

A large flock of sheep, mostly white with some brown and black, is gathered in a field. In the background, there are buildings and trees, suggesting a rural setting. The sheep are densely packed, filling most of the frame.

# Jesus had compassion

for them, because they were  
like sheep without a shepherd

MARK 6:34

**9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

July 21, 2024

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 21, 2024 - 10:45am

*MARK'S GOSPEL MAKES CLEAR HOW GREAT IS THE PRESS OF THE CROWD, WITH ITS COUNTLESS NEEDS TO BE MET, ON JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES. YET IN TODAY'S GOSPEL JESUS ADVISES HIS DISCIPLES TO GET AWAY AND REST, TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES. SOMETIMES WE THINK THAT WHEN OTHERS ARE IN GREAT NEED WE SHOULDN'T THINK OF OURSELVES AT ALL; BUT JESUS ALSO HONORS THE CAREGIVERS' NEED. WE ARE SENT FROM CHRIST'S TABLE TO CARE FOR OTHERS AND FOR OURSELVES.*

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

## **Announcements**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, - the Father, † the Son and the Holy Spirit – the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **C Amen.**

**P** Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sins.

*SILENCE IS KEPT FOR REFLECTION.*

**P** God, our provider, **help us.**

**C** **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.**

**P** 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. **C Amen.**

*PLEASE STAND FOR THE GATHERING HYMN AS YOU ARE ABLE.*

# Gathering Hymn

# We Come to You for Healing, Lord



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of  
2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and  
3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through  
4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through  
5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your  
reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -  
nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of  
days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of  
our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.  
mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.  
faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.  
pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.  
nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** We pray together.

**C** O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## First Lesson

Jeremiah 23:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.  
<sup>2</sup> Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup> Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup> I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.  
<sup>5</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalmody

Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;**

<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.**

## Second Lesson

Ephesians 2:11-22

<sup>11</sup> Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—<sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup> He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup> So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*PLEASE STAND FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AS YOU ARE ABLE.*

## Gospel Acclamation

**P** Alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth;

**C** sanctify us in the truth. Alleluia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

## Holy Gospel

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup> And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup> Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup> When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat.

<sup>54</sup> When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup> and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup> And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

**L** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*PLEASE BE SEATED FOR THE SERMON.*

**Sermon**

Pastor John Schier-Hanson

*PLEASE STAND FOR THE HYMN OF THE DAY AS YOU ARE ABLE.*

**Hymn of the Day**

Healer of Our Every Ill

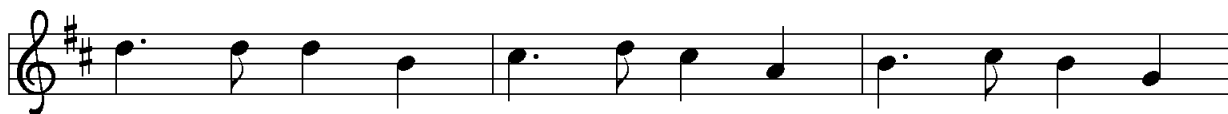
*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your  
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is  
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,  
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



*Refrain*

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**P** 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, 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.**

*PLEASE BE SEATED FOR THE PRAYERS.*

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

**L** One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

*A BRIEF SILENCE.*

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land: Through the One who is the cornerstone of a firm foundation, join us together and build us up as a temple of mercy and peace. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the creation: Cause new trees to be planted. Restrain the melting of polar ice caps. Save land from destruction. Like a shepherd tends her sheep, raise up from among us caretakers of all you have made. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations and heads of tribes (*especially*): Where peace seems far off, bring it near. Where justice seems fleeting, bring it to light. Where discord seems relentless, bring harmony. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the health and well-being of family, friends, and neighbors: Heal those who are sick (*especially*). Give courage to all who struggle with addiction. Touch with your tender care all who reach out to you in pain. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this assembly and for the faith communities represented this week at the ELCA Youth Gathering: Nurture the faith of young people as they encounter new experiences and people. Break down dividing walls and inspire collaboration among people of every age. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*HERE OTHER INTERCESSIONS MAY BE OFFERED.*

In thanksgiving for those who have died (*especially*): Make us certain that in Christ we are no longer strangers and aliens but citizens with the saints in the household of God. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**L** Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

*PLEASE STAND TO SHARE THE PEACE AS YOU ARE ABLE.*

## **The Peace**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C And also with you.**

## **Offertory Prayer**

**P** Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

**C Amen.**



## **The Great Thanksgiving**

**P** The Lord be with you.           **C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.           **C** **We lift them up to the LORD.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the LORD, our God.

**C** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so with the church on earth and the host of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**P** Blessed are you Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you sent your only Son so that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now into our hearts and upon these your own gifts of bread and wine your Holy Spirit so that we may receive our Lord with a living faith.

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.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

## **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 trespasses 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 forever. Amen.**

**P** Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

*PLEASE BE SEATED FOR COMMUNION.*

## **Blessing after Communion**

**P** The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His most precious blood strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C Amen.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

## **Benediction**

**P** The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us – the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit – be upon you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*PLEASE STAND FOR THE SENDING HYMN AS YOU ARE ABLE.*

# Sending Hymn

# What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,  
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

## *Refrain*



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

## **Dismissal**

**P** Go in Peace. You are the body of Christ.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## **Postlude**

## At Rest among Strangers

The world can be a dangerous place, and we all long for someone, some leader, who will watch over us and protect us from all harm. The prophet Jeremiah issues strong cautions to those who abuse the trust placed in them to care for God's people, and the psalmist sings the praises of the Lord who guards and guides us through life's trials.

But the letter to the Ephesians suggests that lasting safety comes through the healing and reconciling work of Christ, which allows us to share a meal with those we are inclined to regard as enemies, because Christ has "broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us." So, in Christ, aliens become citizens and strangers become members of the household of God.

Living into this reality requires all of us to be diligent in our practices with and policies toward all kinds of "strangers and aliens" in our world and in our lives. It means making peace with those whose politics make them strange to us, and creating genuine welcome for the newcomer in our classrooms, workplaces and congregations. It means considering the needs of immigrants and refugees through the lens of Christian faith as well as national identity, and not assuming the two are the same.

The reassuring news this day is that God, unlike so many who hold power in this world, is already reconciling the world to God's own self and us to one another. We enact this new reality each time we pass the peace or come to the Lord's supper, not because we have finally achieved the peace we seek, but because in Christ God's future reign of peace has already broken into our present.