A hand is shown gripping a vertical metal bar. The background is a textured, light brown surface. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

He called
the twelve
and began
to send
them out
*two
by two.*

MARK 6:7

**The 6th Sunday after Pentecost
June 30, 2024**

FAITH LUTHERAN

An Evangelical Lutheran Church

3374 Maybank Highway
John's Island, SC 29455

Church: (843) 559-1242 Pastor: (843) 469-3630

Email: faithjohnsisland@gmail.com

Website: www.FaithJohnsIsland.org

Pastor's Email: TomCassem@gmail.com



Ministers: *The Disciples at Faith Lutheran Church*

Pastor: *The Rev. Thomas A. Cassem*

Organist: *Helena Bradford*

Flutist: *Andrea Brisbin*

INTRODUCTION

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

WE PREPARE

WORSHIP PREPARATION

When you hear the Prelude, please be seated and observe silence as we prepare ourselves for the beginning of our worship service.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929

Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C **Amen.**

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P God, our provider,

C **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C **Amen.**

GREETING

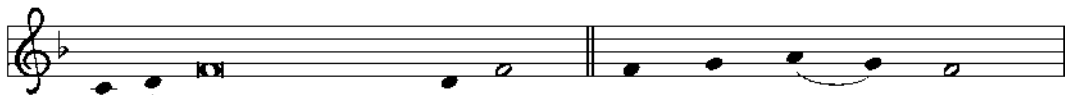
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

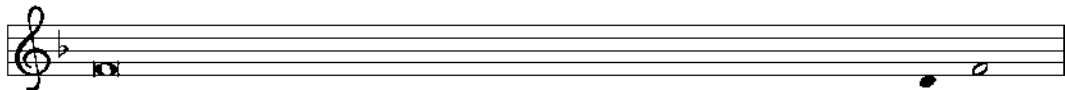
WE PRAISE GOD

KYRIE

ELW pg. 138



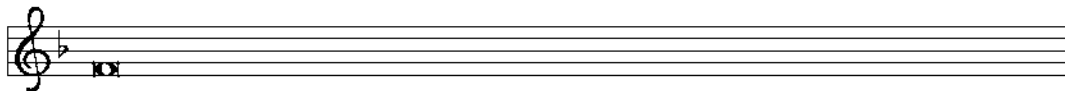
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



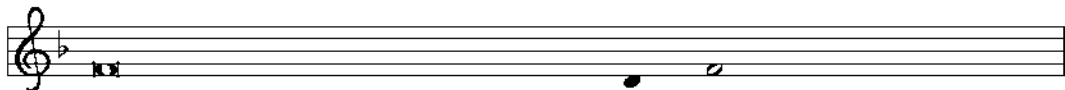
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



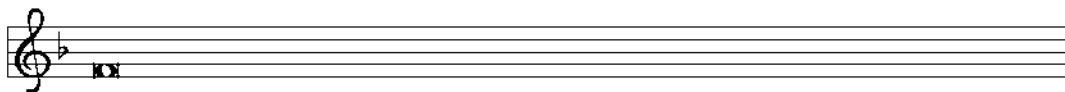
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



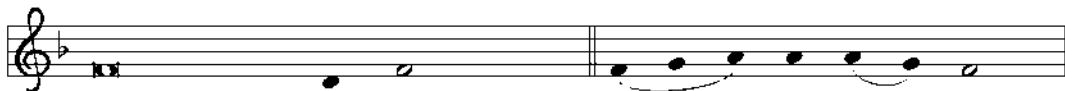
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



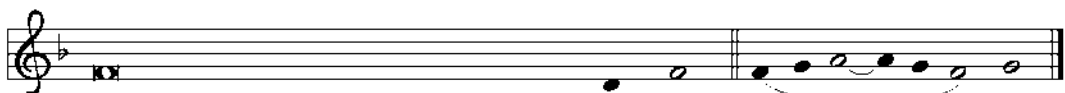
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Hymn continues on next page

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **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.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

¹ [A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.² And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³ He 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. ⁴ The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." ⁵ Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 123

Our eyes look to you, O God, until you show us your mercy. (Ps. 123:2)

- ¹ To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.
- ² **As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God,
until you show us your mercy.**
- ³ Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- ⁴ **too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,
and of the derision of the proud.**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 142

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6th Chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² On 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! ³ Is 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. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

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

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

All children are invited to come to the Altar steps for a special "Children's message".

SERMON

Rev. Thomas A. Cassem

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 579

Lord, You Give the Great Commission



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and
2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,
4 Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure
to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:
mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

THE 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 Intercession

L One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

L Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands mold the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. In your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out. In your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L We lift up to you all who are especially on our hearts silently or spoken.
(*A Brief Silence for Petitions*) In your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L Eternal God, you gather us into your house of many dwelling places. We give you thanks for our faithful departed. Inspire us by their lives of faith until, with them, we rest forever at our journey's end. In your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

L Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SHARING OUR LORD'S PEACE

The minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Offerings given for the mission of the church. Please place offerings in basket in Narthex.

