**THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**July 3, 2022**

 Lord Jesus, You have called us to be Your disciples, to venture forth with You, to be in ministry with You to the world. When we consider our misgivings, our weaknesses, our fears, we wonder why You have called people like us to be Your disciples. Without Your call, we might have been quite content to live our lives quietly, on our own, for ourselves, without much concern for anyone but ourselves.

 Yet You have called us forth to follow. You have given each of us a job to do in Your Kingdom. Equip us to participate fully in Your mission. Now that You have called us, give us what we need to be Your obedient disciples. Amen.

**William Willimon**

A rather obvious, yet overlooked detail in this tale of discipleship is the number seventy. That’s right -- the sent were not sent out alone, but two by two, and 69 others. Each apostle had sixty-nine fellow disciples, friends in the faith, on whom to rely, to depend. That’s a lot of bodies, a lot of somebodies, on which to count if the going got rough. No one was going this alone. Jesus is teaching his disciples already this early on in his ministry the importance of the reliance on each other, especially in his absence.

We don’t do this alone.

But what are the things we put in place of people? What are the objects we hoard so as to avoid dependence on the other? What are those items we deem necessary for our survival, when our abundance is actually already abounding in the people around us?

I like that this is so early on in the travel narrative in Luke. There’s going to be a lot of traveling when it comes to spreading the gospel -- Jerusalem, in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). The disciples need to know what will be necessary to carry out this mission -- and as it turns out, when they return with joy, all they need is the name of Jesus and each other.

This is a great story to preach about the necessity of community, of your particular community sitting in the pews or chairs on this Fourth of July Sunday. Likely a small crowd, I suspect. But ask them -- why are you here? They don’t have to answer, of course. But you can help them realize that one of the main reasons they come to church is to know that this is their group of seventy. They are not in this alone. They don’t just have a few fellow apostles, but seventy, or some such equally extraordinary number.

**Karoline Lewis**

**✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠**

**✠ GATHERING ✠**

**INTRODUCTION**

God is the source of our nourishment. Our Lord’s invitation to "take and eat ... take and drink" is a repeated one. In the holy eucharist, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

**Thomas, Apostle**

*Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas," this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!" By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India. Long commemorated on December 21, Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.*

**PRELUDE *Crown Him with Many Crowns* Arr. Michael Burkhardt**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*As you are able please rise*

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: In the name of the Father and of ✠ the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: “Jesus said to the seventy, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore

 ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest.” (Luke 10:2) Jesus

 continues to call us to work in His world where need is great and hope often is dim.

 Let us confess the ways in which we have not acted upon His call, that forgiven and

 renewed by His grace, we may yet be sent with joy to proclaim the Good News of the

 Kingdom’s presence.

*Silence for self-examination and reflection is kept*

P: Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We *have***

 **asked You to send workers into Your waiting world--as long as it is someone else!**

 **We are frightened by Your call. We feel inadequate to the task. When You**

 **provide opportunities to speak Your good news, often we are silent. We are afraid**

 **of what people will think of us. Yet the world cries out for Your gospel, and You**

 **have entrusted its spread with us. So we ask You, gracious God, turn us from**

 **doubt, fear, and compromise. Give us a bold and courageous witness. Forgive us**

 **for our reluctance to speak. By the power of Your Spirit, send us as faithful**

 **ambassadors of Your great harvest.**

P: “Whenever you enter a town ... say to them, ‘The Kingdom of God has come near to

 you.’” (Luke 10:8-9) The grace and peace of God’s reign draws near to any who hurt,

 and brings wholeness to that which is broken. Know that the Kingdom has come near

 to *you* this day, for 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 and of ✠ the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN 733 *Great is Thy Faithfulness***

**THE GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy

 Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: 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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated*

**✠ WORD ✠**

**FIRST READING Isaiah 66:10-14**

*Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes and expectations for the glorious restoration of Judah were not fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem represents the community in which all people are sustained and supported.*

10Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,

 all you who love her;

rejoice with her in joy,

 all you who mourn over her--

11that you may nurse and be satisfied

 from her consoling breast;

that you may drink deeply with delight

 from her glorious bosom.

