



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

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Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



June 28, 2020
Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

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.

✠CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C Amen.

P Reconciling God,

C **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠HYMN OF REFLECTION – Jesus, We Are Gathered (ELW #529)

Sing three times

Jesus, we are gathered, Jesus, we are gathered,

Jesus, we are gathered, we are gathered, Lord Jesus, for you.

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us pray. 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.

C **Amen.**

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – Romans 6:12-23

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.

¹²Therefore, 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **GOSPEL – Matthew 10:40-42**

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.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁰Whoever 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."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ **SERMON**

✠ **HYMN OF THE DAY – Blest Be the Tie That Binds (ELW # 656)**

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
- 4 From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

✠ **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Although distant from each other, we are called to join together to pray for our needy world. In response to each bid, you are invited to offer your own prayers, silently or aloud.

P Let us pray for the church of Jesus Christ around the world. Bless pastors, missionaries, deacons, seminarians and all those who in one way or another continue to faithfully do the ministries that are entrusted in their hands. Encourage them and strengthen them in their service. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for our own congregation and for its leadership. For church council members, for teachers, musicians, liturgists and all who give of their time and talent to serve you by serving your people. Give them wisdom and guidance in these times of uncertainty. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for the health of the earth – its lands, its seas, its animals. Help us to remember that you have set us as stewards of your creation. Bring rains to places that are dry, and fair weather to places ravaged by storms. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for those who work in our fields and produce our food. For migrant workers who come from far away places to gather our harvest. We pray for truckers, grocery store workers, those that work in farms and in meat processing plants. Grant them safety and health to all those who bring food to our tables. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for President Trump, the Congress, and the Supreme Court. Grant to all who are in elective positions, work in government agencies or make decisions on behalf of the people compassionate hearts, and sound minds to use their authority to protect and provide equally for all. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for those who are oppressed, or enslaved, or poverty-stricken. For those that are forgotten, for those that live on the margins of society; for the ones that are homeless and the ones who don't have a way to provide for themselves, that they may know your love through our compassion and action. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for an end to racism. Love, provide and care for the many in this country and around the world that are rejected and discriminated against. May they know that their lives matter to you and may we know that you call us to love all. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for both protesters and police. Provide safety to those who lift their voices in protest against injustice and who advocate for others. Protect police officers, National Guard members, and military personnel from harm and inspire in them love and compassion for the people they are called to protect. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for all who are sick. For those in nursing homes, hospitals and emergency rooms. For those suffering of the coronavirus and all other illnesses. And for the friends and family who await for their recovery that they all may know your power to heal. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us pray for medical workers and researchers. Bless them with wisdom as they provide care for the sick and figure out treatments and vaccines. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Let us thank God for Bishop Irenaeus, the apostles Peter, Paul, and Thomas, and all those who have died in the faith, and let us pray that at our end we will join them in God's presence. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, the Holy One, you are yourself the cup of cold water we crave, relieving our deep thirst. Receive these prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, for your mercy is great, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C 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.

✠BLESSING

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C Amen.

✠ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ **SENDING HYMN – Savior, Again to Your Dear Name (ELW #534)**

- 1 Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.
- 2 Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.
- 4 Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.

✠ **DISMISSAL**

- P Go in peace. Christ is with you.
C **Thanks be to God.**

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