

The 6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 17, 2022



Christ in the House of Martha and Mary by Johannes Vermeer (1655)



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In all our travels and movements, in our coming in and going out, in the putting on of our shoes, at the bath, at the table, in lighting our candles, in lying down, in sitting down, whatever employment we work – we mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross. We Christians wear out our foreheads with the sign of the cross.

–Tertullian, *De Corona* (2nd Century)

All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Proper honor must be shown to all, especially to those who share our faith and to all pilgrims. Once a guest has been announced, the superior and the brothers are to meet him with all the courtesy of love. First, they are to pray together and thus be united in peace. All humility should be shown in addressing a guest on arrival or departure. By a bow of the head or by a complete prostration of the body, Christ is to be adored because he is truly welcomed in them. The superior shall pour water on the hands of the guests, and the abbot with the entire community shall wash their feet. After the washing they will recite this verse from Psalm 48: 'God, we have received your mercy in the midst of your temple.' Great care and concern are to be shown in receiving the poor and pilgrims, because in them more particularly Christ is received.

–St. Benedict, *The Rule of Benedict* - Chapter 53 (5th Century)

Seems you're alone. You're not. Even now, He's taking your hand and guiding you by a way you cannot see. If you're unhappy, you shouldn't take it as a mark of God's disfavor. Just the contrary. Might be the very sign He loves you. He shows His love not by helping you avoid suffering, by sending you suffering. By keeping you there. Suffering binds you to something higher than yourself, higher than your own will. Takes you from the world, to find what lies beyond it. We are not only to endure patiently the troubles He sends, we are to regard them as gifts. As gifts more precious than the happiness we wish for ourselves.

– Father Zetlinger, from the Film *Knight of Cups* (2015)

Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you are with us today! If you are new to our church, you may not be familiar with Lutheran liturgy. No worries. This bulletin is designed to help guide you through the worship service. We encourage you to participate in as much or as little of the service as you feel comfortable. Thank you for being a part of our worship. We hope that the Lord blesses you through our time together!

Restrooms, Changing Stations, and Nursing Room

Restrooms are located in the lobby (narthex) of the sanctuary. Both the men's and women's rooms have diaper changing tables for the little ones. We also have a nursing room for mothers and babies that is located across the breezeway, straight out of the doors on the east side of the lobby.

Children in the Liturgy

We pray that all children would know that God made them, He loves them, and He goes with them everywhere. We are glad to have little ones with us in the service. We know that they sometimes can squirm, squawk, and squeal. Please don't feel embarrassed by it! All kids are always welcome here at St. Paul. We encourage you to help them follow along and engage with them in the action of the liturgy – observe the movement of the procession, hear the music, sing the songs, smell the fire of the candles, respond with a loud *Amen*, make the sign of the cross, touch the water in the baptismal font, and wonder at the images and symbols that are all around. What Jesus does here is sure to engage us all.

A Note on Holy Communion

In this service we celebrate a sacred ritual of the Christian Church called the Eucharist, or the Lord's Supper. In this rite we recall the last meal that Jesus had with his disciples. In this blessed meal we have our eyes opened and we recognize Him in the breaking of the bread. Though our faith is grounded in history, this liturgy is not merely a nostalgic looking back at the past – it is a celebration and a deep recognition that in this meal our Lord Jesus Christ is truly and really present with us in the bread and the wine. We cling to the hope of resurrection that will be ours when all things will be fully redeemed and restored in Him. All baptized Christians who have a sincere sorrow for their sin and see in this holy mystery the true body and blood of Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Service Notes for the 6th Sunday after Pentecost

The Scripture readings today challenge us to turn away from self-interest and to rely on God. In the Old Testament passage, we read of the encounter Abraham has with strangers who turn out to be heavenly visitors. They proclaim the divine promise, saying that his wife Sarah will bear a son. In the Gospel passage, Martha is invited to suspend her busyness and sit at the feet of Jesus. St. Luke tells of Martha, who becomes irritated with her sister Mary for spending time with Jesus instead of helping around the house. Jesus responds by saying Mary has chosen the better part by sitting at his feet. In our hectic modern world, it's so easy to get distracted and lose our focus. May we, by the grace of God, stop and sit at Jesus' feet.

Greeting and Welcome

The congregation stands and faces the back of the sanctuary. We begin with a procession with the cross leading the way, representing our life in Christ-our journey from death to life. Some bow as the cross passes, honoring the mystery of salvation.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee (803)

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!.

Invocation

En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo.

All Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us

All But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

All Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

All Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

All Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

Silence is Kept

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

All Most merciful God, 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. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Let us pray:

All Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

The Scripture Readings

Genesis 18:1-10

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ² Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. ³ He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵ Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say." ⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread." ⁷ Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸ He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree. ⁹ "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said. ¹⁰ Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Colossians 1:21-29

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. ²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— ²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 10th chapter.

All Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 10:38-42

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" ⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Creed

All 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

Ancient Words

Holy words...long preserved for our walk...in this world
They resound with God's own heart; oh, let the ancient words impart.

Words of life...words of hope give us strength...help us cope
In this world where e'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.

We have come with open hearts; oh, let the ancient words impart.

Holy words...of our faith, handed down...to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice. Oh, heed the faithful words of Christ.

Holy words...long preserved for our walk...in this world
They resound with God's own heart; oh, let the ancient words impart.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.

We have come with open hearts; oh, let the ancient words impart.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

After the pastor says Lord in Your Mercy, all respond with **Hear our Prayer.**

**Thanksgiving to God for His compassion and love shown to us.
For blessing in our outreach; CDC; LINC, Presa Community Center.
Pastors Philip, Roy, Naresh, Matt and all church planters.
For peace, for the well-being of the Church, and for the unity of all.
For U.S. Leaders: President Joe, Governor Greg, Mayor Ron.
Church Leaders; LCMS President Matt, District President Mike.
For those in Military: Jarred, Alissa, Mark, Tom, Thomas, Ricky, Julian.
For the strength and divine energy to turn toward our enemies in love.**

For Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

The people of Ukraine

Virginia Luna

Brian Biediger

Tillie Cropper

Roy Wessel

Jo Ann Mallow

David Schneider (Father of Kristen Boerger diagnosed with cancer)

Cindy Pieniazek (daughter of Gail Schuetze with Multiple Sclerosis)

Delia Flores

Sandra Fernandez

Vicky Dean (sister of Melissa Hild)

Yesenia (daughter of Anna Marquez)

Diane Beasley

Teresa Medellin (neighbor of Alicia Guerrero)

Rosa Figueroa (friend of Alva-Alicia)

Mildred Westphal

Daniel Stubbs

Robert Farris (brother-in-law of Susan Pennington)

Earline Willeford

Albert Pedroza (neighbor of Thomas Robledo)

Norma Ann (sister of Patricia Perez)

Rev. Bill Johnson

Beatrice (sister of America Alderete)

Cayley (granddaughter of Robert and Linda Chetwood)

Everett and Keith Mason

Austin Hernden

Robin Beasley Jr

The Offering

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (805)

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade. This day the risen Lord walks with us, unfolds for us His word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the unending sabbath of the Lord. And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host, we forever proclaim your glory:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen!

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us to faithfully eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to in His own testament. 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. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

All Amen!

The Consecration

The Acclamation and The Invitation

As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Behold the Lamb of God, behold Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

La paz del Señor sea con ustedes.

All Y también contigo

Sharing of the Peace

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying 'Peace be with you' as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for reception of the Holy Supper.

The Lamb of God

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

Eucharistic Dismissal

Thank The Lord

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; Tell everyone what He has done.
Let everyone who seeks the Lord, Rejoice, and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises, and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Prayer

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You, that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Abide With Me (878)

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Serving Today @ St. Paul

Music	Jim Wollmann, Judy Foerster, Ronnie Biediger
Duty Elders	George Fernandez, Rick Garza, Paul Mallow
Preacher/Celebrant	Rev. Dave Murillo (davem@stpaulsa.org)
CDC Director	Deborah Stephenson (deborahs@stpaulsa.org)
Deaconess	Claire Jackson

Announcements

Bible Study Opportunities This Week

We have ongoing online zoom classes throughout the week – all are invited!
(Meeting ID #2105327341 No Password required)

Tuesday @ 6:30 (Pastor Dave – Study on the book of Exodus)

Church Planning Council

The church council will meet tomorrow Monday, July 18th @ 6:30 pm.

Child Development Center Board Meeting

The CDC board will meet this Thursday, July 21 @ 6:30 pm.

Summer Sunday School Pause

For the months of July and August we are pausing children's Sunday school, with a plan to resume September 4th. As we look ahead to restarting in the Fall, we are looking for Sunday School helpers/teachers. If you are interested in serving, please talk with Pastor Dave or Deaconess Claire. Huge thanks to Lindsey and Stephanie for helping teach the children over the past several months. We appreciate their service, care, and dedication to the children!

Miss Neesie and the Ear Food Orchestra

Come out today from 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm for the Gospel sounds of Miss Neesie and the Earfood Orchestra at the Cove (606 W Cypress St, 78212). This is also a great chance to show support for our CDC, as proceeds go to the center. This week will be a special set as Miss Neesie & Ear Food decided to paw through their back pages and resurrect a fistful of songs, Gospel and not-Gospel, that they haven't played in a long time. They'll alternate between making a joyful noise and making some noise joyfully. And, as always, they will be passing the plate to benefit the work of the St. Paul Lutheran Child Development Center.

