

# Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

## July 12, 2020

This document is for use only during remote worship by members and friends of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Asheville NC, and may not be reproduced or transmitted in any fashion.

Liturgical texts and music from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26951.

Scripture quotations are from Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1946, 1952, and 1971 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Tree of Life texts and music by Marty Haugen, © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net License #A-717373.

## Welcome and Worship Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember our baptism and confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

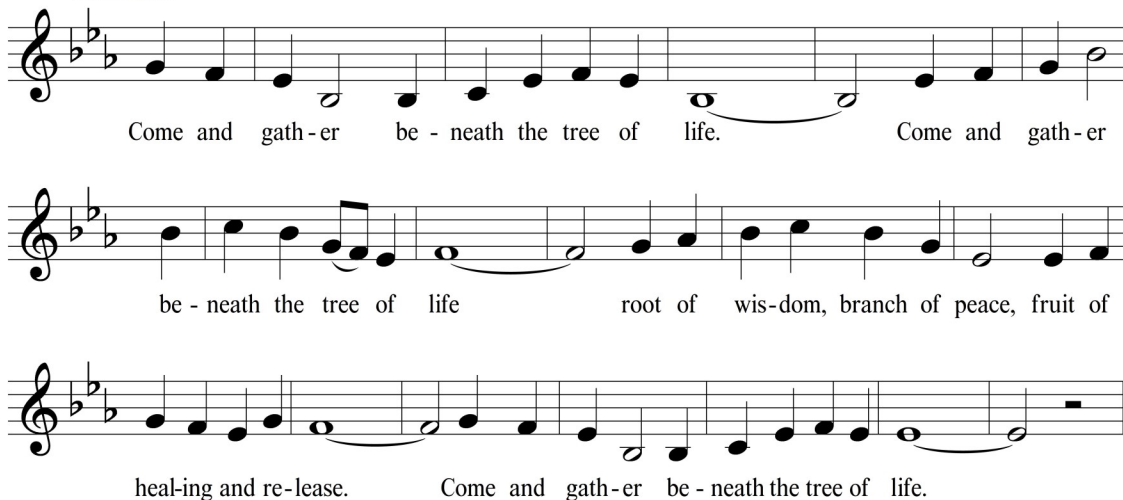
God of mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves, and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us ☩ all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free. Rejoice in this good news!  
**Amen.**

### Gathering Song

### "Beneath the Tree of Life"

#### Refrain



#### Verses



*To Refrain*

## Greeting

Sisters and brothers, called to freedom in Christ:  
Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Children's Sermon

### Psalm 65: 9-14

**Sung by all**

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it | very plenteous; \*  
the river of God is | full of water.  
<sup>10</sup>You pre- | pare the grain, \*  
for so you provide | for the earth.  
<sup>11</sup>You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges; \*  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.  
<sup>12</sup>You crown the year | with your goodness, \*  
and your paths over- | flow with plenty.  
<sup>13</sup>May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing, \*  
and the hills be | clothed with joy.  
<sup>14</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- | selves with grain; \*  
let them shout for | joy and sing.

### First Reading

**Isaiah 55: 10-13**

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup>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 succeed in the thing for which I sent it.  
  
<sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
<sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

### Second Reading

**Romans 8: 1-11**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this

reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

### Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia,

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

you have the words, you have the words, the words of e -

ter - nal life, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, 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, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"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 is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on 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 such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately 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 lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Sermon

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon*

# Hymn of the Day

## "As Rain from the Clouds"



1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,  
 2 As grain that is scat - tered your word has been sown,  
 3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,



as snow from the heav - ens re - fresh - ing the land.  
 on rocks and on road - ways, in good earth and sand.  
 a - wak - ing and warm - ing and heal - ing our land.



Then soft - en our soil that the good seed may grow  
 Make fer - tile our soil that the good seed may grow  
 Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow



and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.  
 and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.  
 and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.



We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;  
 We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;  
 We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;



we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.  
 we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.  
 we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.



We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,  
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,  
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,



for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.  
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.  
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: AFTON WATER, Jonathan E. Spilman, 1812–1896

Text © 1983, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)  
 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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 into hell.  
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 of Intercession

Peace

Offering

## Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

**For your Word of life, O God, we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

**For your Word of life, O God, we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

**For your Word of life, O God, we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.



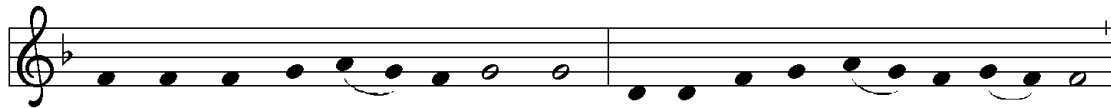
Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## Blessing

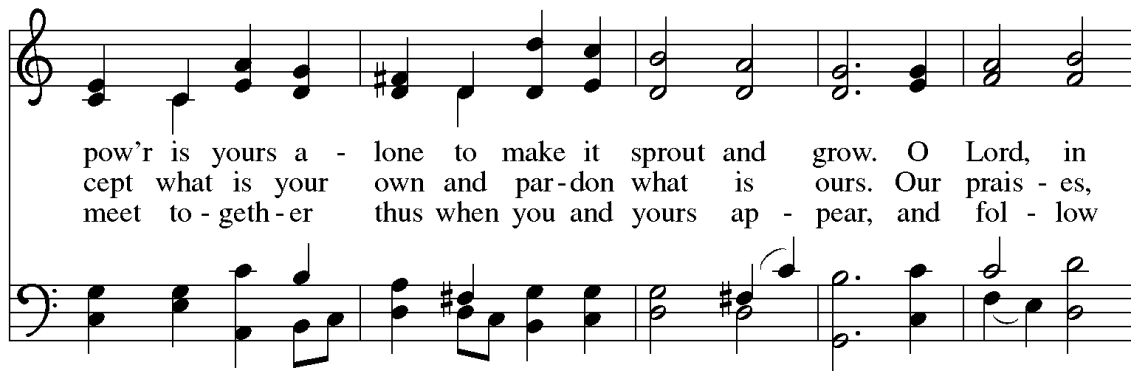
Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and for ever.

# Sending Hymn

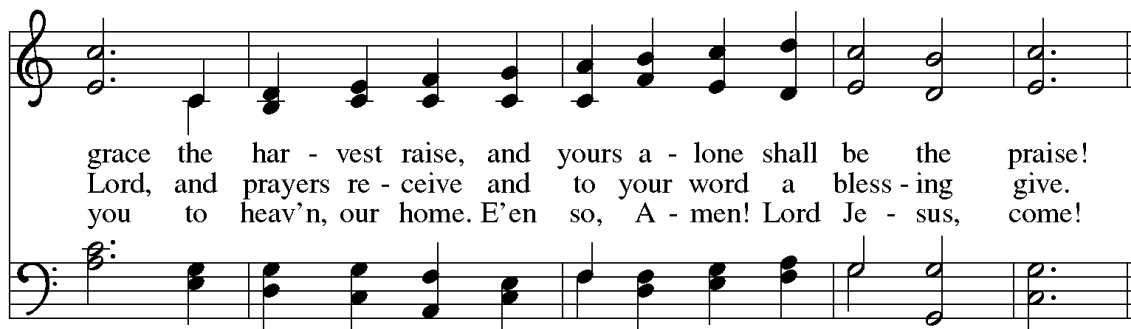
# "On What Has Now Been Sown"



1 On what has now been sown your bless - ing Lord, be - stow; the  
 2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -  
 3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in  
 cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,  
 meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!  
 Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.  
 you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.  
 Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

## Announcements and Dismissal

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

## Postlude