

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Bethel & Hemnes Lutheran Churches

June 14, 2020

In today's gospel reading, Jesus speaks of the church's mission with images drawn from daily life. The harvest is already plentiful, He says, but laborers are needed for work in the fields of daily life. What are we to do? We are to do what the liturgy invites us to do: let our conversation be shaped by the good news, extend Christ's peace wherever we find ourselves, and share our bread with the hungry.

Today the Church commemorates Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, c. 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, c. 389; and Macrina, teacher, c. 379. The first three are known as the Cappadocian fathers and all explored the mystery of the Holy Trinity. Macrina, Basil and Gregory of Nyssa's sister, was a teacher of great influence in the early church

✠GATHERING✠

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as we begin.

P. We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

P. Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another..

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P. Loving God,

C. we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have failed to worship you with our whole being and to share the abundance of grace you give us. We have acted out of selfish ambition rather than the interests of others; we have nursed grudges rather than seeking reconciliation and peace. Forgive us and renew in us the mind of Christ Jesus, that we may live according to your will. Amen.

P. Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of Almighty God, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; and for His sake, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 5:1a, 5b, 8b)

C. Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. God, our maker and redeemer, You have made us a new company of priests to bear witness to the Gospel. Enable us to be faithful to our calling to make known Your promises to all the world; through Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

† WORD †

FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a

Upon their arrival at Mount Sinai following the great deliverance at the Reed (Red) Sea, Israel hears the marvelous story of what God has done for them. Because God has delivered them, Israel is called to live in relationship with God – to live as priestly people through whom God will work for all.

The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. ⁵Now 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, ⁶but you shall be for Me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ⁸The 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

Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness and come before His presence with a song.

²Know this: The LORD himself is God;
He himself has made us, and we are His;
we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

³Enter His gates with thanksgiving; go into His courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon His name.

⁴For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting;
and His faithfulness endures from age to age.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8

For Paul, living in God’s grace means experiencing peace with God and hope that does not disappoint. The love of God, evident in Christ’s death for the undeserving, has been poured into our hearts and sustains us in our troubles.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through Whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

⁸But 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35—10:22

In Matthew's gospel, the mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus Himself. Here, He instructs His first disciples how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.

C. (*spoken*) Glory to you, O Lord.

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. ³⁶When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

^{10:1}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. ²These 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; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.

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

¹⁶"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of Me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When 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; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²²and you will be hated by all because of My name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

P. The Gospel of the Lord. C. (*spoken*) Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise Up, O Saints of God



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

✠ PRAYER ✠

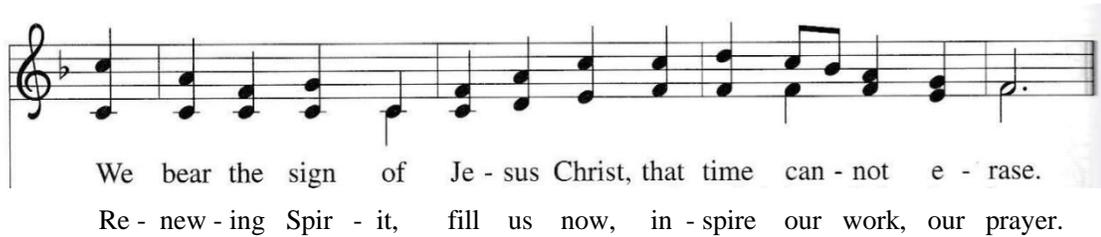
OFFERING

If you have not signed up for electronic giving, you can mail your offering in to Bethel (P.O. Box 126, Porter, 56280), you may drop it in the offering box at the church, or you may make your offering online at our website (www.bethelofporter.com).

OFFERTORY



1 Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.
 2 God, bless us by Your grace; re - mind us of Your care



OFFERTORY PRAYER

P. Blessed are you,

C. O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us join together to pray for the church, our nation, and for all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, send your Spirit of tender might throughout your church and to all its leaders, especially Bishop Eaton. Strengthen the believers who cannot assemble for worship. Guide the church's use of technology, and make yourself known to those who have no access to such materials. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

O God, as today we commemorate the fourth-century theologians Basil the Great, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus, and the teacher Macrina, we pray for your Spirit on teachers, preachers, and missionaries. Empower the church as it uses both historic and innovative words to proclaim your gospel across the street and around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

O God, the whole earth is Yours. Where there was fire or flooding, drought or storm, bring renewal of the land. Bless farmers and ranchers, and protect migrant farm workers as they toil in the sun to harvest our food. Inspire us to care for what You have provided. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

O God, as we commemorate this week the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, who in 2015 were killed while assembled in their Charleston church for Bible study, we pray: end the scourge of racism and white supremacy; protect protestors; halt those who intend violence; preserve our democracy. Raise up leaders who model repentance and reconciliation, and support legislators who seek justice in our land. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

O God, heal the sick, and embrace the fearful. Visit the millions who are suffering from the coronavirus. Protect us from another wave of disease. Uphold health care workers and medical researchers as they work on our behalf. Assist the unemployed in finding jobs. Sustain those who cannot endure their suffering but are led only to despair and pour your grace into their hearts. Show us how to provide safe housing and daily food for the homeless in our nation and around the world. We pray also for those we name here: Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

O God, Holy eternal One, You bring all people to Yourself. We give thanks for the lives of all the faithful departed, both the famous and the forgotten. Sustain us in Your mission until the day You bear us up to join the saints in light. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

O God of justice and love, receive these prayers, and those desires too deep for words. We give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

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
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING

P. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. May you be rooted and grounded in His love. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. C. Amen

CLOSING HYMN



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 C. Thanks be to God.

Those who Serve:

Ministers: All the People of God **Presider:** Pastor Ellen Munter
 Organist: **Lou Knutson** **Reader:** **Sara Wollum**

How to reach us:

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 Bethel email: bethellutheran@frontier.com Bethel web page: www.bethelofporter.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering: During this period of suspended in-person worship services, Bethel and Hemnes continue to have recurring expenses. Please remember to give financially to support the ministry of our congregations. For Bethel, you may mail your offering to the church office or give online at <http://bit.ly/givebethel>



Merv Anderson Emily Morton
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 Bruce Jeremiason Angie Denelsbeck Anderson

Acknowledgements

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