



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 12, 2020 ~ 10:00 am

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE VIDEO *Carriers*

GATHERING SONG *Come, Now Is the Time*

GATHERING PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH Dick Hardy

Dear Lord, even as we struggle with the current issues concerning the Corona Virus, help us to be grateful for what you have given to us, and to be compassionate toward all those who are suffering any type of distress, including this new illness.

As in the parable of the Sower we pray that we are receptive to your word and teaching. We pray that your word will help build our faith - so we are prepared, but do not worry and fret about what may happen tomorrow. We pray that you come into our hearts and minds and give us peace. Help us to understand that you will always be with us and comfort us today, tomorrow and every day. Help us to say with meaning, "The Lord is my strength and my shield".

Help us to focus, not on what we have, or what we can get, but what we can give. Grant that what we do give may be given without expecting a pat on the back, and without seeking praise or reward.

We pray that you will bless the ministers in your Church – Make them diligent and fearless in bringing your good news of salvation to all.

I pray that you will help each and every one of us to boldly go into the world in peace. To have courage. To hold onto what is good. To honor all men. To strengthen the faint-hearted. To support the weak. To help the suffering. And to share the gospel.

We pray for all those in need of your healing hand. We especially pray for Jack, Marilyn, Carol, John, Ellie and all the folks on our prayer list. All these things, dear Lord, we pray in your holy name, **Amen**.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

10For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. 12For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. 13Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

CHILDREN'S TIME

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

1That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9Let anyone with ears listen!"

18"Hear then the parable of the sower. 19When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

SERMON *Parable of the Sower*

OFFERING TIME

As a community, we are grateful for one another's loving support, as we continue to maintain our property, our financial commitments to our staff, and our mission to the broader community. You are invited to take time either right now or after today's service to send your check to the church or to make your [offering online](#).

OFFERTORY SONG *Anchor* by Skillet

HOLY COMMUNION

CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG *Journey Home: A Theme and Variations* by Ian Faleer

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

CLOSING

BLESSING and CHARGE

POSTLUDE *Hallelujah (Your Love Makes Me Sing)*

CREDITS:

Come, Now Is the Time (CCLI 2430948); *Hallelujah (Your Love Makes Me Sing)* (CCLI 3091812); *Anchor* by Skillet