

June 13, 2021

**Worship Leaders
8:30 am**

Pastor: Peter Perry
Organist: Gayle Riggert-Harris
Cantor: Mike Kaml
Lector: Hank Ruble
Ushers: Matt Ruble
Hank Ruble
Streaming: Violet Ruble
Sound: Gene Phillips
Altar Care: Catherine Davis
Sylvia Hasbrouck

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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*St. John's **celebrates** God's love,
Proclaims the Gospel and
Serves our neighbors.*



Third Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 13, 2021
8:30 am

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

* = Please Stand

Prelude Gayle Riggert-Harris

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Perry

Welcome First Time Worshipers

***Opening Hymn** *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*
ELW #886, vv. 1,2,4

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever.

C. **Amen.**

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Gracious God

C. **Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***Prayer after Communion**

***Blessing**

***Closing Hymn** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* ELW #634
vv. 1-3

***Sending Postlude**

seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Hymn *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*
ELW #403

Sermon In Christ, There Is a New Creation! Pastor Perry

Apostles' Creed p. 105

Prayers of the Church
Each petition ends...Lord, in your mercy,
Response: hear our prayer.

Prepare Offering
You are welcome to place your offering in the plate in the back as you depart.

The Great Thanksgiving p. 152

The Lord's Prayer p. 154

Prayer of Confidence in Christ (For those at home)

My Lord Jesus, I believe that You are present in the sacrament of Holy Communion. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. Embrace me and unite me wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Distribution
Lamb of God p. 154
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less ELW #597

P. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C. **Amen.**

***The Sharing of the Peace**

Kyrie p. 147

This is the Feast p. 149

Prayer of the Day
P. Let us pray.
C. **O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

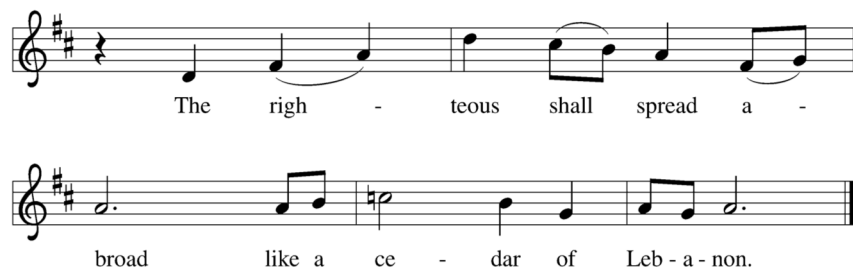
A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God:
I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.
²³On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
 I make high the low tree;
 I dry up the green tree
 and make the dry tree flourish.
 I the LORD have spoken;
 I will accomplish it.

R. The Word of the Lord.
 C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15



Psalm 92:12
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- ¹It is a good thing to give thanks | to the LORD,
 to sing praise to your name, | O Most High;
²**to herald your love | in the morning**
and your faithful- | ness at night;
³on the psaltery, and | on the lyre,
 and to the melody | of the harp.
⁴**For you have made me glad by your | acts, O LORD;**
and I shout for joy because of the works | of your hands. R
¹²The righteous shall flourish | like a palm tree,
 and shall spread abroad like a ce- | dar of Lebanon.
¹³**Those who are planted in the house | of the LORD**
shall flourish in the courts | of our God;
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit | in old age;
 they shall be | green and succulent;
¹⁵**that they may show how up- | right the LORD is,**
my rock, in whom there is | no injustice. R

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A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 5:6-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

R. The Word of the Lord.
 C. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel According to Mark 4:26-34

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the