

Sharing the Bread of Life

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

June 13, 2021

10:30 AM



Worship Leaders for Today

Presiding Minister: Kim Beckmann

Cantor: Paul Rupprecht

Assisting Minister: Janice Skillen

Co-Host: Sandy Waterhouse

Introduction to the day

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Introduction to the First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

Introduction to the Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-9, 14-17

Christians have developed each of Paul's hints about human destiny by means of the belief in the immortality of the soul, the final judgment, and the death and resurrection of Christ as the transformative power of God in the present. Christians have proposed a variety of ways that these religious ideas cohere.

Introduction to the Gospel: Mark 4:30-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

Friends In Christ, Past And Present

Monday, June 14, 2021

Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, died 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around

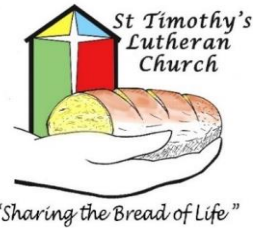
The Cappadocian fathers, as the three men in this group are known, explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Basil's monastic rule forms the basis for Eastern monastic life. Gregory of Nazianzus defended orthodox Christianity in Constantinople. Gregory of Nyssa, Basil's younger brother, wrote on the spiritual life. Macrina, older sister of Basil and Gregory of Nyssa, was the leader of a community dedicated to asceticism, meditation, and prayer.

Wednesday, June 17, 2021

Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

Third Sunday of Pentecost



WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

PRESIDING MINISTER: *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

ALL: Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

ALL: help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

ALL: Amen.

GREETING

PRESIDING MINISTER: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

GATHERING SONG: #635 We Walk by Faith (v. 1, 2, 4)

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

4 For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

ASSISTING MINISTER: Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

PSALM: 92:1-4, 12-15

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

The righteous flourish like the palm tree,
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the LORD;
they flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they still produce fruit;

they are always green and full of sap,
showing that the LORD is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 5:6-9, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL: Mark 4:30-34

PRESIDING MINISTER: The holy gospel according to Mark.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord

³⁰[Jesus] said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it.

PRESIDING MINISTER: This is the Gospel of the Lord,

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: #584 The Son of God, our Christ (v. 3-4)

3 Today, as then, Christ summons us to dare
to follow boldly and his work to share,
to help and heal the sick, the blind, the lame,
declaring to the world his holy name.

4 In city street, in town, or on the soil,
may each serve Christ in faithful daily toil,
and in each thought and kindly word and deed,
obey Christ's call and go where he shall lead.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

ASSISTING MINISTER: Let us unite before God in prayer, responding to each petition with the words, “Grant us your life.”

A brief silence.

Holy God, fount of blessings, we pray for the church. You sow in us the seeds of faith which you plant take root and grow. We thank you for your presence as we’ve endured this time of pandemic. Let newness of life emerge as we begin to regather from this time apart. Grow your Spirit of mission in our congregational conversations. Bless the churches in Ethiopia and India, who are still experiencing great distress in the covid crisis, with your continued presence. O giver of all goodness,

Grant us your life.

We pray for life and growth in creation. Even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. We pray also for all earth’s creatures and for humans nurturing their young. Bless the Hildner family as they expect the gift of new life this week. Restore growth to places suffering drought. O giver of all goodness,

Grant us your life.

We pray for the nations and leaders in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Help the nations of this world to share their resources in this pandemic, so that all may live abundantly. O giver of all goodness,

Grant us your life.

We pray for the aged: that they may be embraced by relatives, chosen family, and friends and their lives flourish. We pray for children, that as we come to the end of the school year that this summertime gives them opportunity to enjoy nature’s refreshment. We pray for all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness, and for these dear ones to us whom we name now in our hearts, or aloud, especially:

(pause for prayer concerns)

O giver of all goodness,

Grant us your life.

And for what else do the people of God gathered here pray or give thanks? *(pause for thanksgivings and concerns)*

O giver of all goodness,

Grant us your life.

Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. O giver of all goodness,

Grant us your life.

PRESIDING MINISTER: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

ALL: Amen.

PEACE

PRESIDING MINISTER: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

OFFERING – Dedication of Endowment Fund Gift: Lutheran Disaster Response for Covid Relief in India

In thanksgiving for all God has given us we offer the first fruits of our labors for the mission of the church and the care of those in need. Mailed to St. Timothy's at 9000 Kildare Ave, Skokie, IL. 60076.