12For thus says the Lord:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river,

 and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;

and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,

 and dandled on her knees.

13As a mother comforts her child,

 so I will comfort you;

 you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

14You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;

 your bodies shall flourish like the grass;

and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with His servants,

 and His indignation is against His enemies.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE PSALM: Psalm 66:1-9** **Read responsively**

1Be joyful in God, all you lands;

     be joyful, all the earth.

**2Sing the glory of God's name;**

     **sing the glory of God's praise.**

3Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!

     Because of Your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

**4All the earth bows down before You,**

     **sings to You, sings out Your name."**

5Come now and see the works of God,

     how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.

**6God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot,**

     **and there we rejoiced in God.**

7Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations;

     let no rebels exalt themselves.

**8Bless our God, you peoples;**

     **let the sound of praise be heard.**

9Our God has kept us among the living

     and has not allowed our feet to slip.

**SECOND READING Galatians 6:1-16**

*In this letter, Paul insists that all people are made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice as to how people who believe this will live, exercising common concern for each other as "the family of faith."*

 My friends, 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. 2Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. 4All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. 5For all must carry their own loads. 6Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

7Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. 8If 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. 9So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. 10So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

 11See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! 12It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised--only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh.

14May 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. 15For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! 16As 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.**

*As you are able please rise*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

*Jesus commissions his followers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.*

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

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

1After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of Him in pairs to every town and place where He Himself intended to go. 2He 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. 3Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. 4Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. 5Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' 6And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.

7Remain 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. 8Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; 9cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' 10But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 11'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.' "

 16"Whoever listens to you listens to Me, and whoever rejects you rejects Me, and whoever rejects Me rejects the One Who sent Me."

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

*The assembly is seated*

**THE SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon*

*As you are able please rise*

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY 546 *To Be Your Presence***

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

A: God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust

 and hope, we confess our faith.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

 **creator of heaven and earth.**

 **I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.**

 **He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

 **and born of the virgin Mary.**

 **He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

 **was crucified, died, and was buried.**

 **He descended into hell.**

 **On the third day He rose again.**

 **He ascended into heaven,**

 **and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

 **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.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

A: Confident in God’s steadfast love through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit,

 let us pray for the Church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

A: That the Spirit might raise up faithful laborers from the Church for God’s plentiful

 harvest to make known God’s comfort and consolation, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A: That this nation might be a place where individual freedom is guarded, even for those

 with whom we disagree; where justice, especially for the poor, is upheld; where

 democracy flourishes in spite of cynicism and apathy; and where religious liberty for

 all is protected, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A: That in places of violence, persecution, and turmoil, especially Ukraine, Afghanistan,

 Ecuador, and South Africa might know the comfort and hope of God’s peace, let us

 pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A: That this congregation may not grow weary in doing what is right as we work in the

 Spirit for the good of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A: That the sick and suffering, especially . . . might be nursed by God into healing and

 wholeness, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A: That those celebrating birthdays, especially **Diane Waltz**; and anniversaries, especially

 **Dan and Sarah McNabb** might grow in grace this day and every day and be filled with

grace for the days ahead, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A: That we may rejoice that our names are written in heavenwith all the saints and martyrs,

 especially **Thomas, Apostle,** whom we commemorate this Day, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P: Teach us to pray, O God, and grant to all for whom we pray the good gifts that You

 have promised, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**✠ MEAL✠**

**THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated*

**THE OFFERING**

**THE VOLUNTARY *Andante* W. A. Mozart**

 **(from Sonata in C major)**

*As you are able please rise*

**THE OFFERTORY 465 *As the Grains of Wheat***

**THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: **Through these offerings we bring before You both our praise and our need. Only**

 **You can give the Food that brings life and hope. Strengthen us through this Meal,**

 **that we may be sent with joy to proclaim the nearness of Your Kingdom. We ask**

 **this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: Exalted is Your name always and everywhere, Lord God, for You created all things.

