**Worship Plan for Sunday, July 8, 2018**

**CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS**

Invite people to share any prayers of celebration or concern to share this morning from  
the past or upcoming week.

**GATHERING SONG O God of Light, ELW 507, vs. 1, 3, 4**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

Full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**Amen.**

Trusting God’s promise of forgiveness,

let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence*

Eternal God our creator,

**In you we live and move and have our being.**

**Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.**

**Forgive us all our offenses,**

**and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.**

**By your grace draw us near to you,**

**Our refuge and our strength;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Since we are justified by faith,

We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God’s love has been poured into our hearts

Through the Holy Spirit give to us.

In the mercy of almighty God,

Christ died for us while we still were sinners;

And for his sake, God + forgives you all your sins.

**Amen.**

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God Of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ,   
our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**KYRIE** *Kyrie Eleison (ELW p. 184)*

*(The first reading is read by the lay assistant)*

**THE FIRST READING**:  Ezekiel 2:1-5

A reading from Ezekiel.

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. 2And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. 3He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. 4The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord God.” 5Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(The second reading is read by the lay assistant)*

**Second Reading:**2 Corinthians 12:2-10

A reading from Second Corinthians.

2I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. 3And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— 4was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. 5On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. 6But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, 7even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. 8Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, 9but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

*(The gospel is read by the pastor)*

**GOSPEL:** Mark 6:1-13

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. 4Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” 5And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. 6And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” 12So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY To Be Your Presence ELW 546, vs. 1, 3, 4**

**CREED**

**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.**

*(The pastor reads the introduction and the ending,   
the lay assistant reads the indented petitions.)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called together in the Spirit’s embrace, let us pray for the mending of God’s world.

Lord God, equip all your faithful people for the work of mission.   
When we are empty-handed, give us partners in ministry. Help us to speak boldly of your promises without reservation or fear. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you breathe life into the dust of the earth. Bless the land and all who work it. Bring relief to areas of drought and famine. Send healing rains and cooling breezes to places scorched by sun and heat. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, when the nations are rebellious, raise up prophets and leaders to proclaim your way of justice. Provide for the needs of refugees, immigrants, asylum seekers, and exiles. Protect all who live in areas of war and conflict. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, your grace is sufficient to bring wholeness to human weakness. Restore hope to those suffering hardships, persecutions, and calamities. Strengthen all who are fragile in body, mind, or spirit, (*especially)*. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, renew our commitment to the work of hospitality. Help us to offer a caring welcome to guests and to those returning to the church. Help us to be living examples of your grace and your generosity. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you equip disciples throughout the ages to proclaim your kingdom. Lead us by faith until every weakness of this world has been made perfect in the power of your everlasting glory. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need,

we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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 life lived for others, and his death and resurrection which renews the face of the earth, 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.

**Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

**Our Lord’s body let us take together.**

**COMMUNION**

*(The prayer after communion is read by the lay assistant)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus Christ, host of this meal,

You have given us not only this bead and cup,

but your very self,

that we may feast on your great love.

Filled again by these signs of your grace,

may we hunger for your reign of justice,

may we thirst for your way of peace,

for you are Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

**Blessing**May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can aske or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith, hope, and love.  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,   
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Song**

*(The dismissal is given by the lay assistant)***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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