

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Wondrous Works and Ways

July 31, August 3 & 4, 2024

### AS WE GATHER

An interesting list of seven publicized in recent years is that of “The Seven Natural Wonders of the World.” Six of these wonderful parts of God’s amazing creation are specific to a certain location: Mount Everest in Nepal, the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, Victoria Falls between Zambia and Zimbabwe, Mount Paricutin in Mexico, and the Grand Canyon in the United States. The seventh natural wonder on the list is the aurora borealis (or northern lights), which can be seen in many countries in the northern hemisphere of the globe, including Canada, Russia, Iceland, Norway, and the United States. Whether we live near any of these seven special natural wonders or not, the beauty of God’s handiwork surrounds us in every place. Many centuries ago, the inspired psalmist wrote, “Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them” (Psalm 111:2). From colorful rainbows to delicate snowflakes to lofty mountain peaks, “full of splendor and majesty is His work” (Psalm 111:3a). May we be inspired by it as well! May we also walk according to God’s wondrous ways!

**Reception of Holy Communion:** If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

### WELCOME

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:5-8

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #814 “O Bless the Lord, My Soul”

O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join  
And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose favors are divine.

O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mercies lie  
Forgotten in unthankfulness And without praises die!

‘Tis He forgives thy sins; ‘Tis He relieves thy pain;  
‘Tis He that heals thy sicknesses And makes thee young again.

He crowns thy life with love When ransomed from the grave;  
He that redeemed my soul from hell Hath sov’ reign pow’r to save.

He fills the poor with good; He gives the suff’rers rest.  
The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for th’oppressed.

His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,  
But sent the world His truth and grace By His beloved Son.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

**People: to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.**

Pastor: For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

**People: How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!**

Pastor: Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.

**People: Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

**People:** Gracious God, with contrition and repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we have sinned and done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as your servants. We indeed deserve your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in your mercy, we come to you for forgiveness. Our trust is not in ourselves but in the merits of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all of our sins and by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives lead us into ways that reflect your goodness and love.

**Pastor:** God is gracious and merciful and hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

LSB p. 204

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –  
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

#### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Merciful God, you give eternal life to all who partake in the body and blood of your Son, Jesus. Give us faith that will never be ashamed of Him, but will take courage from His presence in our lives; and walk in his ways through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

(Be seated)

#### **☩ WORD ☩**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Exodus 16:2–15* (The Lord promises bread to rain from heaven.) <sup>2</sup>And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, <sup>3</sup>and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not."<sup>5</sup> On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily."<sup>6</sup> So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, <sup>7</sup>and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?"<sup>8</sup> And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD."<sup>9</sup> Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" <sup>10</sup>And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, <sup>12</sup>"I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" <sup>13</sup>In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp.

<sup>14</sup> And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup> When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Ephesians 4:1–16* (Guidance for living together in Christian harmony)

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.” (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

<sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 6:22–35* (Jesus is the true bread sent by His Father in heaven.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup> On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. <sup>23</sup> Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. <sup>24</sup> So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. <sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup> Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup> So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?” <sup>31</sup> Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup> Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup> They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” <sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

### **CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

#### **“My God is So Great”**

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty,  
there’s nothing my God cannot do. (repeat)

The mountains are His, the rivers are His, the stars are His handiwork, too.

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty,  
there's nothing my God cannot do, for you!

(Repeat entire song)

**SERMON HYMN #698 "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"**

May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on earth our Father's will

As angels do above;

Still walk in Christ, the living way,

With all Thy children and obey The law of Christian love.

So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,

From sin and strife to flee. One is our calling, one our name,

The end of all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.

Spirit of life, of love and peace, Unite our hearts, our joy increase,

Thy gracious help supply. To each of us the blessing give

In Christian fellowship to live, In joyful hope to die.

**SERMON**

*"The Unity of the Spirit"*

*Ephesians 4:1-16*

(Rise)

**OFFERTORY**

LSB p. 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Amen.

**NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

7 continued

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\times$  of the world to come. Amen.

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious heavenly Father, as you provided for the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness to the land you had promised, give us confidence to trust in you and to look to your hand to provide all we need for this life and for the life to come. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Holy One, your Son gives us the Office of the Ministry, that your people might be equipped to serve and be built up into His one Body.

