June 6, 2021

Second Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOMING WORD A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L: I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;
- C: in your word is my hope.
- L: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,
- C: more than those who keep watch for the morning.
- L: O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
- C: with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.
- L: For the LORD shall redeem Israel
- C: from all their sins.

OPENING HYMN #252 You Servants of God

You servants of God, your master proclaim, And publish abroad his wonderful name; The name, all victorious, of Jesus extol; His kingdom is glorious and rules over all!

Our God rules on high, almighty to save; And still he is nigh, his presence we have. The great congregation his triumph shall sing, Ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!

Salvation to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry aloud and honor the Son. The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give him his right, All glory and pow'r and wisdom and might. All honor and blessing, with angels above, And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

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: All-powerful God,

C: in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15 ⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,

cursed are you among all animals

and among all wild creatures;

upon your belly you shall go,

and dust you shall eat

all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,

and between your offspring and hers;

he will strike your head,

and you will strike his heel."

SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1 ¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. ^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35[Jesus went home;]²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables

, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. ²⁸"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—³⁰for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit." ³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." ³³And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "He re are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

MESSAGE - Pastor John Twiton

HYMN #229 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious; He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us, We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpow'r us. Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage! His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

God's word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it; For God himself fights by our side With weapons of the spirit. Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!

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.
- 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.

God of wholeness, we pray for believers all over the globe especially our partner congregation in Cataño, Puerto Rico. Unify us in service of the gospel, that we may work together as beloved siblings to share your love with all. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of the cosmos, we pray for creation; the gardens, waterways and creatures near to us and diverse forms of life that remain unseen. Teach us to treat the natural world with reverence, seeking restoration when human divisions have caused harm to your beloved creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of all people, we pray for harmony among the nations. Cast out from us unclean spirits of greed and fear, that we may work in solidarity with one another for the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of abundance, we pray for those who are oppressed or in any need. Encourage those who have begun to lose heart. Strengthen and renew us with your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of righteousness, we pray for this holy house of worship. Set our gaze upon things eternal, that in thanksgiving for your mercy, we may extend grace to more and more people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of the ages, in your goodness you have sent us faithful witnesses for every time and place. We give you thanks for those saints who now rest in your eternal mercy (*especially*). 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: #543 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen All that is needful has been Sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew What the Almighty can do If with his love he befriend you.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen Sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!



Kristin Swedlund-Twiton, 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 Thoughts and Prayers 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, Mike Mackler (friend of Char Smith)

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



DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 6, 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 74, A Plea for Help Tuesday, Revelation 20:7-15, Satan's Doom Wednesday, Luke 11:14-28, Jesus and Beelzebul Thursday, Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15, Thanksgiving for Vindication Friday, Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3, The Church in Antioch Saturday, Mark 4:1-20. The Parable of the Sower

- TALK: Consider some of these ideas: "And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand." Mark 3:23-24 In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.
 - How do Jesus' words about 'a house divided' make you feel about our own society?
 - Have family members ever questioned your devotion to faith? How do you respond? •
 - How does Paul's promise in 2 Corinthians about "this outer nature wasting away, but the inner nature • being renewed day by day" apply to your life?
- PRAY: All powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same 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.

ELC 'COFFEE TIME' RESUMES Coffee Time will resume on Wednesdays at 10 am AND we will meet 'in person'. Please meet at ELC for time to gather and catch up with our church family.



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: <u>https://forms.gle/3FCz1yfrYqQEkxph6</u> 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) <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4daea929a5ffc70-giveloveservice</u>

• 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, <u>http://wp.sugarcreek</u> bible <u>camp.org</u>, for youth and families. Come and see in 2021!

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

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

FROLIC BRAT STAND AT ELC: June 13th, 10 am - 1:30 pm 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.

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



VETERANS' MINISTRY During the month of May, we are providing some note cards in the narthex to be signed and write notes to our deployed ELC members in the military. We will also have sheets of paper with their addresses on. Take a few cards home, or write them in church and drop in the offering plate. The church can mail them. Help us thank the fine people who help keep us safe here at home. Thank you so much! ELC Inreach/Outreach Ministry/Veterans Ministry.

Grant Schult- Currently lives at home with his parents. He goes to Green Bay one week-end a month for his training. In May, he will go to Texas for 2 weeks. I informed his mother Teresa that we will deliver a box to them by May 1st, so he can take it with him.

Lcpl Jacob Slaney-

1st Battalion,5th Marines / 1st Marine Division MCB Box 555463 Camp Pendleton, Ca. 92055-5463

Jacob is currently at a six week assignment, and will return to this address mid- May. Jacob is the son of Elizabeth Field and grandson of Don and Cathie Field

Spc.Kaleb Stapleman 7936 Destiny Blvd. Fort Campbell, Kentucky 52223

Kaleb is a helicopter mechanic. Kaleb's parents are Adam and Brianne Stapleman

Jacob Werner USS Nimitz Unit 10003 / Box 1063 FPO: AP 96620 He is the grandson of Janice and Delbert Werner.

Jack Lunaas 241 Lee Road 553 Phenix City, Al. 36867

Jack is the grandson of Polly Field.