

# *Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

*July 12, 2020*

## *Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)*

*10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134*

*"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others"*

**Gathering Song:** *"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"* ..... ELW 512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **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.**

## **Confession**

Gracious God, left to ourselves we have taken matters into our own hands and, despite our best intentions, we have made a mess of things: our lives, the lives of others, and of your creation. In humility and with sorrow we confess.

*Silence is kept for personal reflection.*

**We have caused hurt by what we have thought, said, and done.**

**We have looked away from injustice.**

**We have remained silent in the face of wrong.**

**We have done wrong.**

**Do not stand far off, O God.**

**Hear us when we call.**

**Enter into our conflicted and anxious lives and set things right.**

In Jesus Christ, God has set things right and forgiven your sins. God sent the Word made flesh to mend what is broken, to heal what is sick, to find what is lost, and to remove every obstacle that stands between us and God.

**Amen**

## **Lamb of God**

*p*

**C** Lamb of God, your gen-tle-ness in-vites us

*cresc. poco a poco*

to lay down our bur - dens, to rise and walk be -

side you, to sit down at your ta - ble.

*ff*  
Oh, on earth and in hea - ven.

*p*  
Lamb of God, your gen - tle - ness in - vites

us to take up your mer - cy,

to take up your vis - ion, to take up your

jus - tice. Oh, now and for -  
 ev - er. Lamb of God,  
 give us your peace.

### ***Prayer of the Day***

Let us pray.

**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.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13**

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,  
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.

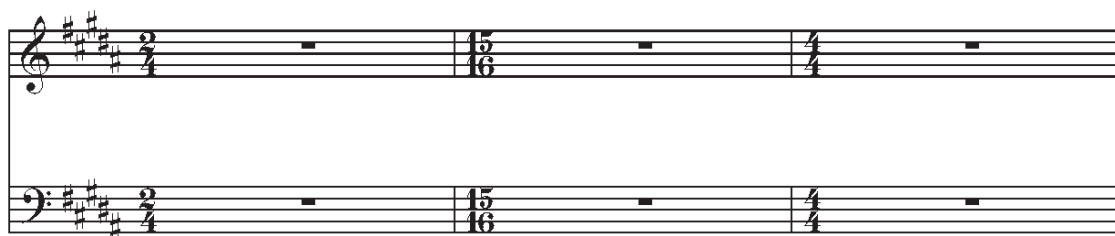
For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

**Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 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, 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. 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. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 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, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 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.

**Gospel Acclamation**



*f*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia, give us your Word. —

*mp*

Al - le - lu - ia, give us your Word. — The

*mp*

Word that gives light — and life, the Word that shat - ters — the

dark - ness, — the Word that rais - es — the

*ff*

dead to — new life!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first system starts with a forte (f) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Al - le-lu - ia, give us your Word. — Al - le-lu - ia,". The second system continues the lyrics: "give us your Word, give us your Word, al - le - lu - ia!". The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 4/4 in the second system.

**Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 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. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 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. 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. 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 Sermon** ..... Rev. Becky Sells

**Sermon**..... Rev. Becky Sells

**Hymn of the Day: "Build Us Up, Lord"..... ELW 670**



1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in  
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your  
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.  
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we  
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the  
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.  
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

*Refrain*  
Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in  
faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your  
word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952  
Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna  
Text and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

### ***The Apostle's Creed***

Let us declare our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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 into hell.**

**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***

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 new ministries that have been created around the world in light of the pandemic. Inspire us by the witness to bear good fruit in these uncertain times. 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, especially those on our prayer list and those whose names we lift up to you now. (Pause) 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. Nourish and nurture the seeds you have planted, that we might grow as disciples and grow braver in the telling of your good news to others. Replace what has been depleted. Sustain our ministries and deepen our relationships with the wider community. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have died (especially those we name before you now. *(Brief pause)*) 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

Now is the point in our service where we are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to also give and use our time and talents to further God's kingdom here on earth while we sing.

### Offertory

*mf*

[C] Ev-er liv-ing God, ev-er giv-ing God, e-ven

feed-ing the ra - vens, cloth-ing lil-ies of the fields.

*f*

*mf*

It is your good plea-sure to give us all we need; you de-

*mp*

light to give us all that we have. We give

*p* *mf*

thanks to you.\_\_\_\_ We give thanks to you.\_\_\_\_ Ev-er

liv - ing God, ev - er giv - ing God, giv - ing to us our dai - ly need,

*f* *mf*

cloth - ing peo - ple glo - r'ous - ly! It is your good plea - sure to

give us all we need; you de - light to give us all that we have.\_\_\_\_

*mp* *p*

We give thanks to you.\_\_\_\_ We give thanks to you.\_\_\_\_

*mf* wa - ter now wine.

[L] Bread in a-bun - dance, wa - ter now wine.  
wa - ter now wine.

wa - ter now wine.

*mf*

We are the leaves in Christ the true vine.

*mf*

live life a - new.

Our sins for-giv - en, live life a - new.  
live life a - new.

live life a - new.

*f* *pp*

Liv - ing the gos - pel in all that we do.

*mf*

[C] It is your good plea-sure to give us all we need; you de -

light to give us all that we have. We give

thanks to you. We give thanks to you.

### ***Offertory Prayer***

Let us join together in praying the offertory prayer,

**Merciful God, we offer to you ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Signs of your gracious love. Help us to use these gifts creatively and boldly to further your mission and embody your presence in the world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

### ***The Peace***

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### ***Benediction***

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**Amen.**

### ***Dismissal***

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

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