 By Your grace You wash away our sin and make all things new.

 When Your people crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land You washed away

 their bondage and betrayals and gave them new life with You.

 Your prophet Elisha sent Naaman into this same water to wash in humility and be

 cleansed of his leprosy.

 When Your Son came to be baptized by John at the Jordan You brought Him up

 out of the waters to usher in Your new creation, Your Kingdom.

 God of the harvest, You sowed among us the seed of Your only Son.

 When He died for our salvation, He was buried in the earth and raised on the third

 day to be the firstfruits of resurrection.

 Send down Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church to go as laborers into Your fields

 to reap the bountiful harvest of Your Kingdom.

 Make holy this bread and cup that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Your

 Son;

 Who, in the night ... “Do this for the remembrance of Me.”

 As often as we eat ... we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: Glorious God, You have revealed to us Your creative joy in a tapestry of spacious

 skies, amber waves of grain, purple mountain majesties, and fruited plains.

 Shed Your grace upon all who call this land home, from those in high places to the

 least of these.

 Have mercy wherever the beauty of the land has been stripped and sold.

 Strengthen all who work for the dream of brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

 Bring us, together with Your children from every nation to the Day when we shall

 enter Your heavenly city undimmed by human tears and rejoicing in every

 gain divine,

 All-holy God: Father ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

P: As disciples who seek to follow Jesus to the Kingdom, with persevering faith let us

 pray:

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.**

 **Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

 **Give us this day our daily bread, and 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 and the**

 **power and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE MEAL**

P: This is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world Blessed are those who

 are called to the Supper of the Lamb. God’s holy gifts for God’s holy people. Come,

 for all is now ready.

*The assembly is seated*

**THE DISTRIBUTION**

**HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION 579 *Lord, You Give the Great Commission***

**575 *In Christ Called to Baptize***

*As you are able please rise*

**THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

**THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Let us pray. God of power, we are nourished by the riches of Your grace. Raise us to

 new life in Your Son Jesus Christ, and fit us for His eternal Kingdom, that all the world

 may call Him Lord. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**✠ SENDING ✠**

**THE BENEDICTION**

P: Almighty God: Father, Son, ✠and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**THE SENDING HYMN 891 *God Bless Our Native Land***

**THE DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace to bear Christ’s love to all the world.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE  *A Fugue on America*  Eugene Thayer**

**✠ To God Alone Be Glory ✠**

The Meditations are from *Pulpit Resource.* William Willimon, ed. Vol. 26, No. 3 (Inver Heights, MN: Logos Productions, 1998) 3; and John of Damascus, in Prayerbook of the Saints, ed. Charles Dollen (Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 1984) 67.

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 Augsburg Fortress Publishing House, 1995) 127.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Please remember to mail your offering to the Church Office** at 818 Franklin Street, Michigan City, IN 46360**.** Another alternative is to give on-line through Tithe.ly. Please see your closure letter for information on how to set up a Tithe.ly account.

**St. Paul Members are reminded to have** a loved one contact the office if you are hospitalized. Many times, the Pastor doesn’t know someone is in the hospital. If you call and leave a message, please tell us which hospital the patient is at.

**Next Sunday’s lessons are Deuteronomy 30: 9-14; Psalm 25: 1-10; Colassians 1: 1-14; Luke 10: 25-37** for those of you who like to study them in advance.

**Birthdays: Diane Waltz (7/8)**

**Anniversaries: Dan & Sarah McNabb (7/9)**

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Audrey Beyer, Ryan Krueger, Donna Bostater, Maxine Powell, Jim Tomscheck, Eloise Ponder, Mark & Jary Tannehill, Leonard Cross, George Ottersen, Annette Scroggin and Helen Hill-Weaver.

