

Sunday, July 5 5th Sunday after Pentecost

The Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Wayne Jessen whose birthday was July 7 by Ruth Jessen and family.

The Bulletins are given in celebration of Herb Stellmacher's 93rd birthday from his wife, Shirley.

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.

Preacher: Rev. Jonathan Steiner, Associate to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission

Assisting Ministers: Bishop Constanze Hagmaier, Rev. Renee Splichal Larson, Lois Borchardt, Crystal McCormick, Kelsey Lyndoe, Jake Hanson, Kathy McHenry, Sawyer Vanden Heuvel.

Musicians: Red River Worship

Today we are excited to introduce to you Red River Worship out of the Fargo-Moorhead area. Lutheran musicians, Jon Dahl and Nolan Weiss co-founded Red River Worship to create worship experiences where God is glorified and lives are changed. Red River Worship intentionally balances music, Scripture, and real life stories to help all experience God.

Order of Worship

Welcome: Bishop Constanze Hagmaier

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Conference Representatives: Deacon Kris Wollman, Rev. Nancy Eckels, Rev. Ben Eisele, Rev. Erik Thone, Rev. Christy Hallenbeck Ask, Jake Hanson, Rev. Dirk Hagmaier

Opening Hymn: ELW 456, "Baptized in Water"

Greeting:

L: 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.

Prayer of the Day:

L: 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.

Children's Message: Bishop Constanze Hagmaier

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

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.
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.
As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Psalm 145:8-14

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)

8The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**9Lord, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

10All your works shall praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

**11They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,**

12that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- out all ages.

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

14The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 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. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 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. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Gospel Acclamation, ELW p. 205

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer. [Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; 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.” 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; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 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. “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Sermon: Rev. Jonathan Steiner

Hymn of the Day: ELW 641, “All Are Welcome”

Apostle’s Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Peace and Offering

Independence Day Litany: This Is My Song (ELW 887)

- Pastor Maria Cabello
- Vicar Abraham Gayetaye
- Vicar Jonathan Old Horse

Sending Hymn ELW 887, “This Is My Song”

Benediction

Postlude: “Washed by the Water,” Red River Worship

#465 Baptized in Water

1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our king;
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.
2. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our king;
One with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praise we sing.
3. Baptized in water. Sealed by the Spirit, marked with sign of Christ our king;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praise we sing.'

#641 All Are Welcome

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.
Build of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **Refrain:**

#887 This Is My Song

1. This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, And skies are ev'ry-where as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations, A song of peace for their land and for mine.
3. This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms, your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you, and hearts united learn to love as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations, myself I give you; let your will be done.