Remember in your compassion all who speak your Word. Give them faithfulness and honesty in their teaching, that your children would be freed from all deceit to speak your truth to one another in love, growing up in every way into Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Lord, grant us true unity in the faith. Preserve us in pure doctrine; grant harmony in our congregation, district and Synod; and bestow on us charitable hearts that put the best construction on what we see and hear. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God and Father of all, enable us to walk in humility, gentleness and patience, that we would bear with one another in love and be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Mighty One, you establish civil government to be a blessing. To your mercy, then, we commend our president, our Congress, our justices and magistrates, and all who serve the public in any way. Keep them honest, fill them with wisdom and uphold them in every good deed. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Show Your mercy to the sick and hospitalized including Ralph, Carole, Wendy, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Ruth, Karen, Dick, Michael, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Vern, Cathy, Shirley and Sarah. Provide doctors, nurses and other medical professionals to care for those who need health and healing. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Loving Father, you provided manna for your ancient people to sustain them in the wilderness. By your grace, you provide the living bread from heaven: the very body of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, that endures to eternal life. Help us to approach your table with thankful and contrite hearts, that we might receive your Son's precious body and blood for the forgiveness of all our sins. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we come as a people tossed to and fro by the manifold changes of this mortal life. Help us to know, in you, that which is eternal. Give us confidence in the suffering and death of Christ, that we may rejoice that you are with us always and await His joyous appearing with all the saints; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to you, Lord our God, for you have come to redeem your fallen creation through the saving work of Jesus Christ, the true bread of life, who feeds us and strengthens us for our daily lives, who grants us good things, and who directs us in ways of peace. Through the working of your Holy Spirit, bestow upon us your benediction now and forever. Together with angels and archangels and with all that rejoice in the courts of heaven we praise your glorious name, saying:

### SANCTUS

LSB p. 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

#### PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**

LSB p. 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
 Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS****HYMN #554 "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"**

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!  
 O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:

When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,  
 Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,  
 Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:

May ev'ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore,  
 And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!

Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone  
 And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

**HYMN #642 "O Living Bread From Heaven"**

O living Bread from heaven, How well you feed your guest!  
 The gifts that you have given Have filled my heart with rest.  
 Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!  
 My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows.

My Lord, you here have led me To this most holy place  
 And with yourself have fed me The treasures of your grace;  
 For you have freely given What earth could never buy,  
 The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; This food can death destroy.  
 And you have freely granted The cup of endless joy.  
 My Lord, I do not merit The favor you have shown,  
 And all my soul and spirit Bow down before your throne.

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened With heav'nly food, while here  
 My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.  
 And when you call my spirit To leave this world below,  
 I enter, through your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.

**HYMN #636 "Soul, Adorn Yourself With Gladness"**

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
 Come into the daylight's splendor, There with joy your praises render.  
 Bless the One whose grace unbounded This amazing banquet founded;  
 He, though heav'nly, high, and holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

Hasten as a bride to meet Him, And with loving rev'ence greet Him.  
 For with words of life immortal He is knocking at your portal.  
 Open wide the gates before Him, Saying, as you there adore Him:  
 Grant, Lord, that I now receive You, That I nevermore will leave You.

He who craves a precious treasure Neither cost nor pain will measure;  
 But the priceless gifts of heaven God to us has freely given.  
 Though the wealth of earth were proffered,  
 None could buy the gifts here offered:  
 Christ's true body, for you riven, And His blood, for you once given.

Now in faith I humbly ponder Over this surpassing wonder  
 That the bread of life is boundless Though the souls it feeds are countless:  
 With the choicest wine of heaven Christ's own blood to us is given.  
 Oh, most glorious consolation, Pledge and seal of my salvation!

Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
 Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:  
 Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You;  
 Worthily let me receive You And, so favored, never leave You.

Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,  
 Jesus, joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
 At Your feet I cry, my maker, Let me be a fit partaker  
 Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Your glory, given.

Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me gladly here obey You.  
By Your love I am invited, Be Your love with love requited;  
By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gift of grace You give me As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

### COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Grant, O Lord, that this Sacrament we have now received may strengthen us in faith and in loving service to one another. As we have shared in the welcome of your Table and been graciously fed there, help us to live each day as your people who are given to hospitality, charity, and service in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

### BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

### CLOSING HYMN #917 "Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;  
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

Preacher

Liturgist Saturday & Sunday

Lectors

Organist Wednesday

Organist Saturday & Sunday

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Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Joshua Grotelueschen

Don Horn, Dalen Heinzen, Miriam Richardson

Jo Bender

Deaconess Carole King

JOIN US IN  
**Appreciation**  
AUG 11 | 12-3PM

THE SANCHEZ FAMILY TOGETHER WITH THE ROMANO'S WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR ST. PAUL'S! YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS A GIFT FROM GOD AND ONE WORTH CELEBRATING.

BRING THE FAMILY AND PLAN TO SWIM, PLAY GAMES, AND VISIT.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."  
1 Peter 4:10

S46W22379 TANSDALE RD  
WAUKESHA, WI 53189

TEXT RSVP BY 8/5 :  
608-228-6376