



**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sunday, July 12, 2020
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

Thought: Romans 8:11 "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you." Life has many twists and turns and can sometimes topple us to our knees. But, we stand strong in the hope of knowing there will be rejoicing and gladness by our faith and in the kingdom. Psalm 65:4 "Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple." You, by your baptism are chosen and named by God who loves you. Therefore, even though this earthly life is temporary, we have a special gift waiting of eternity!

Prelude - You Shall Go Out with Joy – Maranatha Singers

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Go-Out-With-Joy-Maranatha-Singers-135140.mp4>

Call to Worship

We are the created ones.

We have searched within our own lives and found an incompleteness.

So come into the presence of God, our Creator.

**There is within us a longing for something beyond our own lives;
there is a hunger for the presence of God, who can make us whole.**

So come and receive a taste of the Spirit which will fill and satisfy you.

Gathering music – Psalm 42 Tori Kelly (with lyrics)

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Tori-Kelly-Psalm-42-Lyrics-137140.mp4>

Invocation

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

And also with you.

Confession and Prayer

You have made us little less than the angels, O God,
and yet we have sought the most mundane of pursuits far too often.

A time of silence and reflection

You have brightened our existence with light, and yet we have more often than not shown a preference for the darkness. There is a hunger in us that we cannot satisfy, and we cannot even trust ourselves to turn to you, who can fill us.

**Where we have settled for the mundane and earthly, forgive us. Come among us again and again – the holy incarnate in human garb who alone is able to fill our lives with lasting joy.
Amen.**

Greeting

Now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen and Amen.

Hymn of Praise – Isaiah 55:10-11 The Word of the Cross

http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Isaiah-55_10-11-137140.mp4

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Word

First reading – Isaiah 55:10-13

The growth of the word to accomplish God's purpose

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Psalm 65: (1-8) 9-13

Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!

¹ Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,

² **O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.**

³ When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.

⁴ **Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.**

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.**

⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.

⁶ **By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.**

⁷ You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.

⁸ **Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.**

⁹ You visit the earth and water it,
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.

¹⁰ **You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,**

**softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.**

- ¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
- ¹² **The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,**
- ¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

Second reading – Romans 8:1-11

He who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you

⁸ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Holy Gospel – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The parable of the sower and the seed

The Parable of the Sower

¹³ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ Let anyone with ears [\[a\]](#) listen!"

The Parable of the Sower Explained

¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. [\[a\]](#) ²² As

for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Children’s Time

<https://youtu.be/zEL6ecMvFzU>

Homily – Pastor Barnes: “More to Life than Death”

<https://youtu.be/gYKc3O7B5lo>

Music of the Day – I Can Only Imagine – Mercy Me

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MercyMe-I-Can-Only-Imagine-Official-Music-Video-135140.mp4>

Prayers of Intercession

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, your word has been sown in many ways and places. We pray for missionaries and newly planted congregations around the world. Inspire us by their witness to the faith we share. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, the mountains and hills burst into song and the trees and fields clap their hands in praise. We pray for the birds and animals who make their home in the trees, and for lands stripped bare by deforestation. Empower us to sustainably use what you have given. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reigning God, we pray for our nation’s leaders. Increase their desire for justice and equality. We pray for our enemies. Bridge the chasms that divide us and guide authorities to a deep and lasting peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding God, care for all who are in need. For those who are doubting, renew faith. For those who are worrying, provide release. For those who are struggling, ease burdens. For those in fear, give hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Renewing God, revive your church in this place. Nourish and nurture the seeds you have planted, that we might grow as disciples. Replace what has been depleted. Sustain our ministries and deepen relationships with the wider community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have died. Comfort us in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering Prayer

We offer up our worldly goods with the full knowledge that we have loved them too much. Give us the joy that comes from seeing what you can accomplish with these monies. Make us glad in our giving as you reveal how it is possible to put material possessions to holy uses. Teach us also what you can do with our lives as well. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

This is not communion, but it's a way to remind us that as we break bread together, that Christ Jesus is with us in and with and under the bread we share every day.

Pastor Barnes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=escSESUwcyY&feature=youtu.be>

Luke 24:28-31

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Lord's Prayer

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;
and 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.

Silence for Reflection

As the Grains of Wheat – Marty Haugen

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/As-the-Grains-of-Wheat-133140.mp4>

Luke 24:32-35

³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

As you break bread this week, stop for a moment – pray – ask the Lord to open your heart to His presence in others and anew, as you hear, read and study His Word.

John 6:35 "Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger; and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

Closing Prayer

Of all the creatures that have been placed on this planet, we uniquely seem to hold the capacity to look inside ourselves – to ask the great questions about the meaning of life and to ponder what is beyond the only existence which we shall truly know. These questions can confuse and torture us, for whether

we have ample bread to eat or not, whether we have a warm and safe place to lay our heads at night, and whether we are surrounded by the love of others or trudge life's path alone, the questions still press upon us. Keep before us in these days those who are poor in spirit, who hunger for wholeness and peace, and who yearn for a presence that can complete their existence and fill their lives with meaning. Come to them and to us. Amen.

Closing Music – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (virtual choir #4)

<http://www.oslchopeonthehill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/A-Mighty-Fortress-Is-Our-God-Virtual-Choir-4-137140.mp4>

504 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield is this our strength;
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, were it not
3 That the Lord of hosts is he, the Lord all throned on high,
4 God's Word for ever shall abide, nor think to lose his side.

5 He breaks the cruel oppression's rod and
6 pierces the champion's shield, who
7 fears not, for God himself fights by our side and

8 will vanquish the enemies. The old satanic
9 God himself elected. You ask who this may be,
10 and our power is. Let this world's tyrants
11 weapons of the spirit. Were they to take our

12 hearts sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread
13 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, might
14 in his we'll engage! His might is doomsday
15 goods, him we shield or spare, though life be wretched

505 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing,
2 our helper, our defender, let the foe of mortal ill prevail.
3 For will our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe,
4 with guile and dreadful might intend to wage the fight,
5 on earth there is no equal.

6 If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to nothing,
7 our righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing.
8 They ask who this may be: "Our Jesus, it is he,
9 the Lord of hosts by name, the other God we claim!"
10 Because the cross won the battle.

11 Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us,
12 we tremble not, we trust God's will, they cannot overpower us,
13 Though Satan rage and engage, in fiercest war engage,
14 his tyrant's doomed to fall, God's judgment must prevail!
15 One little word shall triumph.

16 God's Word shall stand above the powers, shall end all their thanksgiving,
17 The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living,
18 Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also,
19 though all of these be gone, they yet have nothing won,
20 The Kingdom's ours forever!