

## 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2020

The congregation's part is in **bold**.

### THE WORD OF GOD

#### GATHERING SONG

*Denise Hobbs*

#### **HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR NAME**

Oh Lord our Lord how majestic is  
Your name in all the earth  
Oh Lord our Lord how majestic is  
Your name in all the earth  
Oh Lord we praise Your name  
Oh Lord we magnify Your name  
Prince of Peace Mighty God  
Oh Lord God Almighty

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#### WELCOME

*Welcome message video*

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*Thanksgiving for baptism video*

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**

#### The First Lesson

#### Isaiah 55:10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

## The Second Lesson

### Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

## The Gospel

### Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**MESSAGE**

*Pastor Peggy Rose*

**SERMON SONG**

**Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**

*Denise Hobbs*

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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## **INTERGENERATIONAL CREED**

*(Together let us affirm our faith in the words of the Intergenerational Creed written by the people of Spirit of Grace.)*

**We believe in God, the Father, who is...**

**Our Leader, Loving, Our Protector, Compassionate,  
Our Provider and Caring.**

**The Father ...**

**Created Us, Gave Us Life and  
Gave Us Freedom of Choice.**

**We believe in God, the Son, who is...**

**Holy, A Teacher, A Helper, A Friend,  
Giving and Thankful.**

**The Son...**

**Puts Others Before Himself, Sacrifices Himself for Us,  
Is Obedient and Shines.**

**We believe in God, the Holy Spirit, who is...**

**Invincible, Powerful, A Leader, Overwhelming, Amazing,  
Loving and Awesome.**

**The Holy Spirit...**

**Picks You Up When You Are Down, Comforts You, Gives You a Shoulder to Cry  
On, Helps You Get Better, Provides Strength and Gives You Spirit. AMEN.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The response for today's prayer is "Your mercy is great." after hearing "Hear us, O God."*

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

God of companionship, encourage our relationships with our siblings in Christ. Bless our conversations. Shape our shared future and give us hearts eager to join in a festal shout of praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of abundance, you make your creation thrive and grow to provide all that we need. Inspire us to care for our environment and be attuned to where the earth is crying out. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, your grace is poured out for all. Inspire authorities, judges, and politicians to act with compassion. Teach us to overcome fear with hope, meet hate with love, and welcome one another as we would welcome you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of care, accompany all who are in deepest need. Comfort those who are sick, lonely, or abandoned especially those on our Spirit of Grace prayer list. Strengthen those who are in prison or awaiting trial. Renew the spirits of all who call upon you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of community, we give thanks for this congregation. Give us passion to embrace your mission and the vision to recognize where you are leading us. Teach us how to live more faithfully with each other.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you gather in your embrace all who have died. Keep us steadfast in our faith and renew our trust in your promise.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, amid all the turmoil and changes of the world your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God, our refuge and strength, you have bound us together in a common life. In all our conflicts, help us to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, to listen for your voice amid competing claims, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray to you almighty God, in this time of unrest and uncertainty. You are our refuge and our strength, a very present help in time of trouble. Do not let us fail in the face of these events. Uphold us with your love, and give us the strength we need. Help us in our confusion, and guide our actions. Heal the hurt, console the bereaved and afflicted, protect the innocent and helpless, and deliver any who are still in peril; for the sake of your great mercy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **MUSICAL OFFERING TO GOD**

**Guard Us, Lord**

*Ephrem Feeley*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins. His mercy endures forever.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † 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. **Amen.**

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Friends in Christ, we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist together during this time of social distancing. Many of us are feeling what St. Thomas Aquinas describes as an “ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him.” We are aware of this absence and our yearning for the real presence of Christ in that same experience we share with followers of Christ throughout the ages. Until we are able to meet again in community, we can share in a different Christian tradition in the practice of spiritual communion. Let us pray together the prayer for spiritual communion from the Prayer Book for the Armed Services.

**In unity, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. we remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

*Please respond with “we give you thanks and praise” after “For your Word of life, O God.”*

Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

As Christ teaches us, we pray: **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Video Announcements*

**BENEDICTION**

*Pastor Peggy Rose*

**SENDING SONG**

**I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me**

*Carol Latimer*



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
 2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
 3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad  
 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,  
 When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

**DISMISSAL**

Acolyte Go in peace to serve the risen Lord. ALLELUIA!  
 People **THANKS BE TO GOD! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**