

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 6, 2020

Theme: It's been six months since we gathered in this building for worship. We want to know, how long is this going to last? How much longer will we be apart? Jesus reminds us, that he is with us – together or apart!

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**
Let us confess in the presence of God and of one another. *A time for silence*

Faithful God, **help us. We are trapped and can't get free by ourselves. We turn from you and go our own way. We pass judgment on others and forget to examine ourselves. We put our own need ahead of everyone else. We don't share your gift of salvation. Forgive us and turn us back to Jesus, our Savior and friend, Amen.**

God hears our cries, and through Jesus' death and resurrection, we are clean. Hear this: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in this freedom and do God's work in the world. **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.**

OPENING SONG

Praise, Praise You Are My Rock

#862 (vs. 1-4)

**Praise, praise! You are my rock. The wind, the waves are high.
You hold me when the waves are strong. You hold me lest I die, I die.
Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.**

**Praise, praise! You are my rock. My desert sand is dry.
You break the rock, a river flows. You hear me when I cry, I cry.
Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.**

**Praise, praise! You are my rock. You calm the fear and pain.
One word of faith and I am well, I rise to praise and walk again.
Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.**

**Praise, praise! You are my rock. You host the table set.
We break the bread, we drink the cup; we know whom we have met, have met.
Praise, praise! O God, you are my rock.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: **Holy God, help us to remember that you are the God of time – all time. Give us strength to wait on your promises, and courage to stay with you even when the road seems impassable. Remind us that the day will come when we will gather again. May it be soon! Amen**

FIRST READING:

Habakkuk 1:1-7
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL:

Matthew 14:22-27
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**
The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

SERMON HYMN

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

#763

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,

I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

REFRAIN: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? **REFRAIN**

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. **REFRAIN**

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? **REFRAIN**

APOSTLES' 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**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray...

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.

BENEDICTION

May God the Father prepare your journey, Jesus the Son guide your footsteps, and the Spirit of Life strengthen your body. May the 3-in-1 watch over you + and be with you, on every road on which you journey. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine

#671

REFRAIN: Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory:

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me: **REFRAIN**

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: **REFRAIN**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Stay safe and be safe. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE