



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

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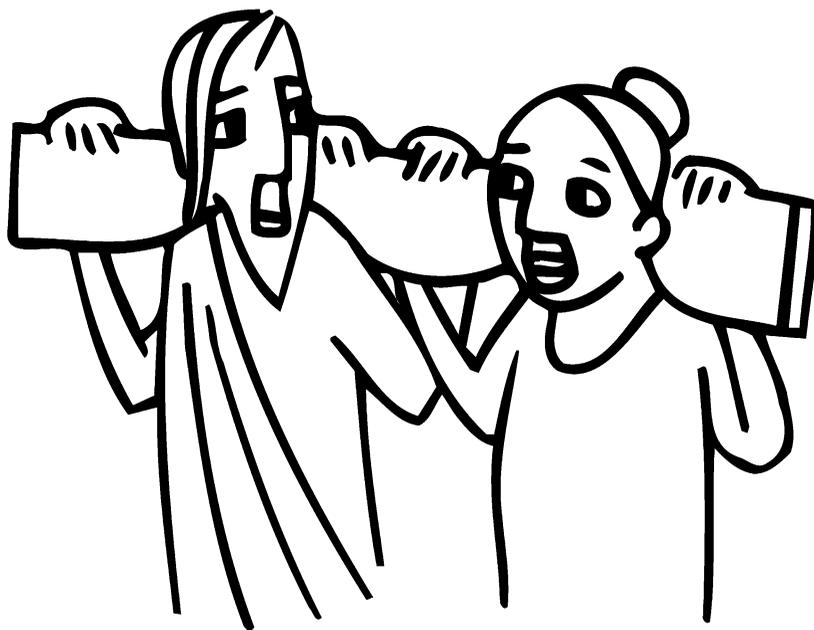
**Worship Times**

Sunday 10:15 am  
Wednesday 7:00 pm



**Pastor**

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



*July 9, 2023*  
*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After*  
*Pentecost*

# Gathering

## ✘ INTRODUCTION

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.*

## ✘ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

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

C **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.*

P Righteous God,

C **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.*

P 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.

C **Amen.**

## ✘ GATHERING HYMN – O Day of Rest and Gladness (ELW #521)

## ✘ GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

✘ **GLORY TO GOD– (ELW setting 7, p. 176)**



*¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!*  
 Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



*¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!*  
 Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



*Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.*  
 And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.



*Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.*  
 And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

✘ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Let us pray. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

# Word

## ✘ FIRST LESSON – Zechariah 9:9-12

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## ✘ RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 145:8-14

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**LORD, you are good to all,**

**and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD,

and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom**

**and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power

and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures  
throughout all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall

and lifts up those who are bowed down.

## ✘ SECOND LESSON – Romans 7:15-25a

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

## ✘ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – (ACS, Setting 11, p. 14)

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris'n in - deed.

## ✠ GOSPEL – Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

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

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup>“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

## ✠ SERMON

### ✠ HYMN OF THE DAY – What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW #742)

### ✠ APOSTLES’ CREED (ELW p. 105)

P With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

**C 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.**

**Amen.**

## ✠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A 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.*

A God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world. Inspire pastors, deacons, church musicians, and all ministers of your word as they carry out your work. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all you have made: rivers and seas, plants and animals, and endangered species. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, botanical gardens, zoos, and wildlife sanctuaries. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of the nations, you desire that all the peoples of the world live in peace. Guide government leaders at all levels—national, state/province, and local—to work for justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of compassion, you bring healing to those who are sick, consolation to those who are grieving, and well-being to those who are distraught. Send skilled caregivers to all in need, and make your presence known among all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of rejoicing, you have brought us together this day to worship around word and sacrament. Encourage children in their learning and growing, and watch over those who are absent today. Lead us all to places of renewal and refreshment. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of all faithfulness, through the witness of the faithful departed you reveal love in action. Embolden us by their example to build up the beloved community in all the contexts we encounter. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P 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.

**C Amen.**

## ✘ PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## ✘ OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world.*

*After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward to the altar.*

*As this happens, please stand as you are able for the offering prayer and meal.*

## ✘ OFFERING PRAYER

A 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.

C **Amen.**

# 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 (ACS #1089)



*San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:*  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,



*. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.*  
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.



*Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .*  
. . . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.



*Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e-res, oh Dios.*  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version  
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional  
English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C Amen.

## ✠ 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.**

## ✠ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

## ✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

## ✠ COMMUNION HYMN – Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling (ELW #608)

*Please sing "when you are able" to encourage others as they take communion*

## Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*  
watch - ing for you and for me.  
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

## ✘ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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.

C Amen.

## ✘ BLESSING

P 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.

C Amen.

## ✘ ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ✘ SENDING HYMN – Day by Day (ELW #790)

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## ✘ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C Thanks be to God.

## ✘ SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal
Digital Music Director:	Cheri Oertel
Altar:	Cindy Dolezal
Assisting Minister:	Renee Swanjord
Lay Reader:	Mel Hammer
Usher:	Cindy Dolezal
Videographer:	Steve Curry
Communion Cup Holder:	Meleah Zapata

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