



MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor Amy Truhe
July 11, 2021

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 5

Prelude

Kyrie and Sanctus

John Leavitt

Call and Response:

O God our Father, we thank you that today
you have called us to worship you and learn of you.

You alone know our needs.

Satisfy them with your unchanging love.

In your presence may we find comfort in sorrow,
guidance in perplexity, strength to meet temptation,
grace to overcome the fascination of disobedience,
and courage to face up to the hostility of this rebellious world.

Above all, may we meet Jesus

and go out from our worship filled by Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. 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. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Psalm 85: 8-13 (NET)

8 I will listen to what God the Lord says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—
but let them not turn to folly.

**9 Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

10 Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**11 Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.**

12 The Lord will indeed give what is good and our land will yield its harvest.

13 Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation:

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Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

Glory to you, O Lord!

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

¹⁴King 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." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For 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. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for 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. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When 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." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately 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." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

#717

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. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. We especially pray for our members Rolland, Walli, Gloria and Gene, and Merl. We pray for our friends Denise, Bill, Dawn, Stephani, Karla, Orin, Danielle, Krista, Betty, Meghan, Robert, Amy, Sharon, and Kim and Jill. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian and maintenance workers, for our office staff Ida, Steve, Juan, Muriel, and Logan, and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died especially Donna, Betty, and Leroy. United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you all: **And also with you!**

MEAL

Offertory

Credo

John Leavitt

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Congregation sings

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Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

(sung)

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Distribution of Communion

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing

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

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn

Lead on O King Eternal

#805

Postlude

Fugue in G

J.S. Bach

Worship Leaders today:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Becky Anderson Liturgist
Jeanne Ahlers Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Becky Anderson Liturgist
Ingrid Pohl Lector

Messiah Lutheran Church
6/30/2021

	Actual Jun-21	Actual Jan - Jun 21	Budget Jan - Jun 21
Revenue	7,703.97	77,826.05	72,579.80
Expenses	7,774.46	68,123.87	80,242.44
Surplus (Deficit)	<u>(70.49)</u>	<u>9,702.18</u>	<u>(7,662.64)</u>
Reserve Balance	<u>90,368.81</u>		

Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray

Members of Messiah:

Rolland Christenson, Walli Ellis, Gloria and Gene Holdsworth, Merl Hilt, and the families of Donna Forsberg, Betty Peterson, and father of Bryce Loder, Leroy Loder, who passed on June 14th

Friends of Messiah

Donna Stejksal	Daniels' friend	Karla Goewert	Friend of Kirsten Bruce
Denise	Pari Ford's mother	Orin Shogren	Har's brother
Bill Stephenson	Joy Janis's brother	Danielle	Robbie Peterson's
Dawn	Sharon Hoffman's	VanDeVyvere	granddaughter
	Daughter	Krista Bahler	Betty Peterson's Niece
Stephani White	Betty Holcombe's	Betty Finney	Sharon Hoffman's friend
	daughter	Meghan	John & Margaret Presley's
Robert Ahlstedt	Earl Ahlstedt's	Presley	Daughter
	Brother	Amy Wright	Friend of Don Anderson
Kim and Jill Hett			
Sharon Texley	friend of Marla Elmquist, Linda Lewis & many others		

Serving the U.S.A.

Alex Klapp	Betty Russin's grandson	Vicki Charboneau	Elaine Eller's granddaughter
Ben Youngquist	S Hoffman's nephew	Jeremy Guy	Hensley's son-in-law
T.J. Paulsen	Barb Malm's child		
Daniel & Miranda Norland	Randy/Gretchen's son & wife		

Wider Church by Jeanne Ahlers

The prophet Amos said, "Let justice roll down like waters." These words inspired members of St. James Lutheran Church in Portland, Oregon. They hung a banner with these words from the bell tower for everyone in Portland to see. And they were acting on those words.

They had been studying justice and supporting needs in their local community for much of the past year, but justice group leader Mandy Ellertson felt they could be doing more. As more in the congregation were receiving a COVID-19 vaccination by the end of February, Mandy approached her pastor, David Knapp, with her concerns. "You and I are starting to get shots in our arms," she said, "and it is costing us nothing. What would happen if we took some money out of our pockets for what it might actually cost to receive a vaccine and send it to Lutheran World Relief, making sure the vaccine was available for all in the world?"

