

serve our neighbors with a willing spirit,  
and honor the earth you have made;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**SENDING**.....God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.\*

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“We walk, We love, We do”

Insert

Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Christ is sending you. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*The Sunday Assembly, Lorraine S. Brugh, Gordon W. Lathrop, Augsburg Fortress 2008  
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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI  
2nd Sunday after Pentecost  
June 23, 2019  
**Inviting People to Journey with Christ's  
Family in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

*This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific—the demonic—nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of the holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus “until he comes.” It is a dramatic declaration of “how much God has done for you.”*

**Gathering** .....The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.\*

*Prelude*.....A time for silent reflection

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor,  
let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

God of mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you,  
against one another,  
and against the earth entrusted to our care.  
We are worried and distracted by many things,  
and we fail to love you above all else.  
We store up treasures for ourselves  
and turn away from our neighbors in need.  
Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

When we were laid low by sin and guilt,  
God made us alive together with Christ,  
forgiving us ☩ all our trespasses  
by taking our sins to the cross.

For freedom Christ has set us free:

Rejoice in this good news!  
**Amen.**

\*Gathering Hymn

“O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts”

**ELW #658**

**\*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.**

**\*KYRIE**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
Let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
Let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C: Amen.**

\*Canticle of Praise

“This is the Feast”

**ELW p.149**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world.  
In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend  
us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**WORD.....**God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.\*

**FIRST READING**

*The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self absorption is idolatry, and*

**OFFERING**

\*Offertory Hymn

“Create in Me”

**ELW #186**

\*Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, O God,  
for the greening earth given for all,  
for the talents we are given to share,  
and for this bread and wine.  
Transform us to be the body of Christ,  
that, feasting on this food and drink,  
our lives may reflect your generosity;  
through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to our Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

**ELW p.153**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Lord's Prayer**

Distribution

*Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.*

“Lamb of God”

**ELW p. 154**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, in this holy communion  
you have welcomed us into your presence,  
nourished us with words of mercy,  
and fed us at your table.  
Amid the cares of this life,  
strengthen us to love you with all our heart,

had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you. So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

\*Hymn

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

**ELW #611**

### **Apostle's Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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** (let us pray. Have mercy O God.)

**\*PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us show signs of Christ's peace.

**MEAL**....God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.\*

*images from pagan worship fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.*

### **A reading from Isaiah 65:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.

<sup>2</sup>I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;

<sup>4</sup>who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."  
These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.

<sup>6</sup>See, it is written before me:  
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;  
I will indeed repay into their laps

<sup>7</sup>their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,  
says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains  
and reviled me on the hills,  
I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the LORD:  
As the wine is found in the cluster,

and they say, "Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it,"  
so I will do for my servants' sake,  
and not destroy them all.

<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,  
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;

my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 22:19-28**

<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

<sup>20</sup>**Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!**

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

<sup>22</sup>**I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>**For he did not despise or abhor.**

**the affliction of the afflicted;**

**he did not hide his face from me,**

**but heard when I cried to him.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD;

and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.**

**SECOND READING**

*For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.*

A reading from Galatians 3:23-29

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that

we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

“Alleluia”

ELW p. 151

**GOSPEL**

*Jesus' mission includes foreigners, and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony of God's mercy and power.*

***The gospel according to Luke 8:26-39***

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" — <sup>29</sup>for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup>Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who