



# Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2020

At Home Worship  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Closter, New Jersey

*My burden is light.*

Matthew 11:30

Our service today is taken from *Hymnal Supplement '98*.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### PREPARATION

#### INVOCATION

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation**      **Amen.**

#### CONFESSION

Pastor If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

**Congregation**      **O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor But with You there is forgiveness;

**Congregation**      **therefore You are feared.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Pastor O almighty God, merciful Father,

**Congregation**        **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

Pastor Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation**        **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**     *Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet*

**Refrain:**     Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

1. When I feel afraid, – think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me,  
And nothing will I fear As long as You are near.  
Please be near me to the end. *Refrain.*
2. I will not forget Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side,  
And I will love You to the end. *Refrain.*

**KYRIE** Lord, have mercy on us; Christ have mercy on us;  
Lord, have mercy on us.

***GLORIA IN EXCELSIS***

Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
Of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heavenly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious victory won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord,  
since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning,  
grant that we so may hear them,  
read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them  
that we may embrace and ever hold fast  
the blessed hope of everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## READINGS

*Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:10 – 13*

- <sup>10</sup> "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup> 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 shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.  
<sup>12</sup> "For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

*After the reading:*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

***Epistle Reading: Romans 8:12 – 17***

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.<sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.<sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"<sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,<sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs---heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

*After the reading:*

Lector      This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation    Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**These things are written that you may believe**

**That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter thirteen beginning at verse eighteen.

**Congregation** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.<sup>2</sup> And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach.<sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow.<sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.<sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,<sup>6</sup> but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away.<sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.<sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.<sup>9</sup> He who has ears, let him hear."....

<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower:<sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.<sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy,<sup>21</sup> yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.<sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.<sup>23</sup> As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

*After the reading:*

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Holy Spirit Light Divine*

- 1. Holy Spirit, light divine  
Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away  
Turn the darkness into day.**
- 2. Let me see my Savior's face,  
Let me all His beauties trace;  
Show those glorious truths to me  
Which are only known to Thee.**
- 3. Holy Spirit, pow'r divine  
Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
In Thy mercy pity me,  
From sin's bondage set me free.**
- 4. Holy Spirit, joy divine  
Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Yield a sacred, settled peace,  
Let it grow and still increase.**
- 5. Holy Spirit, all divine,  
Dwell within this heart of mine;  
Cast down every idol throne,  
Reign supreme, and reign alone.**

## SERMON

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*after each portion of the prayer:*

Pastor Lord, in Your mercy,

**Congregation hear our prayer.**

Pastor Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Congregation Amen.**

## LITANY (Sung)

Pastor In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For Pastor Holsten, our Pastor in Christ, for all the servants of the church and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**Congregation Alleluia.**

Pastor Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*(Silence for meditation)*

Pastor Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

**Congregation To You, O Lord.**



Pastor O God, from whom 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 the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**Congregation Amen.**

Pastor Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYER**

Pastor Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Congregation Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

Pastor The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**Congregation Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**     *Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

- 1.     Almighty Father, bless the Word  
Which through Your grace we now have heard.  
Oh, may the precious seed take root,  
Spring up and bear abundant fruit.**
- 2.     We praise Thee for the means of grace  
As homeward now our steps we trace,  
Grant Lord, that we who worshiped here  
May all at last in heaven appear.**
- 3.     Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above Ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**