# Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 11, 2023



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

200 East Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406 www.PeaceWithGod.com

During our pastoral vacancy, please use the church contact information below or the Vacancy Pastor and Elder contact information on page 2. Office@PeaceWithGod.com Phone: 610-337-1997

#### WELCOME TO WORSHIP



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first-time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.* 

Guest Book: Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.

**Style:** Today's service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. For those not familiar with this worship style, the interactive nature of the service may seem quite different. We agree with the ancient church that this style allows us to receive the blessings of God's word and offer thanks in response.

**Amplifiers:** Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

**Broadcast:** Today's Service is being broadcast at www.PeacewithGod.com. It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

#### Vacancy Pastor and Elder Contact information:

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We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

#### THE SERVICE – SETTING ONE

**THREAD:** Holy ministry is filled with sinners called by God.

#### Stand, as directed

#### Hymn: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise CW 614 - i -God Im - mor - tal, in vis ble, on lv wise, 1 2 Un - rest - ing, hast - ing, si - lent light, un and as 3 All life you gen - der great and in small, en in 4 Great Fa - ther glo - ry, Fa - ther light. of of pure hid light in ces - si ble from in ac our eyes, want - ing your nor wast - ing, rule in mightnot you life friend - er, life all. of all be the true of an - gels dore you, all veil - ing their sight. vour а bless - ed, most glo - rious, An - cient of most 0 Days, your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing bove a flour - ish We blos - som and in rich - ness and range; prais - es ren - der; lead Our we 0 us to see al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise! your clouds, which foun - tains are of good - ness and love. we with and per - ish, but vou nev - er change. er light splen - dor, the of vour vour love's maj - es tv! -

In the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

## Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

The congregation may be seated or kneel.

# Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

#### Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

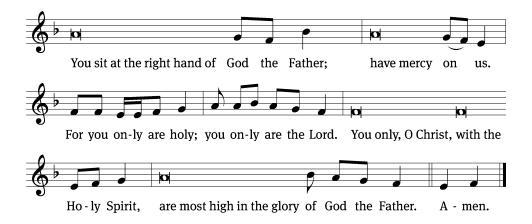
#### Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

#### Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.





## The Word

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

#### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear his call and follow him by faith that we may feast with him forever in his kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

## **First Reading**

Exodus 3:1–15

God called Moses to minister to God's people. Moses, knowing his own failures, said, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?" Every minister asks this same basic question. Who am I? The answer is that God has mercifully called the minister and grants him abilities to shepherd his people.

<sup>1</sup>Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in

flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup>So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

<sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

<sup>5</sup>"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup>Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup>So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup>So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

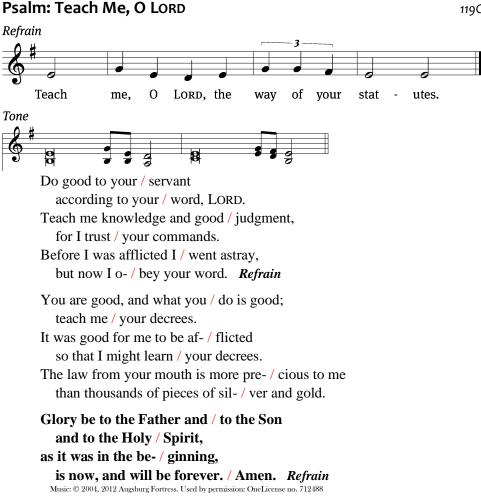
<sup>12</sup>And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup>Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

<sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

<sup>15</sup>God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.'

"This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.



## Second Reading

From our first lesson, we noted that God grants abilities to the minister. In this reading, *Paul begins by saying that it is God who empowers him because of God's total mercy.* Ministry is not based on merit, but on mercy.

1 Timothy 1:12-17

<sup>12</sup>I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. <sup>13</sup>Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. <sup>14</sup>The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

<sup>15</sup>Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup>Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Stand

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel

Could any man of Israel be more despised than a tax collector? In our Gospel reading, we see Jesus calling Matthew into the ministry. Matthew's apostleship was not based upon Matthew, but upon God's mercy on him to allow him to serve God's people. This reading is the subject of today's sermon.

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

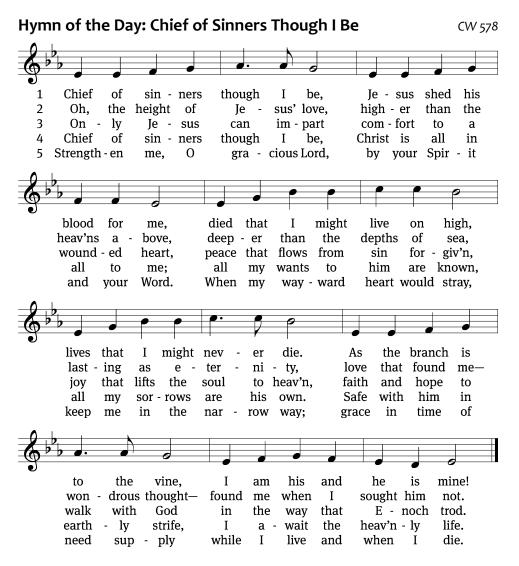
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#### Matthew 9:9–13

Matthew 9:12,13

<sup>12</sup>On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. <sup>13</sup>But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ!



Be seated, as directed

#### Sermon

## **Only Sinners Need the Doctor**

- A. Don't deny the disease.
  - a. How does Jesus expose the disease in us, even though we try to deny it?
  - b. Why is this disease so dangerous?
- B. Follow the Doctor in celebration.
  - a. What's the Good News, which is the only medicine that heals sin-sick souls?
  - b. What changes does this Good News work in us as we follow the Doctor?

Sermon by Rev. Gregg Bitter, adapted. Used by permission Ministering Elder: Jim Dietz

Stand and turn toward the aisle as we encourage one another in our shared faith

#### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

maker 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

#### Be seated

## Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace. **Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.** 

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

#### Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

# Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

#### Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

#### Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

#### Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

... Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

#### Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again. Amen.

#### **Offering** – A collection box is located by the door

#### Let us pray:

God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Stand

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.** 

#### Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus CW 606 1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread earth our of heav - en, here on 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not or - phans left in as are we his the throne: Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the food, Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee our stav; to sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -Hark! The songs vic - to ry a - lone. of peace - ful from dav dav. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of vou to lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re thun - der like "Ie - sus Zi - on а might - y flood: earth's Re - deem - er, sin - ners, hear our plea where the ceived him when the for - tv days were o'er, shall our of ev - 'rv na - tion has re-deemed us by his blood." out songs of all the sin-less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea. "I hearts for get his prom-ise: am with you ev - er - more"?

#### Silent prayer – Announcements

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#### Acknowledgments:

Setting One from Christian Worship

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