

God's Service Sunday, June 2, 2024
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting Seven



WELCOME

This Sunday, Deuteronomy makes clear that sabbath-keeping is meant for the welfare of all. God delivered the Israelites out of slavery, so they should observe this freedom with a day of rest. No one should work seven days a week; even slaves and foreigners should be able to rest. Yet human beings can turn even the most liberating religious practice into a life-destroying rule. Jesus does not reject sabbath-keeping, but defends its original life-enhancing meaning. Our worship and our religious way of life are to lead to restoration: the hungry being fed and the sick being healed as well as our own renewal that we might live abundant lives together.

Let us take a moment now to prepare our hearts and minds for God's Service as we listen to the prelude.

PRELUDE "Ellacombe" Hymn Tune arr. by Slowins

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONG *Gather Us In* (ELW 532)

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,

here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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GREETING (ELW p. 175)

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 176)

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 178)

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 5:12-15

This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 81:1-10

¹Sing with joy to ¹ God our strength
and raise a loud shout to the ¹ God of Jacob.

²**Raise a song and ¹ sound the timbrel,
the merry harp, ¹ and the lyre. R**

³Blow the ram's horn at ¹ the new moon,
and at the full moon, the day ¹ of our feast;

⁴**for this is a stat- ¹ ute for Israel,
a law of the ¹ God of Jacob.**

⁵God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the ¹ land of Egypt,
where I heard a voice I ¹ did not know:

⁶**“I eased your shoulder ¹ from the burden;
your hands were set free from the grave- ¹ digger's basket. R**

⁷You called on me in trouble, and I de- ¹ livered you;

I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the wa- ¹ ters of Meribah.

⁸**Hear, O my people, and I will ad- ¹ monish you:
O Israel, if you would but lis- ¹ ten to me!**

⁹There shall be no strange ¹ god among you;
you shall not worship a ¹ foreign god.

¹⁰**I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the ¹ land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and ¹ I will fill it. R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

When we carry out God's ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 179)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia,

alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 2:23-3:6

Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" ²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." ²⁷Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." ⁴Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (ELW p. 180)

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Day of Rest and Gladness* (ELW 521)

- 1 O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness,
most beautiful, most bright:
on you the high and lowly,
through ages joined in tune,
sing, "Holy, holy, holy,"
to the great God triune.

- 2 On you, at earth's creation,
the light first had its birth;
on you, for our salvation,
Christ rose from depths of earth;
on you, our Lord victorious
the Spirit sent from heav'n;
and thus on you, most glorious,
a threefold light was giv'n.

- 3 Today on weary nations
the heav'nly manna falls;
to holy convocations
the silver trumpet calls,
where gospel light is glowing
with pure and radiant beams
and living water flowing
with soul-refreshing streams.

- 4 New graces ever gaining
from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining
to spirits of the blest.
We sing to you our praises,
O Father, Spirit, Son;
the church its voice upraises
to you, blest Three in One.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them (*especially*). Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and Little Free Pantries. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 180)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE

OFFERING MUSIC *God of Abraham* arr. by Langlois

SETTING OF THE TABLE *Let Us Go Now to the Banquet: Vamos todos al banquete* (ELW 523 refrain & verse 2)

Refrain

Let us go now to the banquet,
to the feast of the universe.

The table's set and a place is waiting;
come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

- 2 God invites all the poor and hungry
to the banquet of justice and good
where the harvest will not be hoarded
so that no one will lack for food. *Refrain/*

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OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 180)

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 180)

The Lord be with you.

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 (ELW p. 181)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 181)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We praise you, all-holy God,
for the universe beyond our knowing, and for friends and strangers and family.
We praise you for your covenant people, and for centuries of faithful Christians.
We praise you for your Son Jesus Christ,
who on the night before he died took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
We pray for your Holy Spirit.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Christ,
and renew the world with your mercy,
with your healing, your justice, and your peace.
We praise you, all-holy God,
today, tomorrow, and forever.
Amen. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 182)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Receive who you are; Become what you receive; Come to the banquet, for all is now ready and there is a place at Christ's table for all.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 182)

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 182)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

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DISTRIBUTION MUSIC *Come You Sinners* by Cooman

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 183)

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING OF COMMUNION (ELW p. 183)

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 183)

BLESSING

And now as you go on your way, may Christ go with you.

May he go before you to lead you, behind you to encourage you, beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over you and always, always within you to give you his peace.

In the name of the Father, +and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING SONG *Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing* (ELW 389)

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.

- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

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DISMISSAL (ELW p. 183)

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

The Martyrs of Uganda, died 1886

Monday, June 3, 2024

On June 3, 1886, thirty-two young men were burned to death for refusing to renounce Christianity. The confident manner in which these Christians went to their deaths contributed to a much stronger Christian presence in Uganda.

John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, died 1963

Monday, June 3, 2024

When elected pope, the former Angelo Roncalli was expected to be a short-term caretaker. He showed great spirit, though, and convened the Second Vatican Council which helped bring great changes to Roman Catholic and other churches.

Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, died 754

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

Boniface was a native of England who became a Benedictine monk and was called to missionary work among the Vandal tribes of Germany. With fellow workers, he established churches and schools, and he also worked to reform the church.

Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, died 1866

Friday, June 7, 2024

Noah Seattle led a coalition of tribes, and convinced them to live peacefully with encroaching white settlers. When he became a Roman Catholic, he held morning and evening prayer with his tribe. The city of Seattle is named for him.

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