

Spirit of Grace

ELCA UMC



July 3rd, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome

A Call to Peace in Times of Violence

Oh Divine,
most mighty, most merciful,
**our sacred stories tell us
that you help and save your people.**
You are the fortress: may there be no more war.
You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger.
You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair.
Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.
Amen.
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

Hear the good news!
God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

We All Are One in Mission – ELW 576
verses 1 and 2

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God of us all, the Father of our Lord Jesus, the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Galatians 6:1-16

Sisters and brothers, if one of you is caught in any sin, the more spiritual among you should correct the offender in a spirit of gentleness – remembering that you may be tempted yourselves. Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ.

But if you think you are important when you are not, you are deceiving yourself. Examine your own work, each of you. If you find something to boast about, at least it's something of your own and not just empty comparison with your neighbor. Carry your own load!

Those under instruction in the word should always contribute to the support of the instructor.

Don't be deceived – God cannot be cheated: where you sow, there you will reap. If you sow in the field of self-indulgence, you will reap corruption. If you sow in the field of the Spirit, you will reap the harvest of eternal life. Never grow tired of doing good. We will reap a harvest at the proper time – if we don't grow weary. So, while we still have time, do good to all and especially to those of the household of faith.

Look how big these letters are when I write to you in my own hand!

Those who are pressuring the men among you to be circumcised are only trying to win favor with others, so they won't be persecuted for the cross of Christ. They themselves aren't circumcised and don't even keep the Law. They want you to accept circumcision just so they can boast about it.

May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Savior, Jesus Christ! Through it the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. It means nothing whether one bothers with the externals of religion or not. All that matters is that one is created anew.

Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule of life and on the Israel of God.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:1-9

Shout to God,
all the earth!
**Sing the glory of God's Name –
give glorious praise!**
Say to God,
“How awesome are your deeds!
Your enemies cower before your great strength!
**The whole earth worships you
and sings praises to you –
all creation praises your Name!”**

Come and see the works of God –
God's deeds on our behalf are wondrous.
**God turned the sea into dry land;
and people passed through the river on foot.
There we rejoiced in God,**
whose reign of power lasts forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations
so that the rebellious don't exalt themselves before God.
**Bless YHWH, all you peoples,
let the sound of God's praise be heard!**
God has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.

Gospel: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 10th chapter.

After this, Jesus appointed seventy-two others, and sent them on ahead in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, “The harvest is rich, but the workers are few; therefore, ask the overseer to send workers to the harvest.

“Be on your way, and remember: I am sending you as lambs in the midst of wolves. Don’t carry a walking stick or knapsack; wear no sandals and greet no one along the way. And whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be upon this house!’ If the people live peaceably there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking what they give you, for the laborer is worth a wage. Don’t keep moving from house to house.

“And whatever city you enter, after they welcome you, eat what they set before you and heal those who are sick in that town. Say to them, ‘The reign of God has drawn near to you.’ If the people of any town you enter don’t welcome you, go into its streets and say, ‘We shake the dust of this town from our feet as testimony against you. But know that the reign of God has drawn near.’

“Anyone who listens to you, listens to me. Anyone who rejects you, rejects me, and those who reject me, reject the One who sent me.”

The seventy-two disciples returned with joy, saying, “Rabbi, even the demons obey us in your name!”

Jesus replied, I watched Satan fall from the sky like lightning. Look: I’ve given you the power to tread on snakes and scorpions – even all the forces of the enemy – and nothing will ever injure you. Nevertheless, don’t rejoice in the fact that spirits obey you, but rather that your names are inscribed in heaven.”

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Rob E. Sachs

Hymn of the Day

To Be Your Presence – ELW 546
verses 1, 2, and 4

Affirmation of Faith – Ionian Creed

Please stand as you are able as we confess our faith in God together using the words of our common creed:

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.
We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,
he died alone and forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,
and His kingdom will come on earth.
We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of all resurrection and of eternal life.
Amen**

Joys & Concerns

If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests to share, please type them into the comment section of the livestream so that we may lift them up together as a community.

Prayers of the People

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Your creation abounds with flowing waters and diverse creatures. Guide the work of climate scientists as they develop and advocate ways to restore earth's natural balance. Motivate humankind to adopt lifestyles that protect and sustain the earth.

God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You desire abundant life for all. As we celebrate Independence Day, instill in us gratitude, generosity, and persistence in working toward the true freedom and justice you long to see for all people.

God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Mothering God, you care for all people in need. Nourish those who are hungry. Restore employment to those who have lost work. Heal those who are sick, and comfort all who are dying or grieving.

God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of gentleness, strengthen the earth's ability to heal. Where there are dangerous storms, bring calm. Where there are destructive fires, bring rain. Protect homes, habitats, and livelihoods threatened by climate disasters.

God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of peace, you guard the nations; let no leaders exalt themselves, but lift up the most vulnerable and work for the good of all. Send your Spirit to eradicate classism and inequity, violence and war, poverty and hunger. We pray for victims of war and violence across the world. Send your Spirit to show us how to turn swords into plowshares, that nations might work together to create a culture of peace.

God in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Offering

At this time, if you are willing and able, please consider giving to Spirit of Grace Church to support our ongoing ministry. Checks can be mailed to 1140 Tucker Road, Hood River OR, 97031. Online Donations can be made through the link below:

[Spirit of Grace Church](#)

Offering Prayer

God of abundance:
you have set before us a plentiful harvest.
As we feast on your goodness,
strengthen us to labor in your field,
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,
in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...
 ...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the
 Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command...
 ...To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forevermore.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language you are most familiar with - the language of your heart.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Instructions for Communion (located on altar)

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.
Come to the banquet.

Communion Distribution

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

Announcements

Sending Song:

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing – UMH 671
verses 1 and 2

Blessing

The God of peace,
Creator, ☩ Redeemer, and Sustainer,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace – the Spirit of God is alive in you!
Thanks be to God!

Spirit of Grace
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