

Third Sunday after Pentecost  
June 13, 2021

**Faith Lutheran Church**

512-863-7332

**Georgetown, TX 78628**

flcms.org

*(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)*

**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION:**

*Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN:** “I Love Your Kingdom, Lord” (Lutheran Service Book, #651)

I love Your kingdom, Lord,  
The place of Your abode,  
The Church our blest Redeemer saved  
With His own precious blood.

Beyond my highest joy  
I prize its heav’nly ways,  
Its sweet communion, solemn vows,  
Its hymns of love and praise.

I love Your Church, O God,  
Your saints in ev’ry land,  
Dear as the apple of Your eye  
And graven on Your hand.

For them my tears shall fall;  
For them my prayers ascend;  
For them my cares and toils be giv’n  
Till toils and cares shall end.

Sure as Your truth shall last,  
To Zion shall be giv’n  
The brightest glories earth can yield  
And brighter bliss of heav’n.

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## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:**

*Vicar: Beloved in the Lord, since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.*

**People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

*Vicar: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**People: Amen.**

## **KYRIE**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:** *Ezekiel 17:22–24*

Thus says the Lord God: “I Myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I Myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

*Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING:** *2 Corinthians 5:1–17*

We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, Who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please Him. For we must all

appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that One has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him Who for their sake died and was raised.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

*Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Lector: Please rise, as you are able.*

*Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter:*

**People: Glory to You, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL READING:** *Mark 4:26–34*

[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

And He said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables He spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to His own disciples He explained everything.

*Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**People: Praise to You, O Christ!**

*Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Nicene Creed*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!**

**HYMN:** "Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast" (LSB, #577)

Almighty God, Your Word is cast  
Like seed into the ground;  
Now let the dew of heav'n descend  
And righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe  
This holy seed remove,  
But give it root in ev'ry heart  
To bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares  
The rising plant destroy,  
But let it yield a hundredfold  
The fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown,  
Life-giving grace bestow  
That all whose souls the truth receive  
Its saving pow'r may know.

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**SERMON:** "Kingdom Mysteries" (Mark 4:26-34)

**OFFERTORY:**

While the Coronavirus may have changed the way we come through the front doors of church, thanks be to God it has not prevented us from coming to Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and giving today at [www.flcms.org/index.php/give](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/give).

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** "Seek Ye First" (LSB, #712)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
And His righteousness.  
And all these things shall be added unto you!  
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,  
Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone,  
But by ev'ry word  
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,  
Allelu, alleluia!

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**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.

**BENEDICTION:**

*Vicar: The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.*

**CHORAL CLOSING HYMN:** “The Doxology”

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.

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**DISMISSAL:**

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Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**In Christian Service:**

All disciples of the Lord Jesus  
*with*

Proclaimer – Rev. Walt Pohland  
Liturgist – Vicar John Cotner

Organist: Karen Darby

Lay Readers:  
Online Reader – Nicky Shepherd