

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jars of Clay but Filled with Christ

June 1 & 2, 2024

AS WE GATHER

It is not uncommon to hear someone described as (or even describe themselves as) “self-made.” Those words should never be uttered by a Christian! We were created by God. We were redeemed by Jesus at the cross and the empty tomb. We became a part of God’s family through the working of the Holy Spirit at our Baptism. May we always remember our Creator and be vessels that serve His purposes: jars of clay but filled with Christ.

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

You also were included in Christ
when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit.
Ephesians 1:13 NIV

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #816 “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

From all that dwell below the skies Let the creator’s praise arise; Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy Word. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

(Rise)

All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee. Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore: Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

People: who loved us and created our world and us from nothing;

Pastor: in the name of the ✠ Son,

People: who loved us, died, and rose again to make us children of God;

Pastor: in the name of the Holy Spirit,

**People: who in Holy Baptism changes us from dead in sin to alive in Christ.
Amen.**

Pastor: What is man that you are mindful of him,

People: and the son of man that you care for him?

Pastor: Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

People: and crowned him with glory and honor.

Pastor: You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;

People: You have put all things under his feet.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Before there was light, God knew each of us by name.

**People: “He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we
should be holy and blameless before Him.”**

Pastor: God chose us, and how we are made, to bring honor and glory to
Himself.

People: Everything in this world was made by the finger of God—not us.

Pastor: Yet we have rebelled against our Creator. Let us confess our sins to God
our Father.

**People: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned
against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by
what we have left undone.**

Pastor: For these sins and all sins against you,

**People: we confess our guilt and ask for your mercy because of what Jesus did
for us. We plead for His blood to cover all our sins.**

Pastor: Hear the Good News! Do more than hear it—believe with all your heart that God has forgiven all your sins because of Jesus’ sacrifice for you. Receive that forgiveness in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen! Thank you, Lord, for molding each of us as we are. Use us as a part of your plan to make Christ known to the world and to our neighbor.**

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

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For seeing our desire for glory, yet forgiving it,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For making us as we are in order to best serve your kingdom,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For your peace in our homes, our jobs, and our lives, let us pray to the Lord,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those facing challenges everywhere, let us pray to the Lord,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For your presence always and your mercy with us every day, let us pray to the Lord,

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav’nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father’s Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow’r are seated At God’s right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father’s glory. “Amen!” our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that we are like clay in your hands. Continue by the working of your Holy Spirit to shape and mold us, until that day we see Him face to face and you see the image of your Son in us; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Be seated)

☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 5:12–15* (The commandment to remember the Sabbath is given to the Israelites.)¹² “Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you.¹³ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,¹⁴ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.¹⁵ You shall remember 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 4:5–12* (Although we are but fragile vessels, God chooses and uses us to deliver the Good News to the world.)⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.⁶ For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 2:23–28* (The Pharisees accuse Jesus of working on the Sabbath.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the second chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴ And the Pharisees were saying to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?” ²⁵ And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: ²⁶ how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?” ²⁷ And he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“Father I Adore You” Terrye Coelho

Father, I adore You and I lay my life before You, How I love You!

Jesus, I adore You and I lay my life before You, How I love You!

Spirit, I adore You and I lay my life before You, How I love You!

Three-in-one, I adore You and I lay my life before You, How I love You!

SERMON HYMN #842 “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope’s fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

SERMON “A Broken Vessel Filled With Christ” 2 Corinthians 4:5–12

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

LSB p. 192

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.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

