

June 6th, 2021 Second Sunday after Pentecost – Email Missal

The ZOOM link for today's service, which opens at 9.45 am on June 6th, 2021, can be found here - Sunday Worship June 6th, 2021 09:45 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.

Click here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86463612819?pwd=Nzg5eUwyd3h3REJlc1VoWmFXSDIMdz09>

Meeting ID: 864 6361 2819

Passcode: 651484

You don't have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the "One tap mobile" option:

+16473744685,,86463612819#,,,,*651484# Canada

+16475580588,,86463612819#,,,,*651484# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

+1 204 272 7920 Canada

+1 438 809 7799 Canada

+1 587 328 1099 Canada

Meeting ID: 864 6361 2819

Passcode: 651484

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdCFUDkKyC>

Announcements:

MAPLE SYRUP: You can order your own Maple Syrup from St. Peter's. Our partner is a 5th generation Woolwich Township farm that has been producing maple syrup for over 100 years. They adhere to the production guidelines issued by the Ontario Maple Syrup Association, which state the number of taps per tree (max. of 2) for best forest management practices. Handling of the sap and syrup is minimized to reduce the chance of contamination. Their syrup is pure with nothing added, only the water has been removed. As of 2018 their maple syrup is certified organic. **1 litre Mason Jars of maple syrup are \$22.00.** Contact the church office to place your order(s) at 519-653-4721.

Get Ready for Summer with ATTWOOD HERITAGE SUMMER SAUSAGE (formerly N.S. Martin) \$25.00 / Chubb. Contact the church office to place your order(s) at 519-653-4721.

Flower Beds at the Church: We are looking for willing disciples to take charge of the flower beds at the church. There are some shrubs that will need to be trimmed back and the beds will need to be tidied up. If you might be willing to take on this task, please call the church office, 519-653-4721, to let us know.

Gathering Hymn: ELW 679 'For the Beauty of the Earth' (Bradley Moggach – organ)

Click here: <https://youtu.be/AFPhyp7fvJI>

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Greeting:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all, in your home and in mine.

Prayer of the Day: All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

The First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

Adam and Eve heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
 cursed are you among all animals
 and among all wild creatures;
 upon your belly you shall go,
 and dust you shall eat
 all the days of your life.
 I will put enmity between you and the woman,
 and between your offspring and hers;
 he will strike your head,
 and you will strike his heel." (NRSV)

Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

LORD, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,

so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the LORD

more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel

from all its iniquities.* (NRSV)

The Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1

Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. (NRSV)

Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Acclamation: ‘Listen, Listen to the Gospel Message....’ (Bradley Moggach – piano)

Click here: <https://youtu.be/X2jHYEsLg8A>

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 3:20-35

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went home; and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.” (NRSV)

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.***

Sermon (Imagine Interim Pastor Chun Zhang’s voice here)

Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.

Throughout history, family has played a major role in everyone’s life. All over the world, and to some degree all of us here, even though we all have different histories: cultural, economic, religious, and social backgrounds, families are always a big deal. As many of us have experienced, family relationships, loyalty, and honor have massive weight and influence on our lives. And back in the time of Jesus, the Jewish family had this extra spiritual significance. A Jew was a Jew was BECAUSE of his or her family. One of the defining moments of Jewish traditions that gave them identity was the annual family meal at Passover. Once the lamb had been slain in the Temple, the family would gather and eat together in remembrance of their escape from Egypt. But through Jesus’ life and ministry, not only did he radically redefine the key family Passover meal around himself, but he also redefined even those whom he called his family, which were not drawn along bloodlines or ancestry but in these terms of our actions and faith. And we are going to see how he did it through today’s Gospel reading.

Our reading from verse 20-21 we see the concern of Jesus’ family. Let’s hear it again, “20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”

“He is out of his mind “. Does this expression sound familiar? I believe all of us have heard this expression here and there. Especially when what one does doesn't bring anything back to him or his family, instead it costs his time, energy, money, and even his health, just as this time Once again, we find that Jesus was

teaching and healing and performing miracles as he usually did and as usual, a crowd gathers wherever he goes. And it seems that the crowd didn't really care about whether Jesus and his disciples had eaten or not.

