

# Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 6, 2025

Thank you for worshiping with us at St. John's, where we are building a loving, accepting community centered on growing in Christ, and giving people a place to belong at any stage of their journey with God.

Please fill out your yellow attendance card and place it in the offering plate when we collect the offering later in the service.

## **Gathering Music**

**STAND** 

## Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross – ELW 803 (Red Book)

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
  Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

## Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God.

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

## Welcome & Greeting

Welcome to St. John's, where we are building a loving, accepting community centered on growing in Christ, and giving people a place to belong at any stage of their journey with God.

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... O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SIT

## The Readings

## 2 Kings 5:1-19a

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵ And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. <sup>6</sup> He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease." <sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

<sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." <sup>11</sup> But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup> But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" <sup>14</sup> So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

<sup>15</sup> Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant." <sup>16</sup> But he said, "As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing!" He urged him to accept, but he refused. <sup>17</sup> Then Naaman said, "If not, please let two mule loads of earth be given to your servant, for your servant will no longer offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god except the Lord. <sup>18</sup> But may the Lord pardon your servant on one count: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow down in the house of Rimmon, when I do bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the Lord pardon your servant on this one count." <sup>19</sup> He said to him, "Go in peace."

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 30

- <sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- <sup>2</sup>O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.
- <sup>3</sup> You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- <sup>4</sup> Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.
- <sup>5</sup> God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- <sup>6</sup> While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.

<sup>7</sup>You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

#### <sup>8</sup>I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,

- 9 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?
- <sup>10</sup> Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper."
- <sup>11</sup>You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
- <sup>12</sup>Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.

#### Galatians 6:1-16

- ¹ My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. ⁴ All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. ⁵ For all must carry their own loads.
- <sup>6</sup> Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.
- <sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. <sup>8</sup> If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.
- <sup>11</sup> See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! <sup>12</sup> It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. <sup>14</sup> May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! <sup>16</sup> As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

**STAND** 

## Gospel Acclamation:



## Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter:

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. 7 Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. 8 Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; 9 cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹ O But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹ ¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

<sup>16</sup> "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

<sup>17</sup>The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" <sup>18</sup> He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup> Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SIT

**Sermon** — Earl Monk, visiting from the Lutheran Church of God's Love in Newtown

#### STAND

## Hymn: Give Me Jesus (Verses 1, 3, 5) – ELW 770 (Red Book)

- In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.
- Refrain

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

- Just about the break of day, just about the break of day, just about the break of day, give me Jesus. *Refrain*
- And when I want to sing, and when I want to sing, and when I want to sing, give me Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

## The Apostles' Creed

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

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 to the dead. 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.

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

You send your church into the world with a message of peace. Center the whole church in this peace, and strengthen our faith by the example of Jan Hus and all those who creatively and faithfully proclaim your good news. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

All the earth sings out your name. Inspire your people to drink deeply from the beauty of all your creation. When ecosystems are wounded, bring your healing. When our actions endanger the survival of other species, curb our greed and waste. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

You call us to work for the good of all. Give resolve to those who lead, that they do not grow weary in doing what is right. Guide them to seek peace between nations and freedom for all people. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

As a mother comforts her child, so you comfort us. Bring this comfort to those in any pain. Carry your people when grief is heavy, and lift burdens of shame and self-doubt. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Your harvest is plentiful, O God. Make us laborers and companions with one another in this assembly. Send your peace to rest upon us, heal divisions among us, and open our hearts to receive one another as gifts from you. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

You have written our names in heaven, O God, and we rejoice. We thank you for those who have lived and died in your love. Accompany us on our life's journey and draw us at last to life forever in you. God of grace,

#### hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

#### Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

#### And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

SIT

#### Announcements

Printed copies of our weekly announcements are available at the usher's stand in the Narthex, and monthly newsletters are on the Hospitality Table. Please include your email address on your yellow attendance card to receive announcements electronically.

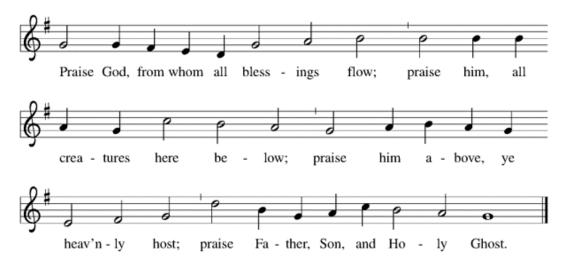
## Blessing for Virtual Worshipers

### Offering

In thanksgiving for all God's benefits and for the strengthening of the work of God's church in the world, we receive your gifts.

**STAND** 

Offertory Hymn: Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow (ELW 885 / Red Book)



## Offering Prayer

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray the prayer Jesus 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.

## Blessing

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

## Hymn: Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters — ELW 445 (Red Book)

3

- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
- We who bring them long for nurture;
  by your milk, may we be fed.
  Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
  God, renew us, guide our footsteps;
  free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985

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Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress

#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

#### Thanks be to God.

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