



## Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 14, 2026

*The Good News for Today: God sends out  
ambassadors of peace.*

*Thank you for worshiping with us at St. John's. Please fill out your yellow attendance card and place it in the offering plate when we collect the offering later in the service.*

*Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.*

### Gathering Music

*STAND*

#### Hymn: God Is Here! (Verses 1, 3, 4) – ELW 526 (Red Book)

- 1 God is here! As we your people  
meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit  
into open minds and hearts.
- 3 Here our children find a welcome  
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant  
seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living  
to believe and to adore.
- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you,  
we adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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# Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

**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... God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*SIT*

## The Readings

### Exodus 19:2-8a

*At Sinai God assured Israel, "You shall be my treasured possession," and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God's will.*

<sup>2</sup> They journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. <sup>3</sup> Then Moses went up to God;

the Lord called to him from the mountain, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup> ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup> but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

<sup>7</sup> So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. <sup>8</sup> The people all answered as one, “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

The Word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 100

<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

<sup>2</sup> Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God’s presence with a song.

<sup>3</sup> **Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong;  
we are God’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture.**

<sup>4</sup> Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;  
give thanks and bless God’s holy name.

<sup>5</sup> **Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting,  
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

## Romans 5:1-8

*We are no longer God’s enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ’s death.*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

*STAND*

## Gospel Acclamation – ELW p. 151 (Red Book)

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia.

### Matthew 9:35 – 10:23

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth and tenth chapters:

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

**10** Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, <sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>8</sup> Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. <sup>9</sup> Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup> no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup> Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup> As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup> If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup> If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup> Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup> “I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the gentiles. <sup>19</sup> When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you at that time, <sup>20</sup> for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup> Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup> and you will be hated by

all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup> When they persecute you in this town, flee to the next, for truly I tell you, you will not have finished going through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*SIT*

## Sermon – “What to Do When You Are Overwhelmed by the Needs of the World” – Pastor Bo Bannister

*STAND*

### Hymn: Lord, You Give the Great Commission – ELW 579 (Red Book)

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|--|---|
| <p>1 Lord, you give the great commission:<br/>"Heal the sick and preach the word."<br/>Lest the church neglect its mission,<br/>and the gospel go unheard,<br/>help us witness to your purpose<br/>with renewed integrity:</p> <p><i>Refrain</i><br/>With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us<br/>for the work of ministry.</p> <p>2 Lord, you call us to your service:<br/>"In my name baptize and teach."<br/>That the world may trust your<br/>promise,<br/>life abundant meant for each,<br/>give us all new fervor, draw us<br/>closer in community: <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>3 Lord, you make the common holy:<br/>"This my body, this my blood."<br/>Let us all, for earth's true glory,<br/>daily lift life heavenward,<br/>asking that the world around us<br/>share your children's liberty:<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>4 Lord, you show us love's true<br/>measure:<br/>"Father, what they do, forgive."<br/>Yet we hoard as private treasure<br/>all that you so freely give.<br/>May your care and mercy lead us<br/>to a just society: <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:<br/>"I am with you to the end."<br/>Faith and hope and love restoring,<br/>may we serve as you intend<br/>and, amid the cares that claim us,<br/>hold in mind eternity: <i>Refrain</i></p> |
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Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

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# 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

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who proclaim your liberating love. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction, and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of all, you call your children to serve in a plentiful harvest. Give us the wisdom to know how best to serve our local community and our neighbors. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God of faith, we give thanks for Macrina, Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus, and all the saints who earnestly seek you. Guide us as we seek to follow those who have led your church. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus 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.*

## Offering

*STAND*

## Offertory Hymn: Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

– ELW 884 (Red Book)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

## Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

**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 indeed right, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, God, holy Father, the ground of all being. For just as through your beloved Son you created humanity, so also through him with great goodness you form it anew. And so, it is right that all your creatures serve you, all the redeemed praise you, and all your blessed saints with one heart bless you. Therefore, we, too, extol you with all the angels, as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

**Sanctus** — ELW p. 153 (Red Book)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## Eucharistic Prayer

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord 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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory.

**The earth is full of your glory.**

Amen, and Amen.

**Amen, and Amen.**

And now, as Christ taught us to pray, we say:

## The 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.**

*SIT*

## Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

## Distribution of the Elements

### Lamb of God

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, grant us peace.

*STAND*

## Post-Communion Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you keep you in his Grace.

**Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your

love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

**Amen.**

## Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story — ELW 661 (Red Book)

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|---|--|
| <p>1 I love to tell the story<br/>of unseen things above,<br/>of Jesus and his glory,<br/>of Jesus and his love.<br/>I love to tell the story,<br/>because I know it's true;<br/>it satisfies my longings<br/>as nothing else would do.</p> <p><i>Refrain</i><br/>I love to tell the story;<br/>'twill be my theme in glory<br/>to tell the old, old story<br/>of Jesus and his love.</p> | <p>2 I love to tell the story:<br/>how pleasant to repeat<br/>what seems, each time I tell it,<br/>more wonderfully sweet!<br/>I love to tell the story,<br/>for some have never heard<br/>the message of salvation<br/>from God's own holy word. <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>3 I love to tell the story,<br/>for those who know it best<br/>seem hungering and thirsting<br/>to hear it like the rest.<br/>And when, in scenes of glory,<br/>I sing the new, new song,<br/>I'll sing the old, old story<br/>that I have loved so long. <i>Refrain</i></p> |
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Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

## Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

**Thanks be to God.**

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