As we bring forth our gifts to the altar in offering, today we bless on its way the gift of \$2,500 from our mission endowment fund to Lutheran Disaster Relief.



Let us pray:

Gracious God, in joy and thanksgiving we offer what you have first given us, out of the stewardship of members past and present. Bless now this gift of health and well-being we dedicate to our neighbors experiencing the ravages of Covid-19 in India, as we share your bread of life through our partners at Lutheran Disaster Response. In all our offerings, and at this table to which you invite us, we pray:

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to all be blessed.

Feed us with your living bread, that all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.

EUCCHARIST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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: SUMMER

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,
you sent your Son to heal our ills
and to form us again into one.

In 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.

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing, his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
And for this we pray: Amen! Come Lord Jesus!
Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
And for this we pray: Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!
Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRESIDING MINISTER: The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

DISTRIBUTION

PRESIDING MINISTER: This is the body of Christ, given for you
You may share the bread with any in your household saying these words.

PRESIDING MINISTER: This is the blood of Christ, shed for you
You may share the cup with any in your household saying these words

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND DISMISSAL FROM THE TABLE

PRESIDING MINISTER: For all assembled here today, may God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of Grace, Mercy, and Joy. And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

ALL: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ASSISTING MINISTER: Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

ALL: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

PRESIDING MINISTER: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

SENDING SONG: #661 I love to tell the story (v. 1)

1 I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.

Refrain
I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

DISMISSAL

ASSISTING MINISTER: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Fantasia - Joh. Pachelbel

NOTE: WE WILL BE REFRESHING THE PRAYER LIST AFTER JUNE 15. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR LOVED ONE TO REMAIN, OR IF THERE ARE NEW REQUESTS.

IF WE CAN GIVE A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR HEALING, LET US KNOW!

Living God, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing, especially (speak names here). When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday

Family of John Nygard, Dave Lindahl, Liz Nygard, Jim Nelson, John and Nancy Lang, Caitlin Presberg, Richard Cramer, Jeff Johnson, Esther Hildner

Monday

Elizabeth Stanley
Janet Johnson
Susan Jensen
Elaine Morgan
John Fergus
Chris Devona Jr.
Chris Devona Sr.

Tuesday

Christine Haeberlin
Bobby Scott
Jim Henderson
Richard Hobbs
Clint, Ethan, Caroline, and Bebe

Wednesday

John Farmer
Maddux Gooris
Leimer Family
Jean Olson
Jan Wright

Thursday

Carolyn Herman
Dick Herman
Emmy Treganza
Kathleen McGill
Liam Hansen
Tim Swenson

Friday

David Nygard
Mary Beth Roth
Robert Burke
Dorothy Brown
Dick and Joan Nelson

Saturday

Emma Creskoff
Robert Norrstrom
Nancy Whitney
Marilyn Douros
Debra and Jason Sloan-Zielinski

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THIS WEEK AT ST. TIMOTHY’S, JUNE 13th to JUNE 19th

Sunday 10:30am Worship
11:30am “Where are we now?” Phase 2 of the Coffee Hours with a theme:
People Resources, Critical Mass, and Vision
Monday Pastor Kim’s Day off
Tuesday 6:30 pm Council Meeting
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

Assisting Minister(s) Janice Skillen
Co-Host Sandy Waterhouse

NEXT WEEK AT ST. TIMOTHY’S, JUNE 20th to JUNE 26th

Sunday 10:30am Worship
11:30am Fellowship/Father’s Day
Monday Pastor Kim’s Day off
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday 9:45am Sack Lunch
Saturday

Assisting Minister(s) Betty Johnson
Co-Host Joanne Haeberlin

SAVE THE DATE

Sack Lunch: June 25

Congregational Conversations with a Theme: June 27

We have completed our month of May Memories reflecting on “Where are we Coming From?” We begin our next phase of Congregational Discernment by asking “Where are we now?” We will be looking at three aspects of church life needed for vitality and sustainability... Vision for Mission, Critical Mass to make things happen, and Resources of people and money. On June 27th, we will be discussing Financial Resources, and how they relate to St. Timothy’s Vision for Mission and play a role in Critical Mass.

Council and Call Committee Retreat: Saturday, July 17

We will meet to prepare for the conversations about Phase 3: Where are We Going?

Join us for coffee hour outside or over Zoom following the service.

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