

SUNDAY- JULY 2, 2023 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON
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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 2, 2023 | 5th Sunday after Pentecost | 9:00 AM

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C** = Congregation)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

WELCOMING WORD *The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.*

OPENING HYMN: #638 - Blessed Assurance

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

C - Amen.

P - Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Righteous God,

C - we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

P - God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

C - Amen

GREETING

L: 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.

+ KYRIE pg. 138

+ HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140 "This is the feast..."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God,

C: you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

SECOND READING: Romans 6:12-23

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 10,

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

+HYMN # 725 - *When the Poor Ones*

+ NICENE CREED pg. 104

THE PRAYERS pg. 143

(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:

“Lord in your mercy...” The people respond: Hear our prayer.”)

OFFERING (please pass the pew pads at this time)

OFFERTORY - #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

MEAL

+ Offering Prayer: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

+The Lord's Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Communion Hymn: #712 - *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

Prayer after Communion: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: 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.

C: Amen.

+HYMN #887 - *This Is My Song* (vs. 1,2)

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 2, 2023

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, John 14:1-7, A Place Prepared

Tuesday, 1 John 4:1-6, Testing the Spirits

Wednesday, Matthew 11:20-24, Woes to Unrepentant Cities

Thursday, Psalm 145:8-14, The Greatness and Goodness of God

Friday, Zechariah 2:6-13, An Appeal to the Exiles

Saturday, Luke 10:17-24, The Return of the Seventy

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.” -- Matthew 10:40

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

- Do you think God tests us in the way God seemed to be testing Abraham? (Psa 13)
- What are the things you ask “how long” about? Are they personal? Societal? Political? (Rom 6:12-23)
- Is Jesus calling us to respond with simple kindness? Institutional ministry? A way of being? (Matt 10:40-42)

PRAY: O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESS: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. Amen.