God of all light and power, you shine upon your creatures and eradicate all darkness that lies within them. Destroy the darkness our sin has caused in our lives. Help us, jars of clay, to shine the light of your grace and truth into the lives of others. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of glory, you have gathered your Church and sanctified us in your truth. Guide and direct Matthew Harrison, our Synod president; John Wille, our district president; and Pastor Bender, our circuit visitor. Preserve all vacant congregations, send laborers into your harvest and sustain those whom you have sent. Bless all missionaries around the world, especially our Together in Mission partner, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of all knowledge, we give you praise for bringing us to the end of the school year and are thankful for the knowledge gained by our students. Bless our St. Paul's 8th grade graduates as well as all students graduating from High School and College in these days. May they use their education to serve their neighbor and give you glory. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Bless the fields and orchards with good weather, that all people may be well supplied and filled with an awareness of your mercies. Grant that we may show forth grateful and generous hearts within your Church and in the world around us. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, you have established all authorities on the earth. Bless all public servants, especially Joseph Biden, our president, Tony Evers, our governor, Dan Devine, our mayor, along with all other elected and appointed leaders. Bless them to fulfill their offices with wisdom and compassion. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, be the strength and song of those who are afflicted in body or mind, especially Fred, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Carole, Ruth, Karen, Dick, Wendy, Michael, Margie, Anna, Eugene, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Vern, Cathy, Shirley, Sarah, as well as all who suffer in our midst. Grant healing, according to your will, patience during the affliction, and hope and peace in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of life, we give you thanks and praise for the gift of loved ones in our lives. Bless Bob and Sandy Reynolds as they celebrate their 43rd wedding anniversary in these days. Bless Al Weil as he lovingly remembers his wife, Judy, who has passed on to glory. Give us joy in life together and an appreciation of the people in our lives as gifts from you. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give repentance and faith to all who receive our Lord's body and blood today, that in the unity of a true confession, they may receive it for the forgiveness of their sins. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before you, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to you alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and wholesome that we should at all times and every place give you thanks and praise, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. You have taken common elements, such as dirt and clay, and molded us in your image. Although we lost that image in the fall into sin, you never stopped loving us, sending Jesus into this world to die for our sins and rise again to ransom us to you to be your own people. We gather here in the name and remembrance of Jesus, and we ask that You would forgive our sins and renew us in the gift Jesus offers us in His true body and blood. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we stand before your altar here and offer you the praise that belongs only to you as we sing:

SANCTUS

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Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB p. 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #669 "Come, We That Love the Lord"

Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord, Join in a song with sweet accord
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

**Refrain: We're marching to Zion, Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion, The beautiful city of God.**

Let those refuse to sing Who never knew our God;
But children of the heav'nly King, But children of the heav'nly King
May speak their joys abroad, May speak their joys abroad. *Refrain*

The hill of Zion yields A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heav'nly fields, Before we reach the heav'nly fields,
Or walk the golden streets, Or walk the golden streets. *Refrain*

Then let our songs abound, And ev'ry tear be dry;
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
We're marching through Emmanuel's ground
To fairer worlds on high, To fairer worlds on high. *Refrain*

HYMN #617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee"

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.

Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish

Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!

May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given, Life to win for us in heaven.

No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;

May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!

Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee

That Thy blood should bless and sustain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;

Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union

Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us; Grant that heav'nly minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

HYMN #641 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

**Refrain: You satisfy the hungry heart With gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord, The bread of life to eat.**

As when the shepherd calls his sheep, They know and heed his voice;
So when you call your fam'ly, Lord, We follow and rejoice. **Refrain**

With joyful lips we sing to you Our praise and gratitude
That you should count us worthy, Lord, To share this heav'nly food. **Refrain**

Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare Our oneness in the Lord? **Refrain**

The myst'ry of your presence, Lord, No mortal tongue can tell:
Whom all the world cannot contain Comes in our hearts to dwell. **Refrain**

You give yourself to us, O Lord; Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in your name In truth and charity. **Refrain**

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks that although you are true God, you took on our image, complete with dirt and clay. We thank you that because of your sacrifice, there is no longer an uncrossable gap between God and man. The cross is our bridge across that gap.

People: **Because you were willing to become like us, in our Baptism we were nailed to the cross, died, and rose again as new people. Thank you for changing us day by day from our own image into yours again.**

Pastor: This we pray in your name, Lord Jesus, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #643 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing,

The people of God from His dwelling take leave.

The Supper is ended. O now be extended

The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,

Shall blossom in action for God and for all.

His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us

To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God everliving,

The tasks of our ev’ry day life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,

Embracing His children of each tribe and race.

With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving

Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Organist

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Josh Grotelueschen

Gary Knight, Katie Librizzi

Olivia Kukor

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