

5th Sunday after Pentecost

July 5th, 2020



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

3600 Hampton - St. Louis, MO 63109

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

GATHERING

PRELUDE: *How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord*

Charles Callahan

WELCOME & COMMUNITY LIFE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN: *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

Hymn # 580

1 How clear is our vocation, Lord,
when once we heed your call
to live according to your word
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
that you are Lord of all,
and will not let us fall.

2 But if, forgetful, we should find
your yoke is hard to bear;
if worldly pressures fray the mind
and life itself cannot unwind
its tangled skein of care:
our inward life repair.

3 We marvel how your saints become
in hindrances more sure;
whose joyful virtues put to shame
the casual way we wear your name,
and by our faults obscure
your pow'r to cleanse and cure.

4 In what you give us, Lord, to do,
together or alone,
in old routines or ventures new,
may we not cease to look to you,
the cross you hung upon,
all you endeavored done.

Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848 - 1918. Public Domain. Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI

GREETING

P 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.

GLORY TO GOD

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WORD

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that

is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying: ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Jan Hus – Hero and Saint

- 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.
- 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

- 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889. Music: KINGSFOLD,
English folk tune. Public Domain. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg
Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted
under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

THE 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 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.**

THE PRAYERS

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

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water, and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the nations especially the United States and Canada, celebrating their nationhood. Guide leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from patriotism that hinders relationship-building. Lead us to expansive love for our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed. Today we pray especially for David and those we name before you now either silently in our hearts or spoken from our lips. . . Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, deacons, and congregational leaders. Energize children's ministry volunteers, church administrators, and those who maintain our building. Shine in this place that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for those who have died in faith. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life. 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.

OFFERING:

During this time of offering, we ask that you remember the church's ongoing expenses and our ongoing need to be generous people of God. Offerings may be dropped off or mailed to the church. You may also visit our website at gethsemanestl.org to donate electronically.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Come to Me*

David Haas

GOD SIGHTINGS

LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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**

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen

SENDING HYMN: *Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty*

Hymn # 777

1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty;
drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer,
you would come to me and live."

Refrain

Jesus, ever flowing fountain,
give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer
there is joy no tongue can tell.

2 "Come to me, all trav'lers weary;
come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer;
at this table be my guest." **Refrain**

3 "Come to me, believers burdened;
find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer,
turn to me and seek my face." **Refrain**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Rendez a Dieu*

Charles Callahan

4 "Come to me, repentant sinners;
leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion,
turn to me, I call your name." **Refrain**

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." **Refrain**

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." **Refrain**

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844. Public Domain. Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. © 1992, 1996 The Liturgical Press. Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #27854. Worship songs are reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704953. Copyright ©2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church Calendar
July 5 - 12, 2020**

Today	9:30 am	In-Person Worship Service (HUGS) (Streaming live on YouTube and will post on Facebook following the service)
7/8 Wednesday	10:30 am	Staff Meeting Last day to reserve seats for in-person worship on 7/12
7/12 Sunday	9:30 am	In-Person Worship Service (HUGS) (Streaming live on YouTube and will post on Facebook following the service)

PRAYER REQUESTS:

David Hackmann in rehab at the Quarters at Des Peres.

Prayers of guidance for our Call Committee: Gary Borkowski, K.T. Elliott, Steve Hetager, Nick Kohlberg, Maryn Olson, and Megan Yemm.

Request for:	<i>On Behalf of:</i>
My father Philip Olson (comfort, healing, strength)	<i>Maryn Olson</i>

Worship Leaders

Pastors: Rev. Elizabeth Backus and Rev. John Backus
 Organist: Johanna Erdman
 Special Music: The Christian Family: Matthew, Amy, Maeta, Zofie, and Linus

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Today's flowers were given by the Jack and Lois Wind, and Joan Williams in memory of their great dad and loving father.

Gradual return to in-person worship: This morning, we begin worshiping in the sanctuary again. We ask those of you attending in person to keep your mask on at all times while in the building. Spoken responses should be spoken with a quite or soft voice. Hymns will be played in their entirety. We request that those at home sing loudly on behalf of those sitting in the sanctuary. Following the service, an usher will dismiss the rows starting in the back of the sanctuary. The basket for recycled bulletins and the offering plate have been placed in the main hallway next to the mailboxes and hand sanitizer station. Please be mindful that our Reopening Team is watching the information available about the coronavirus epidemic, and will be making changes as needed in the weeks to come.

The Pastors



July's "Big Ask" items are school supplies, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, non-perishable food items, hygiene items, and rolling suitcases. We will be hosting another Drive Thru – Food Drop on Sunday, July 19th immediately following the church service. Items and financial donations for our food

pantry partners: Isaiah 58 ministries and St. Anthony's can be dropped off at church anytime during regular office hours.

Sunday Funnies:

The Sunday Flock is printed with permission through Pastoral Center.



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

GLC Rummage Sale: This year's Rummage Sale has been postponed. A new date will be shared as more information about reopening the building becomes available. However, you are still welcome to bring items into the church for storage until the sale. We are also collecting grocery bags and hangers. Please call the church office to make arrangements.

Fundraising for GLC with **eScrip**



Does your family currently have a Schnucks e-scrip card? If not, please consider picking up a card to support Gethsemane Lutheran Church.

1. Visit a Schnucks and request a Community Card
2. Register your card at www.exscrip.com/schnucks
3. Present your card to the cashier when you shop at Schnucks.

Already have a card? Did you know you can split your donations for up to 3 organizations?



Do you like to eat out?

Would you like an easy way to donate to Gethsemane and support some local restaurants?

Your family can earn 2.5% in contributions every time you dine at a participating restaurant. You can earn an extra 2.5% by completing a review of your experience.

It's easier than doing the dishes, just follow these steps:

1. **Join** – sign up for free at escrip.com and register your credit and/or debit cards.
2. **Dine** – Visit or carry out from over 11,000 participating restaurants, bars, or clubs and pay with your registered cards.
3. **Earn** – Earn up to 5% back in contributions for Gethsemane.

There are 124 participating restaurants in our neighborhood, including: El Paisano, LoRusso's Cucina, Ari's, 58hundred, Chris's Pancake & Dining, Bartolinio's Osteria, Three Monkeys, CJ Muggs, and even Edible Arrangements. You don't have to keep track. Once you register your cards, the contribution will be calculated after each purchase.