**If you requested someone’s name to be on the prayer list and are aware that they need continued imminent prayer then contact the church office and let us know.** Otherwise we will gradually transfer names to the long-term list.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Libby will be in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; volunteers will cover Tuesdays and Thursdays.

 Monday & Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.

 Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

 Friday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**If you are listening to the worship broadcast on the radio and would like to watch the Sunday morning service live stream follow these steps:**

(1) If you have You.Tube available on your TV, search for

 **St. Paul Lutheran Church Michigan City, IN.**

(2) The direct link on the computer is

 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5AIPNaKr3QN50984jGOa1g>.

 (3) This link is also on the main page of the church’s website in the church section and will continue to be posted weekly on the St. Paul Facebook page.

And it will always be available on the radio broadcast Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. on WEFM (95.9), and on the local cable access station #99 for the previous week’s service on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. and the current service on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays

at 8:30 p.m.

**To send e-mail to the church office**, please use the following addresses:

Pastor Mark Reshan: seniorpastor@stpaulmichigancity.com

Church Office Secretary (Libby Pollock): churchsecretary@stpaulmichigancity.com

Church Treasurer (Karen Fleming) and Bookkeeper (Billie Atchinson):

finance@stpaulmichigancity.com.

**The Good News Newsletter**: If you have an article or anything you want included in **The Good News** please send it to the following e-mail address: splcgoodnews@gmail.com. Pastor Pamela Thiede will be using this e-mail address to assemble **The Good News** each month. The deadline for getting information to Pastor Pamela will be the 20th of each month.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** the next time you are coming to the church whether it be for one of the worship services or for any other meeting or activity please remember to bring in non-perishable food items to donate to the Salvation Army Food Pantry. There is a

serious need in this community to help especially those whom have little to no access to food and/or shelter. Please open your hearts and continue to be generous in your giving!

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE for June 25 and 26, 2022**

**4:00 p.m. 19**

**9:00 a.m. 48**

**Total = 67**

**2022 Financial Stewardship**

Weekly Church Operating Needs (x 2 weeks): $14,116.36

June 18 and 19, and June 25 and 26, 2022

General Fund (including General Memorials): $ 6,262.20

Overage/Shortage: --$ 7,854.16

Restricted Income (not including Memorials)

Supports IK Synod & Church wide Ministries: $ 179.00

Ministries in our Community/Congregation: $ 20.00

Capital Fund: $ 605.00

**Memorials:**

General Fund: $ 5,125.00

**JULY 2022 ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS AND SERVICES**

**Saturday,** July 2, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Sunday,** July 3, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Wednesday,** July 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. God’s Purls/St. Paul Room

**Saturday,** July 9, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Sunday,** July 10, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Monday,** July 11, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. Harmony Circle/Nursery/Green Room

**Tuesday,** July 12, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. Charity Circle to meet at Sugar Bowl Restaurant

**Wednesday,** July 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. God’s Purls/St. Paul Room

**Saturday,** July 16, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Sunday,** July 17, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

**Monday,** July 18, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting/St. Paul Room

**Wednesday,** July 20, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. God’s Purls/St. Paul Room

**Saturday,** July 23, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Sunday,** July 24, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.Worship Service

**Monday,** July 25, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting/Luther House

**Wednesday,** July 27, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. God’s Purls/St. Paul Room

**Thursday,** July 28, 2022 from 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. **GIVE-BACK at Galveston Steakhouse**

 at 5:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting/St. Paul Room

**Saturday,** July 30, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Worship Service

**Sunday,** July 31, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Worship Service



Thank$ for $haring

This month,we will see you at Galveston! We’re giving you two coupons so you can invite a friend and give them their own coupon. Remember, the coupon is required for the Give-Back bucks.

  