

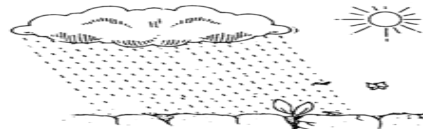
12 July 2020

6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
725 Truxton Drive, Kingsport, TN.

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As “*the rain and the snow come down from heaven*” and “*water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout*” so the Word of God grants joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name.

Isaiah 55

COLLECT

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

INTROIT (spoken) *Psalm 103:15–19*

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. **As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;** for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. **But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children’s children,** to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. **The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

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READINGS

Old Testament/ Isaiah 55:10–13

Epistle/Romans 8:12–17

Gospel/Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

- As “*the rain and the snow come down from heaven*” and “*water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout*” (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as “*an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off*” (Is. 55:13).
- He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and “*indeed bears fruit*” (Matt. 13:23).
- He is Himself the firstfruits of all who “*have received the Spirit of adoption as sons*” (Rom. 8:15). Thus being “*led by the Spirit of God,*” we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we “*also be glorified with him*” (Rom. 8:17).

STEWARDSHIP

Romans 8:12 – “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.”

We owe the flesh, the world, and the devil nothing at all.

We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ.

We are joyful servants in Christ’s kingdom – servants that He calls friends.

We share our Lord’s plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.

Sermon Notes

+ Sixth Sunday after Pentecost +

12 July 2020

Where the Seed is Planted Matthew 13:3-8

As Jesus begins to teach in parables various aspects of His life and ministry among us,

- *He invites us to exchange our natural understandings for the supernatural*
- *and embrace His Gracious Kingdom that produces bountiful blessings.*

1. **Surprisingly, Jesus' ministry does not have automatic "success"**
 - a. The Pharisees have already determined to destroy Jesus
 - b. We live in humble dependence on the grace of His Word
2. **Jesus' ministry does produce faith and good works**
 - a. He creates great comfort and confidence
 - b. Faith is never alone – good works and blessings abound
3. **Jesus' ministry moves us to marvel at the generosity of God**
 - a. Friend of tax-collectors and sinners
 - b. Tell the Good News to every creature
4. **Jesus' ministry calls us to live in wisdom and vigilant discernment**
 - a. The wicked one, troubles/persecution, worries and deceitful wealth do not retire
 - b. Undeterred, Unhindered and Unashamed!

Discipleship Leading to Evangelism

When we speak, our words ought to flow from and back to

- **Scripture** - *as the source and norm:*
- **Confession** - *as faithful exposition of what Scripture says,*
- **Creed** - *as summary of what Scripture says,*
- **Catechism** - *as instructional book of doctrine and Scripture,*
- **Liturgy** - *as prayed Scripture.*

Pastor Larry Peters. Clarksville, TN.

pastoralmeandering. Oct. 18, 2018.

- **Various Vocations** “church taken out into the streets” as “how we now live out our lives” as Baptized Children of God.
 1. *Serving God,*
 2. *Serving those we can now love: not in order to earn our salvation, but because we are grateful for what Father, Son and Holy Spirit have done for us and to us...primarily in church... through:*
 - Scripture, preached and sung in the Liturgy,
 - Baptism,
 - Lord's Supper,
 - Confession and Absolution.

Timothy Carter,

simple country Deacon. Nov. 1, 2018.

Prayer of the Church. Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. 12 July 2020

Almighty God, hear the prayers of Your people, grant to us all things needful and beneficial, and keep from us all things harmful.

Holy Lord, mighty God, You are the strength of the hills and the hope of the ends of the earth. Give to our hearts Your perfect peace, that we may not be anxious nor live in fear but rest all our hopes, dreams and desires upon Your merciful goodness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, mighty God, You send forth water upon the earth, that it may bring forth abundant fruit and feed our bodies with all that we need. Help us to be wise and faithful in the use of the rich bounty of the earth, that the poor may be supplied and that we never fail to give thanks to You for all You have given us for this body and life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, mighty God, Your Word will not return to You empty but will accomplish Your purpose in sending it. By Your Holy Spirit, make our hearts good soil for Your Word to be planted, that we may give evidence of a sturdy faith and show forth in our lives the good works You have called us to do. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, mighty God, Your Spirit accompanies the witness of Your people who speak Your Word before the world. Grant success to the missionary and mission planter and to every pastor and church worker, that those who hear may believe and those who believe may bear the good fruit of faith in their lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, You have given power to the nations and those who govern to act for the good of Your people. Bless our president, the Congress, our governor and all those elected and appointed to lead us, that justice may prevail and Your people may be free to live at peace with all people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, You know how weak and frail we are. Give to those afflicted in mind, body or soul the fullness of Your healing grace, that according to Your will they may be restored to health. Hear us for all those suffering or recovering from the pandemic's ravages, for those who have requested our prayers [*especially* _____], and for those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, You have granted us great riches and gifts. Keep our hearts from being overburdened by the things of this mortal life, whether in time of plenty or in time of want. Deliver us from persecution and sustain us from all tribulation, that our hearts may ever be fixed upon the true treasure of Your grace. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring as part of our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for all Your goodness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, Your Word endures forever. Keep us from being tossed about by every wind of change and chance, and help us to endure upon the firm foundation of Your Word and Sacraments. Prepare us so that we may worthily receive the Lord's body and blood and be kept by this blessed communion toward the day when we shall be reunited with all who have gone before and dwell in Your presence forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In Him, with Him and through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, both now and forevermore. **Amen.**

Hymns

How Great Is Our God	[NewSong 53]
Make Known His Deeds	647
Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast	577
Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens	589
On What Has Now Been Sown	921

Praying This Week for Your Family at Concordia

Monday: Ladell McWhirter	Thursday: Grant Miller
Tuesday: Al Miller	Friday: Bill & Linda Morawetz
Wednesday: Marty & Teri Miller	Saturday: LaVerne Morris

This Week at Concordia

Sunday, July 12	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Class 10:00 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Monday, July 13	9:00 a.m. Elder's Meeting 1:00 p.m. Women's Afternoon Bible Study at Church
Tuesday, July 14	
Wednesday, July 15	7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast at Burger King on Clinchfield Street
Thursday, July 16	
Friday, July 17	
Saturday, July 18	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Mid-South District LWML Virtual Convention viewing party at CLC
Sunday, July 19	9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Class 10:00 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Worship Service