



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

July 16, 2023

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost



Art work by Naloni, Bella and Melina Jacoby

PRELUDE

John Cribb

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have hurt our community.

We have squandered your blessings.

We have hoarded your bounty.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have failed to be honest.

We have lacked the courage to speak.

We have spoken falsely.

In the name of Jesus,

forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.

God offers boundless grace when we fail.

Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven

in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

GATHERING

As the Deer Longs for the Water

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You.

You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship You.

CHORUS

You alone are my strength, my shield, to You alone may my spirit yield.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.

You're my friend, and You are my brother, even though You are a King.

I love You more than any other, so much more than anything.

CHORUS

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You.

You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship You.

CHORUS

GREETING

The grace of Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

GLORIA p. 204 (red hymnal, front section)

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Maker of surpassing worth;
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all;
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Maker's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:10-13

*[The congregation will read the **bold** words.]*

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

**For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65:1-13 (the congregation responds with the bold words)

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!

They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

(The congregation reads the bold words.)

[Paul writes:]

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus

has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do:

by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh,

and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us,
who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh,
but those who live according to the Spirit
set their minds on the things of the Spirit.
To set the mind on the flesh is death,
but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.
For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God;
it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot,
and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

**But you are not in the flesh;
you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.**
Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.
But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin,
the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,
the one who raised Christ from the dead
will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 205 (red hymnal, front section)

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The gospel lesson for this Seventh Sunday after Pentecost is from the 13th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew,
beginning with the 1st verse.

Glory to you, O God.

(The congregation shall read the bold words.)

That same day [when he had been teaching and praying and healing,]
Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there,
while the whole crowd stood on the beach.
And he told them many things in parables, saying:
"Listen! A sower went out to sow.
And as the sower sowed, some seeds fell on the path,
and the birds came and ate them up.

Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil,
and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.
But when the sun rose, they were scorched;
and since they had no root, they withered away.
Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain,
some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Let anyone with ears listen!"

[Later, Jesus said,]

"Hear then the parable of the sower.

When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it,
the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart;
this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground,
this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while,
and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word,
that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns,
this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke
the word, and it yields nothing.

But as for what was sown on good soil,
this is the one who hears the word and understands it,
who indeed bears fruit and yields,
in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

This is the gospel indeed.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Nikki Rocha

SERMON HYMN

El Shaddai

CHORUS

**El shaddai, El shaddai, El-elyon na adonai.
Age to age You're still the same, by the power of the name.
El shaddai, El shaddai, Erkamka na adonai.
We will praise and lift You high, El shaddai.**

**Through Your love and through the ram, you saved the son of Abraham.
Through the power of Your hand, you turned the sea into dry land.
To the outcast on her knees, You were the God who really sees,
And by Your might, You set Your children free.**

CHORUS

**Through the years you've made it clear that the time of Christ was near.
Though the people couldn't see what messiah ought to be.
Though Your word contained the plan, they just could not understand.
Your most awesome work was done through the frailty of Your son.**

CHORUS

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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 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 THE PEOPLE

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heal those who are sick or otherwise in need of our prayers, O God, especially,

- Pastor Brian - as his doctor determines a proper course of treatment
- Tom Anello's sister – undergoing treatment for cancer
- Jim Luke and family – in the death of his wife, Linda
- Daryl Sorensen – as he makes the move back to Reedley
- Joyce Bauer – waiting for appropriate medical care
- Ruth Anello – Recovering from orthopedic surgery on July 13
- Wes, brother of John Cribb - recovering from kidney surgery
- Byron Nelson - friend of Jacoby's - Cancer
- Mike Johnson - lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter - undiagnosed illness
- Family of Ryan Loomis - Cindy Haener's nephew who died in an auto accident in Arizona
- Heidi Carney – Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson

- Ben - Kathie Sperow's grandson recovering from trauma
- Ina Davenport – preparing to move to assisted living
- Linda Hermann - mother-in-law of Katie Edson's daughter, leukemia
- Betty Johnson - recovering from infection and blood clot while undergoing chemotherapy
- Aaron Brochtrup - for perseverance and patience while he works to recover from his injuries
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas - continuing to make progress in recovery
- Becky Padilla- responding well to treatment for cancer
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- ongoing abdominal pain
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them

Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray also, O God, for those whom we have not named yet, but are also in need of our support and intercession, especially,

[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]

God in. your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Inspire us by the faithful departed, O God, examples of your embodied love, whose confidence in the resurrection guides us in living lives worthy of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... **God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY p. 207 (red hymnal, front section)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of our Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it
and gave it to his disciples saying,
"Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood,
shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD p. 208 (red hymnal, front section)

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away
you suffered death our lives to save; have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION SONG Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil #512
(red hymnal, rear section)**

**Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

**We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest
treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
AMEN.**

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✝ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN **Rise Up, O Saints of God #669 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn**

**Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame;
as heirs of God's baptismal grace, the word of hope proclaim.**

**Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace;
redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.**

**Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;
stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.**

**Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;
and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be part of the harvesting.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

John Cribb

Thank you to:

- **Nikki Rocha**, for preaching today.
- **Katie Edson**, for being assisting minister.
- **John Cribb** for accompanying.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer and others** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling bulletins and the newsletter.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.
- **The Church Council**, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Zoom, to talk about Season 2, Episode 6.
- The **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will meet tomorrow, Monday, July 17th, at 9:30 am. We will be discussing next week's lessons: Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. Talk with Pastor Brian if you are newly interested in attending.

Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events: morrobaylutherans.org