5th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, July 2, 2023 Pastor - Rev. Diane Dardon Organist/Music Director - Lori Free

Organ Prelude and Pastor's Greeting

Opening Hymn: #888 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

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

Prayer of the Day - Celebrate

First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4,15-18

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42 Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord. Response after the conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon:

Hymn of the Day: #887 This Is My Song

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: My Country 'Tis of Thee (see insert fromLBW)

Sending Song: **#890 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory** Dismissal

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

Rev. Dr. Diane Dardón is the Director of Religious Diversity and Pastoral Care at DePaul University in Chicago where she also serves as the university's Protestant Chaplain. Diane received her Doctorate of Ministry Degree in Ecumenism from Catholic Theological Union (Chicago) and is a graduate in the Masters of Divinity program from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Prior to taking on responsibilities at DePaul, she served for several years as parish pastor but her true ministry passion is within the academic setting, having served as campus pastor at Northern Illinois University and at the University of Northern Iowa prior to her time at DePaul. Diane is also faculty at Emmaus Accademy in Naples, FL, and recently became certified in spiritual direction. Diane's greatest joy is delighting in her Guatemalan-American family and accompanying her children as they begin their careers. Diane and her husband, Esturado, have two children: Brian who is currently in St. Louis, working as an engineer in the aerospace field at Boeing and Cathryn who is pursuing studies for a career in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity at DePaul Univerity while also serving as an executive officer for DePaul's Student Government Association. The Dardón family enjoys travel and tries to spend time each year with Estuardo's family in Guatemala.

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 <u>BethanyEphraim.org</u>, and follow our worship service live, and archived, on the web site.

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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.

We pray for the church. For wisdom to heed the voices of prophets in our midst who cast a vision of God's promised future. For courage to welcome people whom society rejects. For resolve to serve all in need. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for creation. For (*local bodies* of water and) all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams. For lands experiencing scorching heat, drought, or wildfires. For conservation organizations and environmental activists. For scientists working on clean energy solutions. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for this nation and all nations. For (*national elected leaders* and) presidents, governors, and legislators. For judges, juries, district attorneys, and public defenders. For military personnel. For those who are incarcerated. Guide us in ways of freedom that promote the common good. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. For exiles, immigrants, refugees, and those seeking asylum. For victims of harassment, torture, or abuse. For those who are ill (*especially*). For any near death and for all who grieve. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for children. For their safety at home and in childcare settings. For their flourishing at summer programs and camps. For the many people who care for them including parents and grandparents; childcare workers and teachers; coaches, counselors, and mentors; pediatricians and psychologists. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for (*names and*) all the saints and prophets who have received the free gift of God, which is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. May their lives of humble service inspire us in faith. 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 (Thomas, Apostle) John 14:1-7. Tuesday 1 John 4:1-6. Wednesday Matthew 11:20-24. Thursday (commemoration of Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415) Psalm 145:8-14. Friday Zechariah 2:6-13. Saturday Luke 10:21-24. Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

CELEBRATE July 2, 2023 (Lectionary 13)

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, PO. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 5540-780. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part 55.79 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 © 1999 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 Michael Krentz. Refrain accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship*, Year A (Augsburg Fortress, 2007). Please visit our website at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year A. CELEBRATE is protected through trademark registration in the U.S.A. and Canada. Tracks 1 and 2



The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."



Your love, O LORD, forever ^I will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will pro-¹ claim your faithfulness. ²For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab-¹ lished forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly ¹ in the heavens.

³"I have made a covenant with my ¹ chosen one; I have sworn an oath to Da-¹ vid my servant:
⁴'I will establish your ¹ line forever, and preserve your throne for all ¹ generations." R
¹⁵Happy are the people who know the ¹ festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the light ¹ of your presence.
¹⁶They rejoice daily ¹ in your name; they are jubilant ¹ in your righteousness.
¹⁷For you are the glory ¹ of their strength, and by your favor our might ¹ is exalted.

¹⁸Truly, our shield belongs ¹ to the LORD; our king to the Holy ¹ One of Israel. **R** Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Matthew 10:40-42