SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 12, 2020 IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod



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Website: Lutheranmercedes. com

Sunday 9:00 AM Worship Service

10:30 am Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

Website: Misionemanuel.com Office Hrs, M-F 8 am to 12 pm CCLI # 2585510

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

(Mark 4; Matthew 13; Luke 8)



"BUT THE SEED FALLING ON GOOD SOIL REFERS TO SOMEONE WHO HEARS THE WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT." (MATTHEW 13:23a)

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 12, 2020

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our prayer that you will be spiritually nourished through God's Word, and we look forward to seeing you in person when we gather together in God's house again.

- A Prayer Upon Entering Church Gracious God, who has given me this good earth in which to live and who sends rain and sun to cause plants to produce fruit and grain for harvest, continue to send Your life-giving Word to me so that I may resist the cares of this world and return to You a harvest of new sons and daughters, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- **AS WE GATHER WITH OUR FAMILIES -** Plants in God's good earth respond to the showers He sends, producing plants for pasture and crops for harvest. In the psalm, David says it is as if "the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy." It is all natural, and so is our producing fruit for God as His Word works through us. That God works through us sinners is all grace; if we but hear the Word and let the Spirit give us understanding, a bountiful harvest will follow. Jesus likens it to seeds producing yields of up to a hundredfold. But we are no mere plants, as Paul points out in the Epistle. Because we have been adopted by our heavenly Father, we are brothers and sisters of Christ, the

children of God, calling out to Him, "Abba! Father!" Our growth in faith is indeed by the grace of God, and to Him belongs all the credit for the bountiful harvest He reaps through us.

PRELUDE

- Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could never be; For this heart would still refuse Thee Had Thy grace not chosen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me Washed and cleansed and set me free And unto this end ordained me, That I ever live to Thee.
- It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my darkened heart and mind; Else the world had yet enthralled me, To Thy heav'nly glories blind.
 Now I worship none above Thee; For Thy grace alone I thirst, Knowing well that, if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.
- Praise the God of all creation;
 Praise the Father's boundless love.
 Praise the Lamb, our expiation,
 Priest and King enthroned above.
 Praise the Spirit of salvation,
 Him by whom our spirits live.
 Undivided adoration

To the great Jehovah give. Public domain

OPENING HYMN

- O Word of God incarnate,
 O Wisdom from on high,
 O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
 O Light of our dark sky:
 We praise You for the radiance
 That from the hallowed page,
 A lantern to our footsteps,
 Shines on from age to age.
- 2 The Church from You, dear Master, Received the gift divine; And still that light is lifted O'er all the earth to shine. It is the chart and compass That, all life's voyage through, Mid mists and rocks and quicksands Still guides, O Christ, to You.
- 3 O make Your Church, dear Savior, A lamp of burnished gold To bear before the nations Your true light as of old!
 O teach Your wand'ring pilgrims By this their path to trace Till, clouds and darkness ended,

They see You face to face! Public domain

INVOCATION

- L In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- A Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- L Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.
- L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- A But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- L Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- A Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
 L "In the mercy of almighty God. Jesus Christ was given to
- L "In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to Become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."
- A Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon, v. 1a*

L The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

- A One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.
- L For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.
- A And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.
- L The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L Let us pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- A Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:10–13

(God's Word accomplishes His plans as surely as rain gives growth to plants.)

10 "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. 12 "For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 65; antiphon: v. 5*

- L By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.
- L Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion, and to You shall vows be performed.
- A O You who hear prayer, to You shall all flesh come.
- L When iniquities prevail against me, You atone for our transgressions.
- A Blessed is the one You choose and bring near, to dwell in Your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple!
- L By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;
- A the one who by His strength established the mountains, being girded with might; who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples,
- L so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at Your signs.

- A You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.
- L You visit the earth and water it; You greatly enrich it;
- A the river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it.
- L You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
- A softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.
- L You crown the year with Your bounty;
- A Your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.
- L The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
- A the hills gird themselves with joy,
- L the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain,
- A they shout and sing together for joy.
- L By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (see video)

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12–17

(Because the Spirit leads us, we know we are children of God.)

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

- This is the Word of the Lord. L
- A Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE

- C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- С These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
- Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. С

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

(Whoever hears the Word and understands it will produce a great harvest for God in spite of worldly opposition.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth L chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord. Α

1 On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. 2 And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. 3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. 6 But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. 8 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" 18 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and 9

snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. 20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he

stumbles. 22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. 23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to You, O Christ

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word LSB 655

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword
 - 10

Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.

- Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;
 Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth; Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

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SERMON "Biblical Farming in the 21st Century"

(Matthew 13:23)

OFFERING Given with cheerful and joyful hearts

HYMN

O Blessed Spring

LSB 595

- 1 O blessèd spring, where Word and sign Embrace us into Christ the Vine Here Christ enjoins each one to be A branch of this life-giving Tree.
- 2 Through summer heat of youthful years, Uncertain faith, rebellious tears, Sustained by Christ's infusing rain, The boughs will shout for joy again.
- 3 When autumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their heavy harvest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will move With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

- As winter comes, as winters must,
 We breathe our last, return to dust;
 Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
 And trust the promise of the spring.
- 5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, Be praised for this blest mystery: That Word and water thus revive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L We use today's psalm as we pray for the Church around the world and all people in their various circumstance.
David writes, *"O You who hears prayer, to You shall all flesh come."* Let us pray for those near and dear to us, [especially...], who call to God in their distress.

