



**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



*July 18, 2021*  
*Eighth Sunday*  
*After Pentecost*

# Gathering

## ✠INTRODUCTION

*Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.*

## ✠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, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C **Amen.**

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

C **God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C **Amen.**

## ✠GATHERING HYMN – Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us (ELW #789)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;<br>much we need your tender care.<br>In your pleasant pastures feed us,<br>for our use your fold prepare.<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>you have bought us; we are yours.<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>you have bought us; we are yours. | 2 We are yours; in love befriend us,<br>be the guardian of our way;<br>keep your flock, from sin defend us,<br>seek us when we go astray.<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>hear us children when we pray.<br>Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,<br>hear us children when we pray. |
|--|---|

3 You have promised to receive us,  
poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us,  
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.

4 Early let us seek your favor,  
early let us do your will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.

### ✠PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

## Word

### ✠FIRST LESSON – Jeremiah 23:1-6

*Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the “flock” of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David’s line to save Israel and Judah.*

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

<sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## ✠ RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;**

<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

**<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff — they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

## ✠ SECOND LESSON – Ephesians 2:11-22

*The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.*

<sup>11</sup>So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" — a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — <sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup>He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup>So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup>for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## ✠ GOSPEL – Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

*When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.*

P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the sixth chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup>When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## ✠ SERMON

### ✠ HYMN OF THE DAY – I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (ELW #611)

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | I heard the voice of Jesus say,<br>"Come unto me and rest;<br>lay down, O weary one, lay down<br>your head upon my breast."<br>I came to Jesus as I was,<br>so weary, worn, and sad;<br>I found in him a resting-place,<br>and he has made me glad. | 2 | I heard the voice of Jesus say,<br>"Behold, I freely give<br>the living water, thirsty one;<br>stoop down and drink and live."<br>I came to Jesus, and I drank<br>of that life-giving stream;<br>my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,<br>and now I live in him. |
|---|---|---|---|

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till trav'ling days are done.

## ✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Let us offer our prayers to God.

*A brief silence.*

A O God our shepherd, the church calls out for your care. Form bishops and pastors into courageous shepherds who guide the flocks of the baptized. Where the pandemic recedes, renew the worship and revive the ministries of your churches. Where throughout the world the pandemic rages, uphold your people with the strength of your word. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A The lands and waters call out for renewal. Provide green pastures and still waters for livestock, and protect gardens, farms, and ranches from disaster. Where flood or drought threatens, save your creation with your loving might. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A All the needy cry to you. Restore all who are oppressed or imprisoned. Visit Haiti and all nations in distress. Guide the leaders of nations to walk in the pathways of justice. Break down the walls that divide people of different nation, color, language, or ethnicity. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Embrace all who are lonely or abandoned. Protect teenage runaways, and house any who are homeless. Grant acceptance to quarreling family members. Bless all governmental and church agencies of care with sufficient resources for their tasks. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A We pray for the safety of the athletes at the Olympics. Cultivate among them a spirit of friendly camaraderie, and protect the residences of Tokyo from COVID contagion. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Those who are sick stand in need of your care. Visit all who have COVID-19, and accompany those who are standing in the shadow of death. Be a strong rod to those who are weak, and with your staff keep evil distant from all your children. Hear our pleas especially for those we name here before you now, silently or aloud. . . . Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Each of us praises you, O loving God, for untold goodness and endless mercy. We reach out to Christ, to touch the fringe of his cloak. Hear now our personal prayers. . . . Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A We thank you for all the faithful of every time and place, especially those we name here before you. . . . We pray that at the end, we all will dwell in your house forever. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Into your hands, mighty and merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your gift of life, through Jesus Christ, who is our peace.

**C Amen.**

## ✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

# Meal

## ✠GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

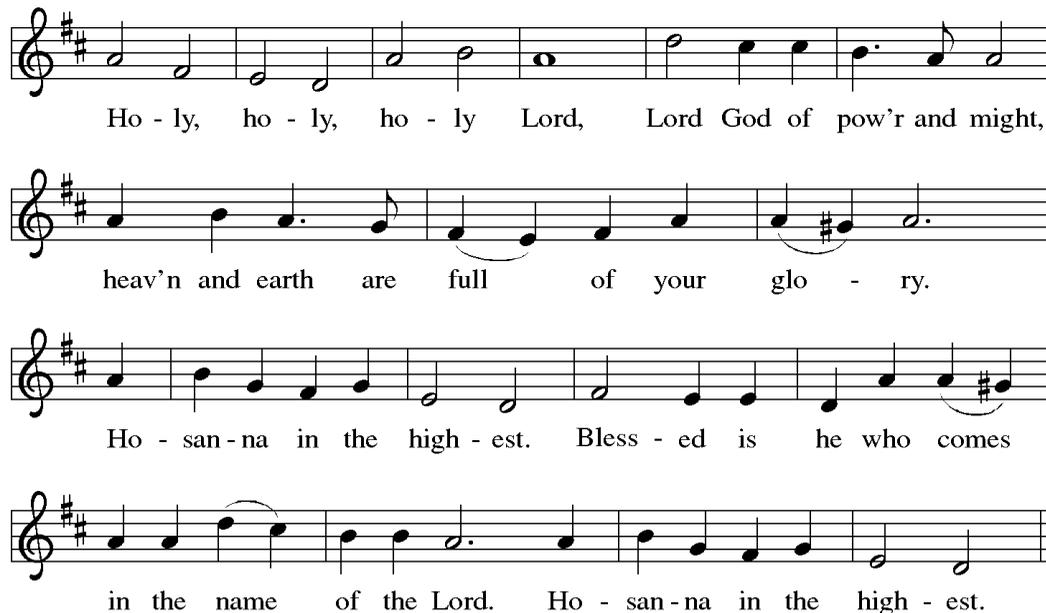
**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## ✠ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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## ✠ Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## ✠ 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.**

## ✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

### ✠ COMMUNION HYMN – We Come to the Hungry Feast (ELW #479)

- 1 We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a word of peace.  
To hungry hearts unsatisfied  
the love of God is not denied.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 2 We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a world released  
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,  
the poor in body, poor in mind.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 3 We come to the hungry feast  
hungry that the hunger cease,  
and knowing, though we eat our fill,  
the hunger will stay with us; still  
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

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## ✠ BLESSING

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
✠ be upon you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ✠SENDING HYMN – All Are Welcome (ELW #641)

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

### *Refrain:*

All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain*

3 Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain*

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*

5 Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain*

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## ✠DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## ✠SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal
Music Director:	John Zacharias
Altar:	Kris Davies
Assisting Minister:	Julie Schmidt
Lay Reader:	Mel Hammer
Usher:	Julie Bothun
Videographer:	Steve Curry

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