
☞ SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ☞

ORDER OF WORSHIP • JULY 16, 2023 • 9:00 AM

T *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

T OPENING HYMN

OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY
LBW #250

T INVOCATION

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the T Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

T CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Let us confess our sins to God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

a time of silence for reflection

WL: God of extravagant welcome,

All: **You call us to live as a people in love,
to welcome the outcast, the stranger, the lost.**

**You call us to open our homes and our hearts,
to take in your children and give them a place
of safety and joy, abundance and life.**

No one is unwelcome to you.

**You long to be close to us, and for us to be close to each other –
brothers, sisters, and siblings.**

You show us how to love and embrace.

We so often choose to shun and to fight.

You tenderly speak to us words of your love.

We so often speak words that hurt and that harm.

Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us and turn us.

**Empower us to delight in your will and walk in your ways,
a people of welcome,
of open hands and open hearts.**

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WL: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy and welcome, we have peace with God in † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Secure in the all-encompassing love of God, we have been set free to love boldly, to serve joyfully, and to welcome all people with the love of Christ.

All: **Amen!**

T PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Let us pray: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 56:1-8

R: Our First Lesson for this Seventh Sunday after Pentecost is from Isaiah, chapter 56.

This is what the Lord says:

“Maintain justice and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand
and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

Blessed is the one who does this—
the person who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it,
and keeps their hands from doing any evil.”

Let no foreigner who is bound to the Lord say, “The Lord will surely exclude me from his people.” And let no eunuch complain, “I am only a dry tree.”

For this is what the Lord says:

“To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant—
to them I will give within my temple and its walls
a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name that will endure forever.
And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it
and who hold fast to my covenant—
these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”
The Sovereign Lord declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
“I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.”

WL: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

ROMANS 5:6-11

R: The Epistle lesson is from Paul's letter to the Romans, the sixth chapter.

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

WL: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

T ALLELUIA VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

T HOLY GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 2:13-17

WL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

All: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him, and he began to teach them. As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

WL: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You O Christ!**

TODAY'S MESSAGE

T MESSAGE HYMN

AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE

As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's vict'ry known.

Turn our worship into witness
in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you,
bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion
to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image
in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy

T PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

WL: Let us boldly confess our faith, using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS
WITH INSTALLATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

T PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
WL: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

T THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

T THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

T PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG

I NEED YOU TO SURVIVE

**I need you. You need me.
We're all a part of God's body.
Stand with me. Agree with me.
We're all a part of God's body.**

**It is his will that every need be supplied.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.**

**I pray for you. You pray for me.
I love you. I need you to survive.
I won't harm you with words from my mouth.
I love you. I need you to survive.**

**It is his will that every need be supplied.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.**

T THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

All: **Amen.**

T CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. God of abundance, you have filled us with good things. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, and strengthen us with this feast to welcome and to serve all, trusting in your promises and walking where you lead.

All: **Amen.**

T BLESSING

WL: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

All: **Amen.**

T SENDING HYMN

ON WHAT HAS NOW BEEN SOWN
LBW #261

T SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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I NEED YOU TO SURVIVE, Words and Music by David Frazier

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