me spread, / be thou my guide; / bid darkness turn to day, / wipe sorrow's tears away, / nor let me ever stray / from thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, / when death's cold, sullen stream / shall o'er me roll; / blest Savior, then, in love / fear and distrust remove; / oh, bear me safe above, / a ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887. Public Domain.

## **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Christ is with you!

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **WELCOME SESSIONS ARE BACK!**

This is an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn why our church exists and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our mission and vision, and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is this **Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am**. Hope to see you there!

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Scripture Reader: Rich Frusciano

Hymn Vocalists: Tom Chambers, Cathy Pierce, Terry Pierce, Candace Renwall

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