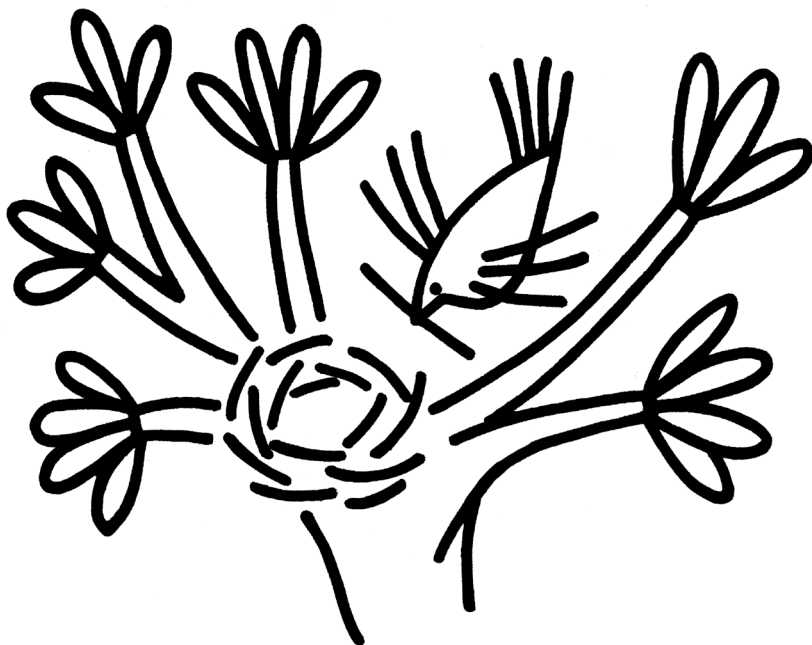


SUNDAY- JUNE 16, 2024 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

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

MINISTERS
PASTOR
INTERN

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON
ZACH SMIRRIS

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, June 16, 2024 | Fourth Sunday after Pentecost | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

*You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude
for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.*

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.*

OPENING HYMN: #556 - Morning Has Broken

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C - Amen.

L - Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of
our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C - Amen.

L - Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one
another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**C - we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free
ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word,
and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we
have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of
your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew
us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk
in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L - God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and
made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the
name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen
you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your
hearts through faith.

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: Almighty 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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS:

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²Thus 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 READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; 14-17

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. 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!

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

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

L: The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 4,

C: Glory to you, O Lord

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.

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

+HYMN {insert} - I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

+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

OFFERING SONG - Down to the River

OFFERTORY - #182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

MEAL

+ Offering 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.

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

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

Communion Hymn: (insert) - New Patterns of Loving
(sung to the tune of "Immortal, Invisible")

Prayer after Communion: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. 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 # 550 - On What Has Now Been Sown

+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.

We at Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mount Horeb have made a commitment to live out our Welcome Statement. During Pride Month we will be including a weekly hymn that acknowledges our welcome, acceptance and support of the LGBTQ+ community.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 2024

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 52, Judgement on the Deceitful

Tuesday, Revelation 21:22-22:5, The New Heaven and the New Earth

Wednesday, Luke 6:43-45, A Tree and Its Fruit

Thursday, Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32, Thanksgiving for Deliverance

Friday, Acts 21:1-16, Paul's Journey to Jerusalem

Saturday, Luke 21:25-28, The Coming of the Son of Man

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“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.

- In the parable of the sower, who is the reaper? How can the reaper not know how growth happens? (Mark 4:26-34)
- List some of the works of God's hands that make you want to sing for joy. (Psa 92:1-4, 12-15)
- In what ways do we cling to the old creation instead of seeing a new creation as Paul says? (2 Cor. 4:16-17)

PRAY: Almighty 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: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. Amen.

