

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church
1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

July 11th, 2021

8:30 & 10:15 a.m. Services

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Introduction for the Day: When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome to Worship/Announcements Pastor Ann Williams

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

Today we hear the warnings of God's faithful prophets, ancient and modern. Let us confess to the Lord.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in our thinking, in our speaking, and in our doing. We have put aside your Word and ignored those who proclaim it. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive our sins that we may be empowered to become messengers of your grace in all that we undertake.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Through the Holy Spirit given to us, God's love has been poured into your hearts. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#556 Morning Has Broken

- 1. Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*
- 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from Heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.*
- 3. Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play. Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!*

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, The Children's Bells. Text copyright © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Assoc., Ltd. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.
Music: Gaelic Tune. Tune: Bunessan 558D.

Opening Litany for "*Prophets of Old*" Sunday

O Jesus, you have sent us out to proclaim the Gospel.

May we make your name known to all.

Like the prophets of old,

Amos, who proclaimed; was persecuted.

Like the prophets of old,

John, who baptized; was beheaded.

Like the prophets of old,

your Son was sent to spread the word, to be the Word.

We are God's messengers in this world,

blest to be a blessing to the people in our lives.

Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

(Please be seated)

First Reading

Amos 7:7-15

Amos is not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he is an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicts with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encounters at Bethel.

A reading from Amos, Chapter 7.

This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line."

Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words.

For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.' " And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' "

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying. (Ps. 85:8)

Let us read responsively from Psalm 85.

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

A reading from Ephesians, Chapter 1.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel Acclamation

#512 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

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 me hear, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text and Music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950. Tune: Good Soil, Irrg. Copyright © 1985 Prince of Peace Publ./Changing Church, Inc., Onelicense.net A-703603. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Gospel

Mark 6:14-29

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 6th chapter.

Glory to You O Lord.

King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known.

Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn of the Day

#717 Let Justice Flow like Streams

(Prayer Cards will be collected during the hymn of the day)

1. *Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure, enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.*
2. *Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed, an ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.*
3. *So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true, and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.*

Text: Jane Parker Huber, b. 1926. Music: Aaron Williams, 1731-1776. Tune: St. Thomas SM. Text Copyright © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Know Press. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

(Please stand as you are able)

Profession of Faith

The Apostles' 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Filled with the Holy Spirit, we join with the church in every place, praying for the world
and the church, and all people in need.

... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

By the sure guidance of your Holy Spirit, O God, we lift up our prayers in trust and
thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

Meal

(Please be seated)

Musical Offering

8:30

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us arr. by Mark Hayes
John Paradowski, Piano

Musical Offering 10:15 *At This Table* by Inina Menzel & Jonas Myrin
Natalie Ford Sadjak, Soloist & Andy Sadjak, Cello

*At this table, everyone is welcome, at this table, everyone is seen.
At this table, everybody matters, no one falls between.
At this table, you can say whatever, at this table, you can speak your mind.
At this table, everything's forgiven, there's enough for everyone.*

[Refrain] *So come as you are, remember that the door is always open.
Yes, come as you are, the perfect gift that you can bring is your heart.
So, come, come as you are.*

*At this table, there will be no judgments, at this table, mercy has a seat.
At this table we're all sons and daughters, there's no place I'd rather be. [Refrain]*

*At this table, everyone is welcome, at this table, everybody cares.
At this table, everybody matters, so come.*

Copyright © 2019 Idina Music, EMI Blackwood Music Inc. Duva Islands and Songs of Universal Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC and Universal Music Publishing Group. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

(Please stand as you are able)

Offertory

#884 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

First Communion

8:30 – Micah Plamann

10:15 – Caleb Cherney, Angelina Lanza, Madelyn Locher, Amelia Sajdak

First Communion

Today this community of faith rejoices because Sunday is the day Christ arose from the dead. Once again Jesus calls us to join him for a meal. We celebrate with those who today, join in sharing of the Lord's Meal—Holy Communion.

We welcome you to the Table for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We thank God for their lives. We pray that they will find joy and strength in this meal. Come among us, O God, as we gather to worship you.

Invitation to Communion

You have filled us with your word, O Christ, even as you fill us with yourself. Direct us
to spread your word throughout the world for we are your prophetic people.
Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Please take your belongings with you to communion.

Communion Hymn

#496 One Bread, One Body

Please meditate on the hymn text.

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we,
though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.
Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.*

Text & Music: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939. Tune: One Bread, One Body 446 & Refrain. Text & Music: © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.