

Sebastopol United Methodist Church
Sunday, June 14, 2020 – Second Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship, including Scripture

Seasonal Theme

The teaching and ministry of Jesus the Christ.

Theme for the day:

Jesus saw the people's troubles and helplessness. He called his disciples out into the world, with instructions to stay focused and to announce the nearness of the kingdom.

Call to worship:

*(please read the **BOLD** text, aloud or silently as you prefer)*

Pastor: I love the Lord because he hears my requests for mercy.

People: ***I will call out to him as long as I live, because he listens closely to me.***

Pastor: The Lord is merciful and righteous; our God is compassionate.

People: ***The Lord protects simple folk; he saves me whenever I am brought down.***

Pastor: What can I give back to the Lord for all the good things he has done for me?

Unison: ***I will lift up the cup of salvation. I will call on the Lord's name. Praise the Lord! Amen.***

Centering & Prayer of Illumination:

(please read along with Pastor, aloud or silently as you prefer)

God of wondrous Love, your miracles always amaze us. When your blessings rain down on us, we are in awe. Thank you for your grace, which draws us closer to you. May your spirit serve all discerning hearts with the lights of your scriptures, which guide us to rely on you, now and forevermore. Amen.

Readings from Scripture: **Matthew 9:35-39; 10:7-15** **Romans 5:1-8**

[texts of Scripture follow the service, beginning on page 2]

Message: **BE COMPASSIONATE IN ALL WORKS**

Pastoral Prayer

With thanksgiving for God's gifts to us, let us offer ourselves and the fruits of our labor for God's work in the world. Thank you for continuing to send your offerings and pledges by mail.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:

(please read along with Pastor, aloud or silently as you prefer)

Giving God, we come to you with gratitude for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. Thank you for touching our lives, helping us to become the instruments of hope for others. May our gifts and our lives bring your healing, love, and compassion to a world in need. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Blessing and Benediction:

Stay in love, for the one who loves us goes with us. Stay peaceful, prepared to be joyful in all things. Be hopeful, knowing God always makes it possible.

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Scripture Readings – June 14, 2020

first reading – **MATTHEW 9:35-39; 10:7-15**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

second reading – **ROMANS 5:1-8**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

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Thank you for worshipping with us today.