

## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 13, 2021

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English Website: [elc-cl.faithlifesites.com](http://elc-cl.faithlifesites.com)

**IN OUR PRAYERS** we remember: Marcia Neelly, Kirk Aeilts, Walt Dibbern, Dennis Reuvers, Beverly Baker

**ORDER OF WORSHIP:** Order of Service Hymns Wonderful, Merciful Savior (Insert)  
Blue 87 (Gray 35) 761

### **THIS WEEK AT PEACE AND ENGLISH:**

June 13 8:30 a.m. Worship at English

June 13 9:00 a.m. Bible Studies

June 13 10:15 a.m. Worship at Peace

June 15 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

June 15 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at English

June 16 Noon Bible Study

June 27 Church Council meeting after church service

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Our hymn of the day is our closing hymn, *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*. The first line of this song refers to Exodus 33:22. There, Moses asked to see God's glory, but God replies that no man can see his face and live. So he places Moses in a cleft in the rock so that Moses can see his back as he passes by but not his face. The cleft in the rock protected Moses while he stood in the presence of God. We too wish to see God. We wish to enter God's glorious presence in heaven when we die. But what protects us? Who can keep us safe so that we can see God and live? Only Jesus Christ. He is the rock of ages cleft for you and me. Through baptism, through the Lord's supper, God places us in Christ so that one day we will be able to see his glory in heaven and live. So we sing, "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee." Amen.

**A WORD:** Our Old Testament reading is the final section of a parable that spans all of Ezekiel 17. In this small portion of the parable, God plants a twig, a weak, useless branch, but it grows into a noble cedar. The twig is Jesus Christ, and the growth of that sprout is the growth of God's kingdom. Jesus appeared weak and useless when his cross was planted in the earth, but the kingdom begun at that moment has spread throughout the whole world. Our Gospel lesson is also about the growth of God's kingdom. A farmer plants a seed and it grows. The seed is God's Word. The growth of the seed is the growth of the Word as it brings men and women into God's kingdom. The mustard seed also represents God's kingdom. Though it started small with only twelve apostles, it has grown into a tree that shelters every kind of creature, even you and me.

The epistle lesson is about the resurrection. Paul writes that even if this earthly tent (our mortal body) is destroyed, we have a building made by God (our resurrected body), eternal in the heavens. Paul longs to be clothed with this eternal body and to put off this mortal body. He

longs for the resurrection. Because he longs for the resurrection, he makes it his aim to please the Lord in all he does because he knows that all people will someday stand before God to receive payment for what they have done in the body, whether good or evil.

**ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER:** The new growth that sprouts from a seed and makes its way above ground is the wondrous work of God. We do not need to know how this works to trust that it, indeed, does. Such is the kingdom of God. It sprouts apart from our work. No matter who plants or waters, God is the One who gives the growth. What may look insignificant to our eyes at times is God working glorious growth unto eternity wherever the Word of Christ is preached.

**BIBLE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Job 38:1-11 2Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41

**ALTAR FLOWERS FOR JUNE:** June 13-Avis Fick, June 20-Kathy Fick, and June 27-Verla Fick.

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND:** The deadline for the scholarship applications is July 1, 2021. Applications are on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** I would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers who supported VBS this year. We could not have done it without all the teachers, helpers, kitchen crew, and those of you who donated snacks. I would also like to thank the church for hosting VBS as well. It takes so many of us to make this week successful for our youth and we did it! Thank you all very much!  
**Natalie Larson**

**DAUGHTERS OF PEACE:** Thank you to all who donated clothing for Orphan Grain Train. Many will be blessed with these donations.

**HERITAGE DAYS COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICE:** The Heritage Days Community Church service will be held Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at Island Park at the shelter house by the swimming pool at 10:30 a.m. Please bring your lawn chairs and enjoy worship with Pastor Keith Vik delivering the message. Music will be provided by Anna Van Aartsen and Anna Warntjes, accompanied by Marilee Schleusner on the clavivova. The offering received that morning will be used for Council of Churches expenses which include a helping hand to transients, Baccalaureate service expenses, Heritage Days church service expenses and local benevolence donations as deemed necessary. In case of rain the alternate location for the service is the First Reformed Church.

**PARTY AT THE PARSONAGE:** Ashlie and I would like to say thank you. Thank you for welcoming us into these churches, and thank you for welcoming us into your homes. We would love to welcome you into ours. We will be having three get-togethers at the parsonage this summer. The first will be June 19th. A sign-up sheet for our June get together is in the fellowship hall. We will be hosting six families at a time. – **Pastor Alex**

**THIS MONTH** Daughters of Peace will collect toilet paper, napkins facial tissue, wet-ones, handi-wipes, etc. for Atlas. Thank you all for your support in our monthly projects.

**USHERING TODAY is Team 4; Next Sunday is Team 5:** Lloyd Lupkes, Lowell Fick, Steve Wallenburg, Jeff Folkens, Adam Schwartze, Steve Anderson, Roger Baatz

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

**HYMN: WONDERFUL, MERCIFUL, SAVIOR**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*(Brief Silence for Inward Confession)*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 92:12–15; antiphon: v. 1*

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High.  
The righteous flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the LORD;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.  
They still bear fruit in old age;  
they are ever full of sap and green,  
to declare that the LORD is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High.

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.  
**C** Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Ezekiel 17:22–24*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

**GRADUAL**

*Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b*

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.  
On your wondrous works, I will meditate,  
and I will declare your greatness.

**EPISTLE**

*2 Corinthians 5:1–17*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## VERSE

2 Peter 3:18a

**Alleluia. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 4:26–34

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*After the Reading*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**BLUE BOOK 84: HE LEADETH ME, O BLESSED THOUGHT**

## SERMON

## OFFERTORY

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**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## BENEDICTION

202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

## HYMN 761: ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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