

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2020



In Our ¹Separation
God draws near

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

*You are invited to bring a bowl of water into your sacred space
as we remember our Baptismal unity.*



Announcements

Gathering Music

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

-arr. Heather Sorenson

Greeting

As we gather from our separate locations, let us join together in worship in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

As a remembrance of your baptism into the community of God's people of all times and all places, dip your finger into your bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead.

Confession & Forgiveness

Trusting in the promise of God's forgiveness through the death and resurrection of Jesus, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

we have seen the injustice in our world more clearly. The marginalized and invisible among us have been brought to our attention in vivid and shocking ways.

We confess our part in the suffering of the world. For not always loving our neighbors as you have commanded us. For not always having empathy for the suffering of others. For not always sharing our wealth with those who have little.

We ask that you draw near to us in our time of uncertainty. Forgive us our failure to live as your witness in the world. Forgive us our failure to love and support those in need. Forgive us our failure to care for your world.

Through the abundance of God's grace, you are forgiven of all your sin. Through the example of Jesus, you are given a model of love. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, you are revitalized to serve. **Amen.**

Opening Song

Gather Us In

Red ELW 532

**Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Scripture Reading

Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Come and Fill Our Hearts Red ELW 528

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be

bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you. O Christ.**

Message

Special Music

Toccata Viva

- Lani Smith

Organist Commissioning

-Jordan Ortman

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers

Red ELW 752

Sung before prayers

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

lord, listen to your children praying,

send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Sharing God's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing & Sending

In our separation, may the God who draws near bless you with:
Peace for trembling hearts,
Strength for weary souls,
And Love for all life.

The God who draws near calls us together to follow.
Siblings in Christ, follow God who draws us near to love and care for the poor.
Together with God and one another, we will follow.

Sending Song

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Red ELW 836

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Sending

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Promised Land

–Joseph Martin



Participants

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz, Michael TeKrony
- Assisting Minister: Paul Thomas
- Reader: Gavin Tomlinson
- Prelude/Postlude: Jordan Ortman
- Special Music: Jordan Ortman
- Musicians: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Photographs: Ron Skabo