

Sunday, February 20, 2022  
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



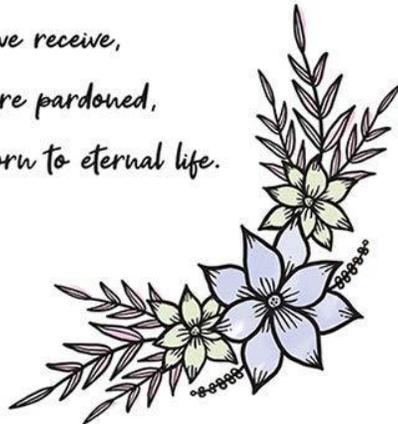
*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.*



*O divine Master, grant that I may not so  
much seek to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

*Amen.*



Thought - Love shared is grace given no matter what might be the return. Radical love is to understand this same love was given for everyone who might believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Are we able to look back no matter the circumstances and see God working through us?

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Prayers Concerns

### Installation of Congregational Council Members

### Sharing of the Peace

### Call to Worship

(from the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi)

A: O Lord, Jesus, make us instruments of your peace,

C: that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope.

A: Grant, O divine master that we may seek to console,

C: to understand, and to love in your name.

### Gathering Hymn

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive” ELW 605

<https://youtu.be/HixCQUirJxg>

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive - Koine

## Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

P: O Lord, you have been generous to us.

*A time of silence for reflection and meditation*

P: Help us to be as generous as you.

**C: Help us to be generous toward those who are homeless and hungry, naked and poor.**

P: O Lord, you have given us a place at your heavenly banquet even though we once were your enemies.

**C: Help us to be generous toward the seemingly unlovable and the cruelly outcast.**

P: O Lord, you have given us the blessing of forgiveness when we do not deserve it.

**C: Help us to overflow with love in our lives, by following your example. Amen.**

### Greeting

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

### Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: 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.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Hymn of Praise**

“Change My Heart O God” ELW 801

<https://youtu.be/CEtsHWFE6-w>

Change My Heart O God - Eddie Espinosa

**Prayer of the Day**

**A:** Heavenly Father, you have made us family. Help us to live as one -

**C:** true to you, true to each other.

**A:** That all who lean on you may rest in the knowledge that they are leaning on something substantial, indeed -

**C:** the very power, the very source, the very strength of love itself.

**A:** Open our minds to the wondrous understanding that love...your love...is a verb.

**C:** Help us, Father, to do it. Amen.

## The Word

Old Testament reading - Genesis 45:3-11, 15

*Joseph reconciles with his brothers*

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup>Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

<sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

*The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace*

<sup>1</sup>Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup>**For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

<sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup>**Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart’s desire.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God

will do.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

<sup>8</sup>Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.

<sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

<sup>10</sup>In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.

<sup>11</sup>But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

<sup>39</sup>But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.

<sup>40</sup>You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

### Epistle reading – 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

#### *The mystery of the resurrection of the body*

<sup>35</sup>But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” <sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup>So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Holy Gospel - Luke 6:27-38**  
<https://youtu.be/jwNx6c9jXpU>

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you O Lord.**

*Jesus invites followers to shower radical love, blessing and forgiveness on all*

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup>“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup>“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**Stories for the Children of God**  
<https://youtu.be/HMvnxktOPQI>

Homily - "Change My Heart O God"

<https://youtu.be/fkhZR9zrvU4>

Hymn of the Day

"In Christ There Is No East or West" ELW 650

<https://youtu.be/GG8hzY1OoM4>

In Christ There Is No East or West - Chris Brunelle

2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Nicene Creed

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
True God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary.  
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

**P:** The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

**A:** You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace,

**C:** hear our prayer.

**A:** Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for

planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled (*especially*). God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom (*especially*). As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

Offering - *A time of thankful silence*

Offertory Prayer

A: O God, your love is evident in everything you do

**C: In your gracious providence, in your merciful salvation, in your steadfast presence.**

**A: We offer up to you these gifts - kindly gathered, lovingly offered.**

**C: Use them, we pray, throughout this congregation, the community and the world. Spread, even with these small gifts, your wondrous love.**

**A: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**C: Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise...

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ  
for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace,  
and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

**“In the Singing” ELW 466**

<https://youtu.be/tUigGiyqgh4>

In The Singing - Murray and Young

## Words of Institution

### 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.

### Distribution

### Music for Communion

### Post Communion Blessing - Pastor

### Post Communion Prayer

A: Inspire us by your generosity, evident at this table, to follow your example.

C: Inspire us, Lord, to love as much.

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

### Benediction - Numbers 6

## Sending Hymn

“Go My Children with My Blessing” ELW 543

<https://youtu.be/Kd-FANyN1VU>

Go My Children with My Blessing - First - Plymouth Church, Nebraska

## Dismissal

A: Go to serve being and living love for each other.

C: Thanks be to God!

## Postlude