Right at that moment Jesus' family appeared and was concerned about his health and openly rebuke him and called him silly and crazy. In their eyes, Jesus was constantly bothered by the crowd to the point that already hindering his basic necessities of life, like eating and resting. So, Jesus' family wanted to rescue him and helped him to say no.

At the same time, a group of religious leaders was also trying to demonize Jesus and challenging his authority. In verse 22. "And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "Beelzebul (or Baal-zebul) was the name of a Philistine god (it meant lord of the heavenly dwelling) and they used it to ridicule and show contempt for Jesus. Ironically, they were supposed to be Jesus' family too. However, they didn't understand and couldn't believe that Jesus performed those miracles was purely out of his Godly love and his compassion towards human suffering. Why? It's all because they didn't realize the ultimate expression of human sinful nature was selfishness and self-centeredness, which we humans hold as individuals and as communities and society. It's all because what Jesus did and said shook and threatened their status and the benefits associated with this status. From their perspective, they believed that Jesus must have been benefited by doing all those miracles. They couldn't figure out how, so, they accused him devil for it was the ultimate and inarguable way to dismiss something they didn't understand; of restoring the full potential of human being

As the family of God, we Christians sometimes take the love of God for granted. Even though we claim that we love Jesus, have we asked ourselves how much of this love is because of the blessings, the benefit we've received from him, and how much is from the blessings and benefit we shared with this world without expecting anything in return?

I don't know if you notice it or not, in all the four Gospels Jesus has never performed even one miracle for himself or his own need, even when he was on the cross. As his followers who bear his name in our names, we Christians are called out to follow his steps, carrying our crosses, let the selfish and self-centered old being die on our own crosses and the new being of blessing in this broken world. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: ELW # 465 'As the Grains of Wheat' (Bradley Moggach – piano & vocal)

Click here: <https://youtu.be/tHSIRnAd758>

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Prayers of Intercession:

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

A brief silence.

God of wholeness, we pray for believers all over the globe. Unify us in service of the gospel, that we may work together as beloved siblings to share your love with all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, we pray for creation; the gardens, waterways and creatures near to us and diverse forms of life that remain unseen. Teach us to treat the natural world with reverence, seeking restoration when human divisions have caused harm to your beloved creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all people, we pray for harmony among the nations. Cast out from us unclean spirits of greed and fear, that we may work in solidarity with one another for the common good. We pray for our Indigenous siblings as they absorb the loss of 215 children whose bodies were discovered on the grounds of the Residential School in Kamloops, BC. Lord, we take comfort in knowing they did not die alone but were held within your loving embrace. We pray for their families and their communities as they seek answers and

demand justice. Lord, the names of these precious souls may never be known to us, but they have always been known to you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of abundance, we pray for those who are oppressed, sick or in any need, especially Bill, Don, Tammy, Linda, Alice and Don. Encourage those who have begun to lose heart. Strengthen and renew us with your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of righteousness, we pray for this holy house of worship. Set our gaze upon things eternal, that in thanksgiving for your mercy, we may extend grace to more and more people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the ages, in your goodness you have sent us faithful witnesses for every time and place. We give you thanks for those saints who now rest in your eternal mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

Share the peace of Christ:

The Peace of Christ be with you always, in your home and in mine, and throughout God's creation.

Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:


<https://youtu.be/-RnRfJoYmjs>

You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen

Blessing:

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
 be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW # 503 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our God' (Bradley Moggach – organ)

Click here: <https://youtu.be/AmYG9uX-9oE>

Tune Name: Ein Feste Burg; Text & Tune: Martin Luther; Rhythmic or Peculiar Version; Words & Music: Public Domain
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Dismissal:

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.