

# Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



10:00 am  
July 12, 2020  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Camas, Washington  
360-834-4201 Office

Susan Dollinger, Associate Pastor

Prelude

Gary Ritter

Welcome and Announcements

## GATHERING

Call to Worship

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed throughout the land. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. Lord, Plant within us seeds of faith. Bring the seeds to life. Nourish us with your Word. Allow us to be a harvest of love giving the life of your word to others.  
**Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: Reconciling God,

C: ***we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.***

P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.**

Gathering Hymn "Oh, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing" Number 886  
vs 1-3,6

1. Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.
3. The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease, sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
6. To God all glory, praise and love, be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

## WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6-13

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup> 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, <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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 Reading

Psalm 65:1-13

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,  
<sup>2</sup>O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come. <sup>3</sup>When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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.  
<sup>6</sup>By your<sup>[a]</sup> strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. <sup>7</sup>You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. <sup>11</sup>You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.  
<sup>12</sup>The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, <sup>13</sup>the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!"  
<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word

and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

Message

Pr. Susan Dollinger

Hymn of the Day "Thy Word Is A Lamp" Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith

Refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, I think I've lost my way  
Still you're there right beside me.  
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near,  
Please be near me to the end. *Refrain*

I will not forget your love for me and yet,  
my heart forever is wand'ring.  
Jesus, be my guide, hold me to your side;  
and I will love you to the end. *Refrain twice*

Ending:

You're the light unto my path.

Apostles' Creed

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C: ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

#### Prayers of Intercession

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

#### *A brief silence*

P: 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. Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***hear our prayer.***

P: Protecting God, we lift to you our concern for the vulnerable. Protect them and all your people from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***hear our prayer.***

P: 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. Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***hear our prayer.***

P: Abiding God, care for all who are in need especially those we remember aloud or in our hearts. 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. Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***hear our prayer.***

P: Renewing God, rejuvenate 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. Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***hear our prayer.***

P: Eternal God, we lift up the families of those who have died from this pandemic. Help all of us to see that each number was a human being with people who love and miss them. Comfort us through the assurance and hope of the resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***hear our prayer.***

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

#### Peace

P: The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

C: ***And also with you.***

*Please share a time of peace online with one another using the chat comments or with someone next to you or spend this time in prayer.*

#### Special Music

*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*

Gary Ritter

Tom Fettke, Dorothy Thrupp

#### 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.***

#### SENDING

##### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be Gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. ***Amen.***

##### Sending Hymn

*"As Rain from the Clouds"*

Number 508

1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the heavens refreshing the land. Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

- 2 As grain that is scattered your word has been sown on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand. Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.
- 3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world, awaking and warming and healing our land. Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the light of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner, for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once-barren soil.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you always.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

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*"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* Text: Charles Wesley Music: AZMON  
Carl G. Gläser, Lowell Mason

*"Thy Word Is A Lamp"* Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith *Text and Music:* ©  
1984 Meadowgreen Music Co; Admin: EMI CCLI license #791428 and the  
song number #14301

*"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"* by Tom Fettke words: Dorothy Thrupp  
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*"As Rain from the Clouds"* Text: Delores Dufner Music: AFTON WATER  
Jonathan E. Spilman