Pastor Knapp contacted Lutheran World Relief and asked how they could help their most vulnerable neighbors in the world gain access to the vaccine. St. James came on board partnering with organizations throughout the world to build healthy communities. The congregation's endowment team went further, offering to match the congregation's giving, up to \$5,000.

The banner with Amos' words, hanging from the stones of their building, was going to identify them as a congregation seeking justice in the world. St. James' members felt that they had better put their money where their mouths were. Throughout the Easter season, they matched the endowment teams' \$5,000 gift, but doubled it. In all, they gave over \$15,000 to reach their most vulnerable neighbors.

Announcements

Please join us for the **KICK** family summer events. Tonight is pool night at Riverside Park from 5:30 to 9:30 pm with lessons and camp songs, Stuga subs and more. Private swim for the first 100. August 15th is a back to school bash with inflatables at Swensson Park from 5 to 7:30 pm. There will be Bible lessons, camp songs, pulled pork bbq and more.

For **Hyllningsfest** Messiah has been asked to donate 60 loaves of rye bread. We will have a sign-up sheet available in September.

The **Reconciling in Christ** group will meet next Sunday, July 18th immediately after service. All are welcome.

Stuff a Microwave! Bethany College Student Development is asking for microwaveable foods to "stuff a microwave." Three microwaves will be given out in a drawing of names from those who come to campus vaccinated for COVID-19. This incentive is part of keeping campus and our community safe! When you bring your microwaveable donations, please put them in the basket by Pastor's office. Thank you!

JULY 11, 2021
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 6:14-29	The death of John the Baptist
Monday	Amos 7:7-15	Vision of setting a plumb line
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:3-14	Thanksgiving for blessings
Wednesday	Psalms 86:1-17	Save me, Lord
Thursday	Deuteronomy 7:7-11	A chosen people
Friday	Leviticus 26:1-13	Rewards for obedience
Saturday	Psalms 85:8-13	God speaks peace to the people
Sunday	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	Jesus teaches and heals

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Psalm 85:10 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of glory and might, guide the rulers of the earth toward justice and mercy for the sake of peace in your world through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we see in this food a banquet filled with your love that brings justice and peace to all the earth. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May our God and the Lord Jesus Christ bless you with love and faithfulness. (Psalm 85:10)

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

WEEKLY MILESTONES CARING CONVERSATIONS

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

If you had a magic wand, what would you want to do or have happen?

We like to have power, but power can be misused and be insensitive to others. Give an example of someone misusing their power.

Jesus brings a power full of love and faithfulness. Where do you see that power in action?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 6:14-29. This story of the beheading of John the Baptist at a banquet hosted by King Herod presents an image of contrasts. This story comes between last week's Gospel reading about Jesus' disciples traveling without riches or power of their own and staying with others as guests. The Gospel reading two weeks from now is about Jesus' own banquet of feeding hungry souls on a hillside. Jesus treated the people with compassion like a shepherd caring for the sheep. Earthly powers represented by Herod bend toward corruption, greed, violence, and impulsive actions without thought of consequences. Jesus' rule brings people together in peace, feeds the multitudes out of love, and brings healing and an end to demonic powers. We are reminded that earthly powers and governments are not the rule that wins the day in God's universe. We are called to an ordering of life where *"love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other"* (Psalm 85:10). How does Jesus' power in your life influence your thoughts and actions? *Pray:* **Shepherding God, in a world that seeks to dominate and humiliate others, we thank you for your reign of love and faithfulness that will never let us go through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

In our forms of government, local, regional, and national representatives need to hear from us, especially about issues that relate to our moral resolve. How have you voiced your views on current issues?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 85 talks about peace. Verse 8 states, *"Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts."*

Make a list or draw a picture of what brings peace to you. Then, read the verse slowly three times. Pause after each reading and wonder what God may be saying to you today. Close by praying the Lord's Prayer.