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# Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and School

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## The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Gift Service T July 12, 2020

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Prelude

Welcome

God Gathers Us in His Name

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Public Domain.

Opening Song:

“Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)”

by Paul Baloche & Brenton Brown

### God's Gift of Forgiveness

*As God gathers us in worship today the only thing we are able to give Him is our sins,  
and out of undeserved love for us God gives us forgiveness.*

*King David wrote in the Psalms: “I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD’  
— and You, [O God,] forgave the guilt of my sin.”*

*Psalm 32:5b NIV*

P Do you confess to Almighty God that you are a poor, miserable sinner who has sinned against Him in thought, word, and deed and therefore justly deserve His present and eternal punishment? If so, answer, “Yes.”

C Yes.

P Do you believe that our Lord Jesus Christ has lived a holy life, satisfying all the demands of God's holy Law for you, and died, shedding His blood for you upon the cross for the forgiveness of all your sins? If so, answer, “Yes.”

C Yes.

P Do you ask God, for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter suffering and death of His beloved Son Jesus, to be gracious and merciful to you? If so, answer, “Yes.”

C Yes.

P I have great Good News! Through His holy life and innocent death on the cross, Jesus has satisfied the holy demands of God's Law and has earned forgiveness and eternal life for us. He desires that this gift be delivered to all people. For He told His disciples on Easter evening, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you. ... If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” *John 20:21,23 NIV*

P Therefore, in the stead and by this command of my Lord, Jesus Christ, and as the called and ordained servant of the Word in this place, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the T Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P You are forgiven! You are set free! You are dearly loved children of God! Together you and I can now raise our voices in thanksgiving and praise to God for His tremendous grace. We can bring Him our fears and hopes, our needs and prayers, with all boldness and confidence as dear children do to their dear Father.

C Amen.

“Beautiful Saviour (All My Days)”

God's Gift of His Word

— 1 Peter 1:23 NIV

*By ourselves we are spiritually dead. By our own efforts we are unable to create or sustain a relationship with God.*

*However, out of undeserved love for us, God has made us spiritually alive.*

*He creates and sustains a relationship with us by way of His Word, the Word of Jesus:*

*“For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.”*

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 55:10-13

ESV

*[Through the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord declares:]*

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

“For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

P This is the Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading:

Romans 8:12-17

ESV

*[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Paul writes:]*

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

ESV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

*[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Matthew writes:]*

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about Him, so that He got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And He told them many things in parables, saying:

“A sower went out to sow.

And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.

Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away.

Other seeds fell among thorns, & the thorns grew up & choked them.

Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a 100-fold, some 60, some 30.

He who has ears, let him hear. ...

[Later to His disciples He said,]

“Hear then the parable of the sower:

When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.

As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.

As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a 100-fold, in another 60, and in another 30.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

LSB # 577

Sermon: “Good Dirt OR Good Seed?”

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### Apostles’ Creed

P We confess our Christian faith with the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

C 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.

### Our Prayers in Response to God’s Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

- For the healthy birth of Calvin Arthur Tegtmeier, son of Luther and Julia, on Friday, June 26, at 9:30 am.
- For a new job for Mike Larson.

Prayers for Healing:

- For Joe Fountain, a former MtO teacher who has been diagnosed with esophageal cancer. He has completed radiation and will soon start chemotherapy.
- Those infected with COVID-19.
- Ian Thompson; Dale Foltman; Joan Koch’s brother, Bill - cancer; John Light’s girlfriend – in a nursing home due to health issues; Dale Curtice; David West; Joan Erickson; Debbie Holseid; Gretchen Versteeg; Michael Sturgeon; Doug Burke; Pat Davison; Kathryn Sprecher; & Pastor Jim Stogdill.

Prayer for relief from the COVID-19 pandemic and all its resultant consequences.

Prayer for Becky Grossman (Luther Tegtmeier's aunt) and her Lutheran Bible Translators team who have been experiencing Internet access issues which is interfering with their translation work in Africa.

Prayer for Christians around the world who are being persecuted and even martyred for the sake of Jesus' name and the Christian Faith.

Prayer for safe travels

Prayers for our Country:

- In view of the pandemic.
- In view of civil unrest.
- In view of the approaching campaign and election.

Prayers for Mt. Olive and its Ministries:

- God's guidance & blessings on our ongoing online services and drive thru Communion
- God's guidance & blessings on our upcoming virtual Vacation Bible School (July 20-24) and for many to participate, both by helping and "attending."
- God's help & blessings for members of our School community:
- God's guidance & blessings on our church leadership as they faithfully serve the congregation & school, and that others would be prayerfully led to join them in the Lord's service.
- That God would show each of us ways to pray for and to reach out to others in Jesus' name where we live, work, and play.

*The prayers, silent or spoken, will be prayed now. Each prayer will end with:*

P ...Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your loving hands, dear Lord, we place everyone and everything for which we've prayed.

We trust You to answer our prayers according to Your mercy in the way that is best for us.

We pray this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Hymn Prayer:

"Father, We Thank Thee"

LSB # 652

1. Father, we thank Thee who hast planted  
Thy holy name within our hearts.  
Knowledge and faith and life immortal  
Jesus, Thy Son, to us imparts.  
Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy pleasure,  
Didst give us food for all our days,  
Giving in Christ the Bread eternal;  
Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.

2. Watch o'er Thy Church, O Lord, in mercy,  
Save it from evil, guard it still,  
Perfect it in Thy love, unite it,  
Cleansed and conformed unto Thy will.  
As grain, once scattered on the hillsides,  
Was in this broken bread made one,  
So from all lands Thy Church be gathered  
Into Thy kingdom by Thy Son.

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## Our Offerings in Response to God's Word

– 2 Corinthians 8:9; 9:15 NIV

*For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich. ... Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!*

You are encouraged to continue regularly giving your tithes and offerings to the Lord either online at [www.molcs.org/church](http://www.molcs.org/church) or by mailing them to Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 5625 Franklin Ave, Des Moines IA 50310 or bringing them to one of our drive through Communion services.

### PLEASE NOTE:

The remaining Two drive through Communion services will be held on THIS weekend, Sunday, July 12 & NEXT weekend, Saturday July 18.

We thank God for your ongoing generosity in supporting the Lord's work during this challenging time.

