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August 15, 2021

**Pentecost Twelve**

Service of the Word and Prayer – WOV

August 15, 2021

Welcome and Announcements

**GATHERING**

***Gathering Song Morning Has Broken  ELW 556***

1 Morning has broken like the first morning 2 Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning

 Blackbird has spoken like the first bird Born of the one light, Eden saw play

 Praise for the singing, praise for the morning Praise with elation, praise every morning

 Praise for them springing fresh from the world God's recreation of the new day

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *(2 Corinthians 13:13)*

**And also with you.**

**Season after Pentecost**

You are the treasured people of the Lord,

***A people holy to the Lord our God.***

Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

***Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,***

***when you lie down and when you rise.***

One does not live by bread alone,

***But by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.***

**Prayer of the Day**

**Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.** **Amen.**

**WORD**

First Reading Proverbs 9:1-6 ***(Bible readings are found at the end of this service)***

Psalm Psalm 111

Second Reading Ephesians 5:15-20

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I abide in them. Alleluia.**(John 6:56)

Gospel Reading John 6:51-58

Sermon

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

***Hymn of the Day By Your Hand You Feed Your People ELW 469***

1. By your hand you feed your people, 2 Send us now with faith and courage

Food of angels, heaven’s bread to the hungry, lost, bereaved. For these gifts we did not labour, In our living and our dying,

By your grace have we been fed we become what we receive.

***Refrain***

***Christ’s own body, blessed and broken, cup o’er-flowing, life out-poured,***

***Given as a living token of your world redeemed, restored.***

**The Apostles’ Creed**

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

***We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.***

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

**The Confession**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**Pray in the Holy Spirit.** *(Jude 20)*

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**Look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** *(Jude 21)*

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

***Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!(2 Corinthians 5:17)***

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

***Silence for reflection and self examination.***

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.

**Amen**

**the Peace**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. *(2 Corinthians 13:11)*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER**

**Offering**

God has given each one of us to the world as a gift. The way we use our gifts in service to God through service to others, is our gift back to God.

**Offertory Prayer**

Let us pray.

God, our Creator,

**you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**The Prayers of Intercession**

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

***A brief silence.***

God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. We pray today for the clergy and people of the Meridian Council. We especially pray for The Rev. James DeBeer and the people of Starbuck United and the Meridian Parish, for the Rev. Randy Hildebrand and the people of Springstein Mennonite Church, for Father Lawrence and Father Mario and the people of St. Paul Roman Catholic Church in Starbuck and for Father Gabriel Levesque and the people of St. Hyacinthe Roman Catholic Church in La Salle. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes, forest fires and other natural disasters. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer. We especially pray for all whom you have entrusted to our care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, you receive all who come seeking a sign of grace. Make our congregation a place of hospitality and welcome for all. Be with us as we continue to worship together both in-person and on line. We pray that we may continue to do this for many years to come. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with all the saints to eternal life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Saviour gave us.

 **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.**

**SENDING**

**Blessing**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

May the Lord look upon you with favor

and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

***Sending Song On Our Way Rejoicing   ELW 537***

On our way rejoicing gladly let us go; Unto God the Father joyful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has conquered; Unto God the Saviour

vanquished is the foe. thankful hearts we bring;

Christ without, our safety; unto God the Spirit

Christ within, our joy; bow we and adore,

Who, if we be faithful, On our way rejoicing

Can our hope destroy? now and evermore. ***Refrain***

***Refrain***

***On our way rejoicing, as we forward move,***

***hearken to our praises, O blest God of love!***

**Dismissal**

We go in peace, trusting Jesus who walks with us! ***Thanks be to God.***

Go now in peace, never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of everyday.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true, know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe, reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching in, around and above,

Go now in peace, in faith and in love. **Amen.**

***You are invited to open up your videos and offer the other individuals who have gathered for worship today a sing of greeting.***

**The First Reading is from Proverbs beginning at the 9th chapter and the 1st verse.** *(Proverbs 9:1-6)*

 1Wisdom has built her house,
  she has hewn her seven pillars.
 2She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
  she has also set her table.
 3She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
  from the highest places in the town,
 4“You that are simple, turn in here!”
  To those without sense she says,
 5“Come, eat of my bread
  and drink of the wine I have mixed.
 6Lay aside immaturity, and live,
  and walk in the way of insight.”

**Listen for the leading of the Spirit. Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 111**

 1Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
  in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

 2**Great are your works, O Lord**
  **pondered by all who delight in them.**

 3Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
  and your righteousness endures forever.

 4**You cause your wonders to be remembered;**
  **you are gracious and full of compassion.**

 5You give food to those who fear you
  remembering forever your covenant.

 6**You have shown your people the power of your works**
  **in giving them the lands of the nations.**

 7The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
  all of your precepts are sure.

 8**They stand fast forever and ever,**
  **because they are done in truth and equity.**

 9You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
  holy and awesome is your name.

 10**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;**
  **all who practice this have a good understanding. God’s praise endures forever.**

**The Second Reading is from St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians beginning at the 5th chapter and the 15th verse.** *(Ephesians 5:15-20)*

15Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, 16making the most of the time, because the days are evil. 17So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, 19as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Listen for the leading of the Spirit. Thanks be to God**

**The Holy Gospel according to John the 6th chapter** *(John 6:51–58)*

**Glory to You O Lord!**

 [Jesus said,] 51“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”
  52The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” 53So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

**Praise to You O Christ!**