Psalm 65:2-5, 9, 11

- A Heavenly Father, visit, relieve, restore, and console them in Your mercy, and use us to help meet their needs.
- L David writes, *"When iniquities prevail against me, You atone for our transgressions."* Let us pray for all who are wrongly accused or imprisoned by corrupt court systems.
- A Lord of the nations, give them justice, clear their names, and free them; move governments to make reforms where they are needed.
- L And let us pray for those who have acted rashly, destroyed relationships, or run afoul of civil laws.
- A Lord Jesus, provide them opportunities and faithful counselors that they hear of Your mercy, repent, and repair their broken lives.
- L₁₂ David writes, *"We shall be satisfied with the goodness of*

Your house, the holiness of Your temple." Let us pray for the Church here and around the world.

- A O Holy Spirit, bless, protect, and guide Your people as they proclaim the Gospel, and invite one and all to the joys of Your mercy, forgiveness, and love.
- L David writes, *"By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness."* Let us pray for all who make, administer, and adjudicate their nation's laws and seek peace across borders, and for all who serve their communities and nations by putting themselves in harm's way.
- A Lord Jesus, raise up good and righteous people in positions of power, and give protection and courage to those having to make sudden decisions.
- L David writes, *"You visit the earth and water it; You greatly enrich it."* Let us pray for all who tend the soil, transport crops, and distribute food where it is needed.
- A Gracious God, send rain and sun to farms, protection to pilots and drivers, and guidance for those who manage markets; through their efforts grant that all the hungry be fed.
- L David writes, *"You crown the year with Your bounty."* Let us pray for those who are unemployed or underemployed, those who lack adequate clothing or shelter, and all burdened with financial debt.
- A O Holy Spirit, open doors of opportunity so that they may provide for themselves and their families, rejoicing in all Your good gifts.
- L Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- A Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9–13)

All 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.

BENEDICAMUS

- L Let us bless the Lord.
- A Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

- L The Lord bless us and keep us, The Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious to us The Lord lift His countenance upon us and grant us peace
- A Amen

SENDING HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* **LSB 790**

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation! Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!
- Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen All that is needful has been Sent by His gracious ordaining?

- 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you, Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you. What need or grief Ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew What the Almighty can do As with His love He befriends you.
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him! Let the Amen Sound from His people again; Gladly forever adore Him!

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Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good **LSB 819** POSTLUDE

- Sing praise to God, the highest good, 1 The author of creation, The God of love who understood Our need for His salvation. With healing balm our souls He fills And ev'ry faithless murmur stills: To God all praise and glory!
- What God's almighty pow'r has made, 2 In mercy He is keeping. By morning glow or evening shade His eye is never sleeping.

Within the kingdom of His might All things are just and good and right: To God all praise and glory!

- We sought the Lord in our distress;
 O God, in mercy hear us.
 Our Savior saw our helplessness
 And came with peace to cheer us.
 For this we thank and praise the Lord,
 Who is by one and all adored:
 To God all praise and glory!
- 4 He never shall forsake His flock, His chosen generation; He is their refuge and their rock, Their peace and their salvation. As with a mother's tender hand, He leads His own, His chosen band: To God all praise and glory!
- All who confess Christ's holy name, Give God the praise and glory.
 Let all who know His pow'r proclaim Aloud the wondrous story.
 Cast ev'ry idol from its throne, For God is God, and He alone: To God all praise and glory!

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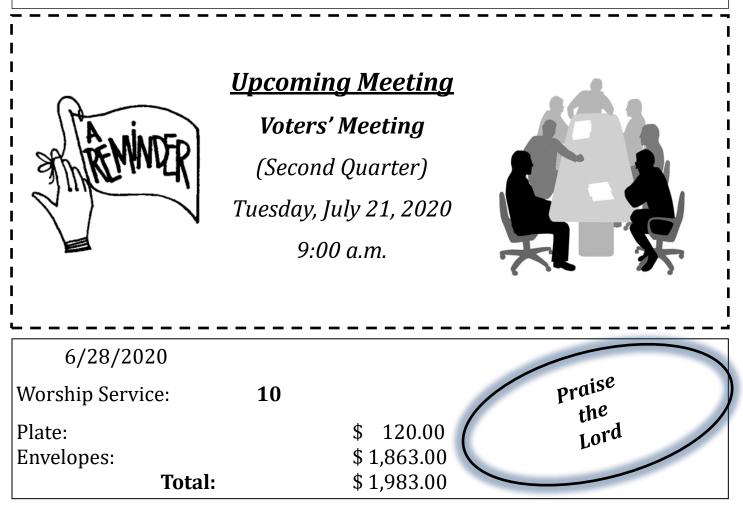
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Memory Verse Challenge

The LCMS invites everyone to join together memorizing a verse together each week.

This week's memory verse: Romans 6:3-4

"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."



Family Worship at Home

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	OLD TESTAMENT READING ************************************
July 12, 2020	PSALM ************************************
Prayer Upon Entering Church- ************************************	HOLY GOSPEL ************************************
OPENING HYMN ********* 123	SERMON ************
CONFESSION * **********************************	OFFERING
INTROIT ****************	SENDING HYMN ********* 456





The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

As "the rain and the snow come down from heaven" and "water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout" (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as "an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off" (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and "indeed bears fruit" (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who "have received the Spirit of adoption as sons" (Rom. 8:15). Thus being "led by the Spirit of God," we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we "also be glorified with him" (Rom. 8:17).

