

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 9th, 2024

9:00 am

Service of Holy Communion



*281 Years of
"Joyously proclaiming the good news of God's love"*

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPRING CITY, PENNSYLVANIA
Founded in 1743

Sunday, June 9th, 2024 – service led by Pastor Taylor

INTRODUCTION

This is the third week after Pentecost, the third week of the great green growing time, the time when we learn more about who we are and what kind of church we are called to be. “A house divided against itself cannot stand” - Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He *is* possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

PRELUDES

On Tannenberg: **"If You Will Only Let God Guide You"**

Georg Neumark, Arr. Richad Unfried

"Here I Am to Worship"

Words and Music by Tim Hughes, Arr. by Mark Hayes

"A Summer Idyll"

Franklin Ritter

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.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

"You Servants of God" – ELW #825, Vs. 1, 2, & 4



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Whenever the cross symbol appears, all may make the sign of the cross on their own bodies: forehead, chest, left shoulder, right shoulder.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
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 in the presence of God and one another.

P: God, our provider,

C: 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.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. All-powerful God,

C: in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

"Glory be to God"



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead, they blame each other, the snake, and God.

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and [they] hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130

The Psalm is read responsively.

¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice!**

Listen to my cry for help.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be revered.

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,**

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;

with the LORD there is redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

from all their sins.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

In the second letter to the Corinthians, Paul tells the people that life on this earth – even life in Christ – is often painful and hard. But what we have to hold on to is the knowledge that just as God raised Jesus from the dead, God has promised to bring us into eternal life.

³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

P: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

At this time, the congregation may rise in body or in spirit to greet the holy gospel.

ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”



Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus went home;] ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

"Bind Us Together" – WOV #748, All verses

Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that
Cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together Lord; bind us together in love.

1: There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one Body; that is why we can sing.

2: You are the family of God. You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

AM: Together let us pray using the ancient words of the apostle's 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

AM: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

AM: You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age. Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

AM: Your presence is revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their right season. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

AM: Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

AM: Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of fear, despair, illness or hopelessness especially **Barbara Winter, Dave Grubb, Brian Mickiewicz, David Tyson, Eric Harter, Greg Wicker, Joan Emswiler, Jeanette Kaufmann, Aubree Pascale, Ellen Gray, Holly Bauman, Mary Lesh, Brookelyn Rogers, Bob Bell, Dan DeFusco, Belinda Schell, Barbara Carberry, Fran O'Neill, Lisa McComb, Paula Kaiser, and the Batten family (the Battens)**. To all who mourn, bring your love; to all who suffer, bring your justice; to all who weep, bring your peace. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

AM: Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships. Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

AM: Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you. Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy and in the power of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Please share a sign of God's peace with one another!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children (and guardians) are invited to come close for a story.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Where No One Stands Alone"

Words and Music by Mosie Lister

Brian Mickiewicz, Vocal Solo

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: 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.

⊕ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ⊕

Though the sacrament of communion is most appropriate for baptized Christians, all are welcome at Christ's table, and nothing in all creation can separate you from the love of God. If you would like to come forward for a blessing instead of communing, you may indicate that by crossing your hands over your chest. If you would like to take communion at your seat, please let an usher know and the ministers will come to you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
In these weeks after Pentecost, in this time of the color green
and the Spirit poured out on us, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

P: The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

C: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

C: We thank you, O God.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

C: Amen.

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

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come, for the table is ready.

C: Amen.

During the Lamb of God, communion ministers will come forward and take communion. Once the ministers are ready, the congregation may come forward, row by row. Wine and juice will be available on the left side of the altar, and wine on the right side.

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

SHARING IN COMMUNION

P: This is the Body of Christ given for you

C: I believe or Amen (Congregation may eat the bread or wafer)

P: This is the Blood of Christ given for you

C: I believe or Amen (Congregation may drink the wine or juice)

COMMUNION HYMNS

#1 – "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" – ELW #484

Text: Omer Westendorf, Music: Robert E. Kreutz

#2 – "Let Us Break Bread Together" - ELW #471

Text & Music: African American Spiritual

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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.

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "When Peace Like a River" – ELW #785, All verses



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Happy the Soul Who Dwells on God"

Richard Blake

Bible Readings for the Week – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Monday	1 Samuel 16:14-23	David calms Saul's evil spirit
Tuesday	1 Kings 18:17-40	Elijah destroys the evil prophets
Wednesday	Luke 11:14-28	Jesus and Beelzebul
Thursday	Isaiah 26:16-27:1	God destroys Leviathan
Friday	Revelation 20:1-15	Satan's doom
Saturday	Psalms 74	God will save us from the enemy

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