

Sebastopol United Methodist Church

Sunday, June 6, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – COMMUNION

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*If you would like to participate in Communion, please have your bread and juice
(or their substitutes) ready before beginning worship*
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Seasonal Theme:

We learn more about our Christian Faith and how we are to follow Jesus as his disciples.

Theme for the Day:

We are brothers and sisters in the family of Jesus, in which we are taught how to treat one another.

Call to Worship:

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

Pastor: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise.

People: **I bow down before your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

Pastor: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul. They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

People: **For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

Pastor: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

Unison: **The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands. Amen.**

Centering and Prayer of Illumination:

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

O Living God, we praise you for the gift of peace bestowed upon us. Praise be to you who brings light to our faith, so we can witness the greatness of your integrity and truth. Your living Word was with you when you created all things. By the power of your Holy Spirit, embolden us with the light of the word that we are going to hear, so it may inspire us to share your amazing love wherever we go, carrying your good news of salvation. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

Readings from Scripture: **2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1** **Mark 3:20-35**

Message: **WITNESS AND HOPE FOR DELIVERANCE!**

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed, Ecumenical Version (UMH 882)

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

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sacrament of the Holy Communion

In peace and love, in gratitude and faith, I invite you to have your bread (or chips, crackers, etc.) and juice (or water, wine, etc.) ready.

Let us come together to Christ's table.

*(we read together the texts in **BOLD**)*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

O God, you are the creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image, to love and to be loved. You made a holy covenant with us and sent prophets to teach us your truth. When we turned away and were unfaithful, you kept faith with us.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we join in your praise, saying,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Taking our form and flesh, Jesus came among us as a servant. He showed us the depth and power of your love. By his suffering, death, and resurrection you delivered us from sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread. He gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said, "*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*"

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said, "*Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

Remembering your gracious acts, we offer ourselves to you in service and praise as we keep the feast that Christ prepares:

[lifting the bread] Bread of Heaven,

[lifting the cup] Cup of Salvation,

[lifting bread and cup] Resurrection and Life.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God, pour out your Holy Spirit among us: in this bread, in this cup, in your people; one in the body, one in the blood, one with Christ, one in mission, one in ministry; in this place, in every place, in this world, and in the world to come. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer (UMH 885)

(we read together)

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 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.

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Receiving

(we read together)

O God, we give you our thanks and praise. You feed us by your grace. You are with us in all our journeys. Give us courage and faith to serve you in all we do. Fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit. Enable us to be faithful and fruitful servants of the gospel and ministry to which you have called us. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:

We have come to give praise to God and to say thank you for all that God has given us. In thanksgiving and praise, let us bring our gifts before God.

Almighty Creator, you have blessed us with abundant life and steadfast love. We offer these gifts to you, asking that your Holy Spirit will bless them and use them to shower grace and love upon our brothers and sisters, both near and far. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Benediction and Blessing:

As you continue with your daily lives extend grace to all; be faithful to Christ and do not lose hope. Stay in peace. Amen.

first reading – 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13-5:1

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture — “I believed, and so I spoke” — we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heaven.

second reading – MARK 3:20-35

... and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s

house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

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Thank you for joining us in worship today.

SEBASTOPOL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
500 North Main Street, Sebastopol CA 95472 sebumc.org