

**3rd Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, June 18, 2023  
Pastor - Rev. Michael Brecke  
Organist/Music Director - Lori Free**

Organ Prelude and Pastor's Greeting

Opening Hymn: **#441 Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand**

Order of Worship: pages 94-96, 147-150

Prayer of the Day - Celebrate

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm: Psalm 100

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-23]

*Response after the announcement:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Response after the conclusion:* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **#385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!**

Apostle's Creed: page 105 (see inside back cover of hymnal)

Prayers of Intercession - Celebrate

Offertory: Hymn 186 in Service Music - "Create in me..."

Words of Institution and Communion

Lord's Prayer (see inside back cover of hymnal)

Communion Hymn: **#579 Lord, You Give the Great Commission**

Sending Song: **#689 Praise and Thanksgiving**

Dismissal

**WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS  
CELEBRATING OUR 141st YEAR  
IN HIS SERVICE  
1882 - 2023**

Michael Brecke was born in Ashland, Wisconsin, in 1946. He grew up in Mellen, Wisconsin, and graduated from high school in 1964. Received his B.S. degree from Wisconsin State University River Falls (1968), a Master's of Divinity from Yale University Divinity School (1971), a Master's of Sacred Theology from Concordia Seminary (1972), St. Louis and a Doctor of Ministry Degree from Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (1993).

His parallel education was received from the Penokee Veneer Mill, Allis Chalmers Foundry, Mellen Weekly Record, Mellen Country Club (where he dug ditches), and numerous other jobs to make enough money to support his habit of education. He entered ordained ministry in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in 1973. Became a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1989.

He lost his wife Elizabeth "Betsy" Titterington in 2018. He has two children, Matthew and Anna.

Over the years he has written for several publications including community newspapers in Albany, Georgia; Kansas City, Missouri; Overland Park, Kansas, and Door County, Wisconsin. He is frequent contributor to The Echo a publication effort in conjunction with Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. The Echo is devoted to telling the stories of our past.

He has served as a transitional minister in the Central States Synod, ELCA. He also started a homeless ministry called The Listening Post in 2016. Currently he still does some of his homeless ministry in the River Market Area of Kansas City, Missouri. He is also involved in Write On Door County and annually teaches a class on writing.

***We welcome all visitors worshipping with us today.***

*If you spend time in Door County please consider becoming a member of our special ministry. Contact any member for information.*

**All baptized Christians who celebrate the Real Presence in the Sacrament of Communion are invited to the Lord's Table.**

**Restrooms are located in the Pioneer School**

**Visit us at [BethanyEphraim.org](http://BethanyEphraim.org),  
and follow our worship service live, and archived,  
on the web site.**

## Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

For the church here and around the world, we pray. Seek out disciples and send them out with authority to proclaim good news, bring healing where there is pain, and counter the forces of evil. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the earth and all its creatures, we pray. Equip farmers, farm workers, and all who labor on the land to produce a harvest. Nourish crops with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Restore lands ruined by pollution or misuse. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who govern, we pray. Empower those who seek peaceful solutions to conflict and embolden those who advocate for all who are oppressed. Work through systems of government to establish justice throughout the world. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer, we pray. Accompany those who feel helpless, alone, or abandoned. Embrace any who long for successful treatment for mental illness or freedom from addiction. Heal those who are sick (*especially*). God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For fathers and father figures, we pray. Console all who long to be fathers, children estranged from their fathers, anyone grieving the death of a father, and fathers who have lost a child. Draw near to all for whom this day stirs up difficult emotions. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For all the saints, we give thanks. Receive into your eternal care all those who have died (*especially*) and fill us with hope that does not disappoint. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Preparing for Next Week

**Monday** Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45. **Tuesday** 2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5. **Wednesday** (commemoration of Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931) Proverbs 4:10-27. **Thursday** Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18. **Friday** Jeremiah 18:18-23. **Saturday** (John the Baptist) Luke 1:57-67 [68-80]. **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost** (commemoration of the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530; Philipp Melancthon, renewer of the church, died 1560) Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39.

CELEBRATE June 18, 2023 (Lectionary 11)

Volume 54, Number 3

CELEBRATE (ISSN 1083-3242, USPS 763-460) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Celebrate, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$5.79 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day, psalm, and readings during the week from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Refrain music by Linda Cable Shute. Refrain accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year A* (Augsburg Fortress, 2007). Please visit our website at [augsburgfortress.org](http://augsburgfortress.org). Lectionary year A. 5 of 14  
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# Celebrate

Sunday, June 18, 2023  
3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

## Prayer of the Day

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Reading

Exodus 19:2-8a

At Sinai God assured Israel, "You shall be my treasured possession," and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God's will.

[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. <sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my cov-

enant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

<sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8</sup>The people all answered as one: "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do."

## Second Reading

Romans 5:1-8

We are no longer God's enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only

that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our

continued



We are God's peo - ple and the sheep of God's pas - ture.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all you lands!

<sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence <sup>1</sup>with a song.

<sup>3</sup>**Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom <sup>1</sup>we belong;  
we are God's people and the sheep <sup>1</sup>of God's pasture. R**

<sup>4</sup>Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving  
and the <sup>1</sup>courts with praise;

give thanks and bless God's <sup>1</sup>holy name.

<sup>5</sup>**Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is <sup>1</sup>everlasting,  
whose faithfulness endures from <sup>1</sup>age to age. R**

*Second Reading, continued*

hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

<sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a

righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

## Gospel

## Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [<sup>9</sup>Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for

laborers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

<sup>16</sup>"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup>Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>22</sup>and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."]