SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

STJOHN'S



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Sunday, August 16, 2020 9:30 am

INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

PRELUDE

+ Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

We All Are One in Mission



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Child to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ Word +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

READING Isaiah 56:1-8

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. ²Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast, who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil. ³Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say, "The LORD will surely separate me from his people"; and do not let the eunuch say, "I am just a dry tree." ⁴For thus says the LORD: To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, ⁵I will give, in my house and within my walls, a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. ⁶And the foreigners who join 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, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant — ⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

8Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Dearest Jesus, at your word, we have come again to hear you. Let our thoughts and hearts be stirred, and in growing faith be near you. As the promises here given, draw us ever t'ward your heaven.

GOSPEL Matthew 15:10-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON & DISCUSSION

Pastor Allison Bengfort



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis ci ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth. his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind. All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me. all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response:

Lord, in your mercy, or Lord, we praise you, **Hear our prayer.** Thanks be to God.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

+ Meal +

OFFERTORY MUSIC

The offertory time is an opportunity to receive the gift of music and to reflect on how we might practice gratitude and generosity toward one another. With gratitude, we find solace during this time by seeing goodness in the face of despair, hope in the midst of anxiety, and joy in the midst of fear. One aspect of practicing gratitude and generosity is stewarding the financial resources in our care. If you would like to make a gift to the ministry of the church, you may visit stjohnswilmette.org/give to donate online. You may also write a check made out to St. John's Lutheran Church and mail it to 1235 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091. St. John's is deeply grateful for the generosity of our members and supporters, which allows us to be generous to others through our ministry.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father/Mother/Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. **Amen.**

+ Sending +

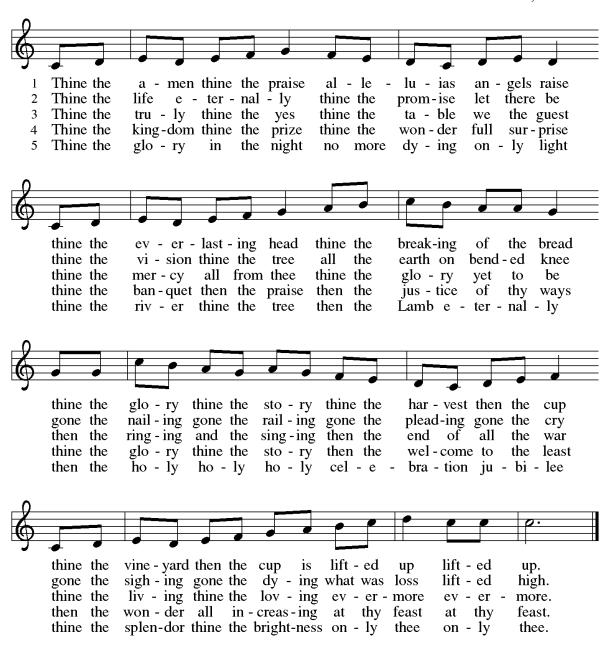
CHARGE

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

BLESSING

In the name of Creator, + the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

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IN OUR PRAYERS

- † Cam Wise, for physical and emotional health.
- † Ken Kastman, healing from broken ribs after a fall.
- Janet Rassenfoss and Alan Swanson, on the birth of their first grandchild, Molly Francis Wilka, on 7/6/20.
- † The family and friends of Bob Anderson who died 6/8/20
- † The family and friends of Matt Dossa, nephew of Jim Dossa, who died 6/7/20
- + Pastor Mike Flowered and family as they mourn the death of Mike's mother, who died on June 12
- + Chad Johnson, recovering from a bike accident on 5/30/20
- † The family and friends of Helene Tadros, Olga Domchenko's sister, who died 4/6/20, and especially for William Sciarrino, Helene's caretaker
- Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing
- † Sylvia Cushing, cousin of Olga Domchenko, in need of healing
- † Doris Regan, mother of Jan Wendel & Sharon Regan, recovering from cancer surgery
- † Janet Witt, cancer diagnosis
- † Michael Rager, brother of Christi Wise, in need of healing
- † Virginia Milnikel, broken arm
- † Bob Oakes, recovering from hospitalization

