

WELCOMING WORD *The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,

C: to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

L: to herald your love in the morning

C: and your faithfulness at night;

L: Those who are planted in the house of the LORD

C: shall flourish in the courts of our God;

OPENING HYMN: #358 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Glories of your name are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken formed you for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake your sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, you may smile at all your foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply your sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, while such a river ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner, light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna, which God gives them on their way.

Savior, since of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in your name.
Fading are the worldlings' pleasures; all their boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasures, none but Zion's children know.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: God, our provider

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

L: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

INVOCATION

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God,

C: you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 17:22-24 ²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 ⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34 ²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

HYMN #760 For the Fruit of All Creation

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

BENEVOLENCE PRESENTATION – Lutheran Social Service

OFFERTORY PRAYER - Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence

Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, we pray for those in our midst in need of your healing touch (especially ...) Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you (*especially*). We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

C: Amen.

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

BENEDICTION *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN: #561 For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies:

Refrain

Christ, our Lord, to you we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

For the wonder of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light: *Refrain*

For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony Linking sense to sound and sight: *Refrain*

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above; For all gentle thoughts and mild: *Refrain*



 IN OUR 
Thoughts and Prayers

Kristin Swedlund-Twiton, Mike Mackler (friend of Char Smith),
Connie Peterson, Bonnie Bender, Ginger
Quaderer (Diane Mueller's cousin),
Norbert Haag (brother of Virgil Haag),
Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny

Kellogg), Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson), Delores Bryant, Makenzee Smith,
Shirley Thompson, Brock Howe, Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith), Brian Marshall
(friend of Kim Kelliher), Jeannie U'Ren, Ruth Ann Nemet, Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's
brother), Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Irene Bruflat, Connie Fausett (sister of Diane
Twiton & Jean Bower), Bill Steinhauer, Harlan Oimoen, Peter Toniazzo, Grace Aavang, Helen
Martinson, Carol Johnson,



Our partner congregation IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in memory of John Kahl from Helen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELC 'COFFEE TIME' Coffee Time meets on Wednesday at 10:00am AND we meet "in person". Join us at ELC for time to gather and catch up with our church family.

SARAH CIRCLE will meet at the Aztlan Mexican Grill on **Tuesday, June 15** at 6:30pm.

OFFICE MANAGER JOB POSTING Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mt Horeb is seeking an office manager to perform day-to-day administrative activities in the operation of the church and be the first-line contact for congregation members as well as the public. This person should understand the mission of the church (but does not need to be a member), have excellent interpersonal skills and should be proficient in word processing, bookkeeping, data base, web maintenance and working with spreadsheet programs. They should have strong organizational skills with the ability to multi-task and ideally have a minimum of 2 years of office management, administrative support, or secretarial experience, but not required. The position includes PTO days and is somewhat flexible up to 30 hours a week. Pay will be partially determined by experience. Training will be available.

YOUTH NEWS

2021 ELC SUMMER FUN (Save the dates)

- **VBS/DAY CAMP 2021 - JULY 12 - 15th 9:30 - 11:30 am** (Youth ages 3 - 5th grade)
ONLINE SIGN UP LINK:
<https://forms.gle/3FCz1yfrYqQEcxph6> A time to be together outside in God's creation.
- **EXPLORER DAY AT SUGAR CREEK - July 26th, 9 am - 3 pm** (Children entering 1st - 5th grade in fall 2021)
Email Brenda to sign up.
- **CONFIRMATION CAMP AT SUGAR CREEK - July 25 - 30th, (7th & 8th)**
Register online at www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org
- **GIVE/LOVE/SERVE (Service days) - New for 2021** - Middle - High school youth may join us on **Thursdays**, throughout the summer, to help in various local service opportunities. This provides us with helping our neighbors all summer, and allowing flexibility for our youths with their summer schedules.
REGISTER online: (Link can be emailed as well)
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4daea929a5ffc70-giveloveservice>

The graphic is a rectangular box with a blue border. On the left side, there is a vertical banner with the text "HOP SKIP JUMP!" in large, colorful, stylized letters. To the right of the banner, the text reads: "VBS/DAY CAMP at ELC", "July 12 - 15th, 9:30 am - 11:30 am", "(Children ages 3 yrs. - 5th grade)", "TO REGISTER ONLINE: <https://forms.gle/3FCz1yfrYqQEcxph6>", and "CONTACT: brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org". At the bottom of the graphic, there is a blue banner with the text "EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH of Mount Horeb" on the left, and "GAMES FRIENDS BIBLE TIME" in the center, and "OUTDOOR" in red on the right.

SUGAR CREEK "BACK IN THE SADDLE" Online Registrations are now available for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer programs. They have a variety of programs (new & favorites) listed on their website, <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org>, for youth and families. Come and see in 2021!

FROLIC BRAT STAND AT ELC: June 13th, 10am - 1:30pm Come & enjoy a brat/hot dog, while watching the parade at ELC. Funds will support our youth summer trips in 2022.

PARADE WALKERS - Everyone is welcome to join us to walk in the Frolic Parade and represent our ELC family. Parade begins at 12:00 pm on June 13. Meet us at 11:45 am on Lincoln St (by Middle School), where the parade begins. Questions, contact Pastor John or Brenda. **Free ELC t-shirt for anyone walking in the parade.**

COLLEGE GRADUATES We would like to recognize our young adults who have graduated this year from college in our July/August newsletter. Please email brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org with their name, degree, and any future plans by mid June.

FUSE NIGHTS (in person) 9-12th graders are welcome to join our high school group at ELC on **Tuesday, June 22nd** at 7:00pm.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 13, 2021

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding

Monday, Psalm 100, All Summoned to Praise God

Tuesday, Zechariah 9:14-10:2, The Coming Ruler of God's People

Wednesday, Luke 15:1-7, The Parable of the Lost Sheep

Thursday, John 20:1-2, 11-18, Jesus' Resurrection and Appearance

Friday, Colossians 3:12-17, New Life in Christ

Saturday, 2 Kings 4:42-44, Elisha feeds many

TALK: Consider some of these ideas: "He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?" Mark 4:30 *Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.*

- When is the last time you really pondered the wonder of growth of creation all around you?
- How might your life have 'sown seeds' in the lives of others?
- Have you sown seeds of faith, or sown seeds of doubt and despair?
- Have you ever been surprised by the impact that your word or example have had on others?

PRAY: All powerful God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESS: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.