



The 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

13 June, 2021 Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Gathering

Welcome to worship and these early Sundays in Ordinary Time. Now, ordinary time in the church year simply means 'counted' from the Latin 'ordinal'. We mark the time by counting up in this time after Pentecost. Yet, we can rejoice in the ordinary, even when it is a new ordinary, a new normal. The liturgical color is green for growth, and we move through readings that encourage faith to deepen and mature, and teach us how God guided the earliest followers through the new and challenging early days of our faith.

The tiny mustard seed becomes a shelter the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. There's a Quaker proverb: Do small things with great love! In these past months it has often been the little things, done over and over, done by many, that have made a difference, locally and wherever there is need. When we act with love, joining hearts and resources, great blessings can result.

*Today we welcome Deb Zearfoss Davis and Adele Kallenbach (*insert married name*), daughters of Christ Church as they share the work of (*email Deb and ask what title/name they want used*).*

Changes and additions to the prayer list are published every Sunday in the announcements. Please share your prayer concern with Pastor, or Cindy Carper, if you would like it included on the prayer list. Please take this weekly resource home with you!

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE: time for prayer and preparation.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, †

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, **Blessed be God forever, Amen.**

Called by the Holy Spirit and seeking God's abundant grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.
 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake,
 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 + Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #401 'Gracious Spirit'

Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.
 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.

Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain

Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
 nor rootless liberty;
 turn disquiet to contentment,
 doubt into certainty.

5 Keep us fervent in our witness,
 unswayed by earth's allure.
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,
 which you alone assure.

GREETING

The grace of the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray *Silence*. O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Nurture our growth in obedience, generous faith that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

THE FIRST LESSON is from Ezekiel **17:22-24**

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.
²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

+ *Silence* +

Psalm 92 is read responsively

¹It is a good thing to give thanks | to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, | O Most High;
²**to herald your love | in the morning
and your faithful- | ness at night;**
³on the psaltery, and | on the lyre,
and to the melody | of the harp.
⁴**For you have made me glad by your | acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works | of your hands. R**
¹²The righteous shall flourish | like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
¹³**Those who are planted in the house | of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts | of our God;**
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit | in old age;
they shall be | green and succulent;
¹⁵**that they may show how up- | right the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is | no injustice. Amen.**

THE SECOND READING is from 2 Corinthians the 5th chapter.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to

God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. (2 Corinthians 5:6-17)

+ *Silence* +

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Those who are planted in the house of the LORD

shall flourish in the courts of our God *Alleluia.*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

(Mark 4:26-34)

TEACHING THE WORD / SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Silence for Reflection...

I ask you to confess your faith, in the words of 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.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again 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**

Let us lift our prayers to the Triune God.

A brief silence.

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

our prayers now for the people and situations that lay upon our hearts as we bring them before you in hope and trust. Hear us as we pray for...

-all who struggle with illness of body, mind or spirit...

-unity and reconciliation in that face of all that divides us, and those who divide us for power or profit...

-all who struggle to care for the needs of home and family...

-those who grieve, whether for a loved one, or for our nations losses to pandemic, violence or disaster...

-all whose hearts are hardened to the needs around them from fear, selfishness, apathy or any reason...

Heal us, bring us to wholeness and new life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy, crying out in hope and joy to you, O Christ, and to the Father evermore:

Amen!

Meal

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY, AS WE GATHER OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS / ANTHEM

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies. In-House the offering plate is set by the baptismal font. If you are worshipping remotely tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code.

The Table is prepared



OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Father of Mercy, Christ, the Bread of life, Life-giving Spirit:
you have set this table before us, and called us to the feast of plenty.
Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world
signs of your gracious presence
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and a joyful thing to give you thanks O God,
holy, almighty and merciful,
for your love is poured out in blessings without measure.

We give thanks for all your gifts and remember your love revealed
in Jesus, your Son and our Savior
who in the night in which He was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
“Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,
saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

God of new life we remember and we pray:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
strengthened to live out your mercy, justice and love.

With the whole people of God, we give thanks
praying with trust and hope for the coming of the Kingdom
in the words our Savior taught us:

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

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace. Amen!

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

We share in the Lord's Body and Blood. Pastor will say:
This is the Body and Blood of Christ, given and shed for you!
then consume the Sacrament as you desire.
Silence for prayer and reflection as we commune. Then:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

Amen

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray *a brief silence*

We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.

In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

THE BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you now and forever. **Amen**

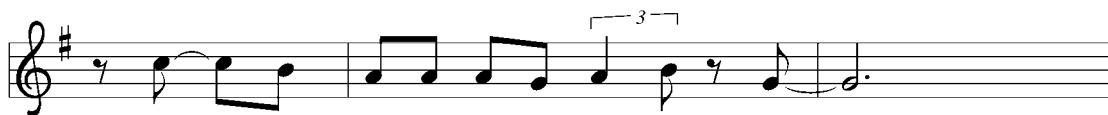
SENDING HYMN ELW #866 WE ARE MARCHING



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. *Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*
 light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO
 We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
 we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:
 We are dancing ...
 We are praying ...
 We are singing ...

THE DISMISSAL

In the power of Trinity, Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion.

ELW is Evangelical Lutheran Worship

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