- † Lani Miller
- † Doug Peters, managing cancer and recovering from surgery
- † The family and friends of Jean Olan, cousin of Bill Kaspar, who died 6/11/20
- † Linda Bengfort, mother of Pastor Allison, ongoing back pain.
- † Greyson Nester
- † Margaret (Maggie) Oxland
- † Marty Anderson
- † Linda Basnik, wife of Chad Johnson, in need of healing
- † Ellie Basnik, mother-in-law of Chad Johnson, cancer diagnosis
- † Ross Johnson, brother of Chad Johnson
- † The family of Paul Escamilla, friend of Elias & Stephanie Abudayeh
- + Sydney Johnson, her work
- † Mark Voosen
- † Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- † Ed Price, friend of Sarah Rink
- † Jodi Kretzman, friend of Peter Knobel
- † Jessica Sandoval, friend of the Radde family
- † Fred Rudolphi, friend of Bill Kaspar, in need of healing
- † Steve Aschbacher, friend of Bill Kaspar, in need of healing
- † the officers of the Rogers Park police district

SERVING TODAY

Preaching & Presiding Minister: The Rev. Allison Bengfort Music Director & Pianist: Dr. Robert McConnell

Violist:Adam BengfortPianist:Linda BengfortCantor:Hannah McConnellMinister of the Word:Margye SmithVirtual Usher:Luke Rasmussen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW Outdoor Contemplative Service

We are now gathering for a socially-distanced, contemplative worship service on Saturday evenings at 5:00 pm in the beauty of the outdoors! The new service structure includes 10 minutes of contemplative prayer (silent, sometimes guided meditation) as well as scripture, discussion, and communion. We gather on the grass on the Park Avenue side of the church building, and attendees are asked to bring their own chairs or blankets to sit on, their own communion elements, and their own mask to be worn at all times. Upon arrival, all attendees must participate in a pre-screening process, which includes a touch-free temperature check, a verbal screening for symptoms, and collection of information for contact tracing purposes. Those who would like to participate in the service virtually may do so over the phone. Please email pastorallison@stjohnswilmette.com if you are interested in this option.

Ending Money Bond: A Teach-In on the Pretrial Fairness Act

Every year, Illinois incarcerates over 250,000 people who are awaiting trial. None of these people have been convicted of a crime, and most are jailed simply because they can't afford to pay a money bond. Pretrial incarceration is hurting communities across our state. Groups across Illinois are working together as part of the Illinois Network for Pretrial Justice with the goal of ending wealth-based pretrial incarceration and protecting the rights of everyone. Register here to join the Community Renewal Society's online teach-in on Thursday, August 20th from 6:00-7:30 pm so you can learn how to help make this vision a reality!

IL Fair Tax Teach-In

In a few short months, voters will decide on creating a more just and equitable tax system in Illinois. Switching from a flat state income tax to a graduated income tax, with lower tax rates for the middle class and higher rates for higher-income earners, would result in almost 95% of tax filers seeing a decrease in their state taxes. The Fair Tax would protect working families, make our system more just, and raise much-needed revenue for our state. The Community Renewal Society invites you to learn more about The Fair Tax by attended their online teach-in on Saturday, August 22nd at 10:00 am. Register here to receive the link.

Beach Cleanup

Go Green Wilmette is sponsoring another beach cleanup at Gillson Beach on Saturday, August 22nd at 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Look for their table at the south end of the park to check in. Bring a mask, reusable gloves (not single-use plastic gloves), and a bucket or container to collect micro-plastic pieces that wash up during every storm. Don't forget to take pictures and send them to churchoffice@stjohnswilmette.com!

Poor People's Campaign Local Cluster Meeting

The next meeting of the North Cook/Lake County Cluster will be Monday, August 24th at 7:00-8:15 pm. Stay tuned for the registration link!

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

9:30 AM Online Worship with Children's Message

THURSDAY

12:00-1:00 PM Men's Group Online

SATURDAY

5:00 PM Outdoor Contemplative Service

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

9:30 AM Online Worship with Children's Message

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