

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020  
8<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
ST/JOHN'S



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Sunday, July 26, 2020

9:30 am

## INTRODUCTION

*As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!*

## PRELUDE

+ **Gathering** +

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GATHERING HYMN

Come, Host of Heaven's High Dwelling Place

1. Host of heaven's high dwelling place,  
come earth's disputed guest:  
find in this house a welcome home,  
stay here and take your rest.
2. Surround these walls with faith and love  
that through the nights and days,  
when human tongues from speaking cease,  
these stones may echo praise.
3. Bless and inspire those gathered here  
with patience, hope and peace  
and all the joys that know the depth  
in which all sorrows cease.
4. Here may the losers find their worth,  
the strangers find a friend;  
here may the hopeless find their faith  
and aimless find an end.
5. Build, from the human fabric, signs  
of how your kingdom thrives,  
of how the Holy Spirit changes life  
through changing lives.

6. So, to the Lord, whose care enfolds  
the world held in God's hands,  
be glory, honor, love and praise  
for which this house now stands.

Text by John L. Bell and Graham Maule.

## 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.  
Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Child you bring us into  
your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the  
life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## + Word +

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### READING

Romans 8:26-39

A reading from Romans.

<sup>26</sup>The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

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.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and repetitive, suitable for a congregational acclamation.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950  
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson  
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;<sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come

out and separate the evil from the righteous<sup>50</sup> and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

SERMON & DISCUSSION

Pastor Allison Bengfort

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Sacred Realm Is Like the Yeast

1. The sa - cred realm is like the yeast a Wom - an stirs in flour;  
2. The leav - en that the Wom - an used was hat - ed, cast a - way,  
3. The Bak - er Wom - an bless - es all, in - clud - ing last and least;

then wait - ing for the ris - ing, She watch - es hour by hour.  
but hid - den in Her power - ful hands, a mir - a - cle dis - plays.  
by join - ing Her cre - a - tive work, we all be - come the yeast.

The Bak - er Wom - an, strong and good, cre - ates the sa - vory bread;  
The small - est bit of yeast be - comes a feast for ev - ery - one,  
Our small - est acts of love and peace rise up to fill the earth,

She works to make up man - y loaves, so ev - ery - one is fed.  
a - bun - dant good - ness fill - ing earth from dawn to set - ting sun.  
trans - form - ing all with Bread of Life: "Take, eat, and taste re - birth."

Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton

CLONMEL



## 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.**

### SENDING HYMN

### The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
joy like seed and, all our days, to  
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

### IN OUR PRAYERS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| † Ken Kastman, healing from broken ribs after a fall.   | † Lani Miller  |
| † Janet Rassenfoss and Alan Swanson, on the birth of their first grandchild, Molly Francis Wilka, on 7/6/20.                                  | † Doug Peters, managing cancer and recovering from surgery                     |
| † The family and friends of Bob Anderson who died 6/8/20  | † The family and friends of Jean Olan, cousin of Bill Kaspar, who died 6/11/20 |
| † The family and friends of Matt Dossa, nephew of Jim Dossa, who died 6/7/20  | † Linda Bengfort, mother of Pastor Allison, ongoing back pain.                 |
| † Pastor Mike Flowered and family as they mourn the death of Mike's mother, who died on June 12   | † Greyson Nester   |
| † Chad Johnson, recovering from a bike accident on 5/30/20  | † Margaret (Maggie) Oxland   |
| † The family and friends of Helene Tadros, Olga Domchenko's sister, who died 4/6/20, and especially for William Sciarrino, Helene's caretaker | † Marty Anderson   |
| † Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing                                      | † Linda Basnik, wife of Chad Johnson, in need of healing                       |
| † Sylvia Cushing, cousin of Olga Domchenko, in need of healing  | † Ellie Basnik, mother-in-law of Chad Johnson, cancer diagnosis                |
| † Doris Regan, mother of Jan Wendel & Sharon Regan, recovering from cancer surgery  | † Ross Johnson, brother of Chad Johnson  |
| † Janet Witt, cancer diagnosis  | † The family of Paul Escamilla, friend of Elias & Stephanie Abudayeh           |
| † Michael Rager, brother of Christi Wise, in need of healing  | † Sydney Johnson, her work   |
| † Virginia Milnikel, broken arm   | † Mark Voosen  |
| † Susan Crist   | † Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus                           |
| † Bob Oakes, recovering from hospitalization  | † 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                              |

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## SERVING TODAY

*Preaching & Presiding Minister:* The Rev. Allison Bengfort  
*Music Director & Pianist* Dr. Robert McConnell  
*Cantor:* Hannah McConnell  
*Minister of the Word:* Sue Flachsbart  
*Virtual Usher:* Luke Rasmussen

## 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 Candlelight Service Online

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

9:30 AM Online Worship with Children's Message

## ST/JOHN'S

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