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C **Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

WE RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT

HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

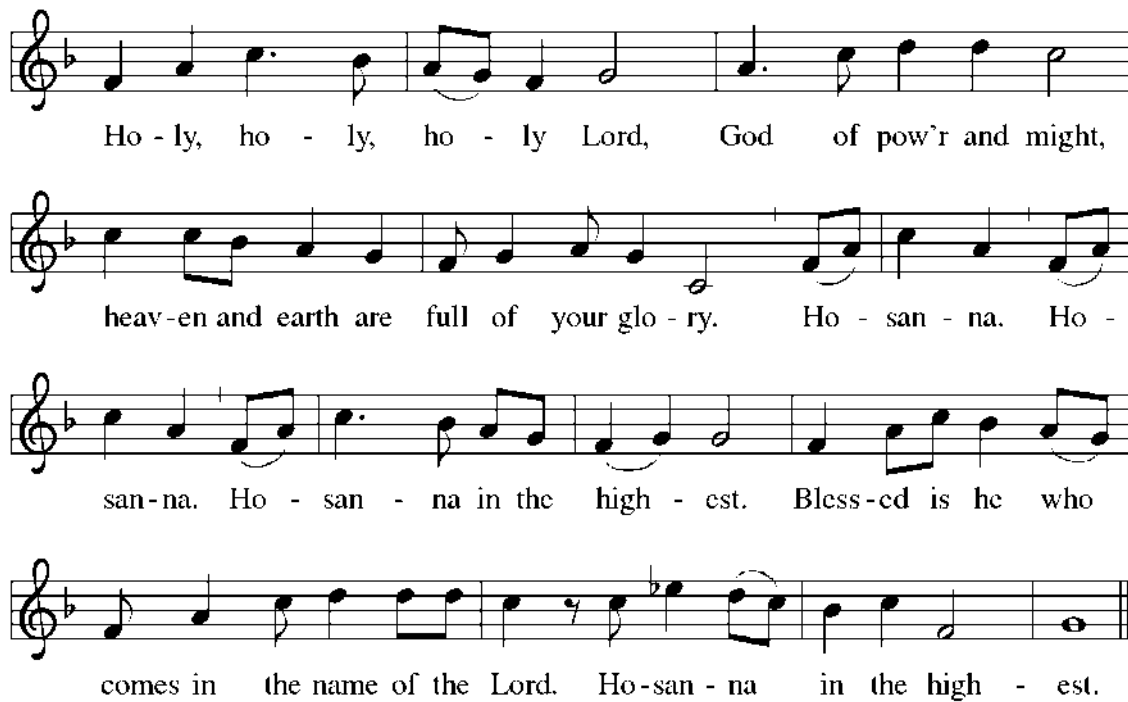
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*The Pastor leads us in the Words of Institution (Not Printed)
Please direct your attention to the altar.*

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

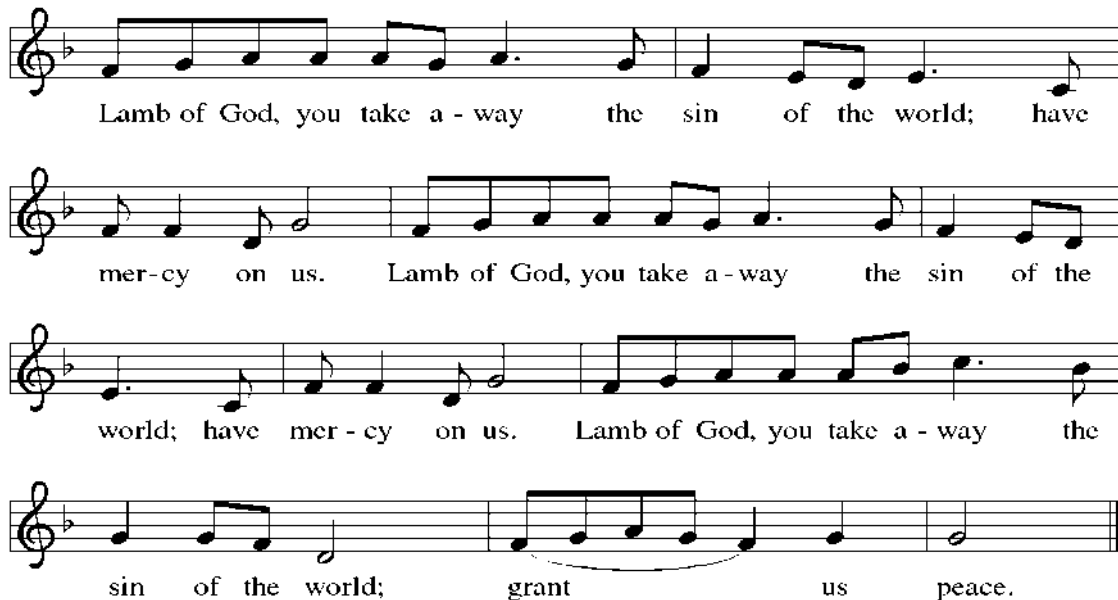
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The Gifts of God for the People of God.

C Thanks be to God.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

WE RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Distribution

Please be seated. All who celebrate with us the presence of the risen Christ in Holy Communion are invited to join us for this sacrament. We receive communion at the communion rail. Please remain seated until the ushers invite you to commune by pew. When you come forward, please return to your seat by the outside aisle. Children are invited for a blessing.

If you would like to communion brought to you in your pew, please notify an usher.

Communion Hymns

ELW 575 “In Christ Called to Baptize”

ELW 576 “We All Are One In Mission”

Communion Blessing

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.


C Amen.

Communion Prayer

P Let us pray.

C Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT **BENEDICTION**

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

C Amen

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

*Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona**Refrain – sung twice each time*

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es. all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African

Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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DISMISSAL

P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝
be upon you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Statement of Purpose

As servants of Christ, we are called
to proclaim God's saving Word in a caring, nurturing way,
to spread God's love throughout our community, and
to provide opportunities for people to grow in Christ.

Our Worship Ends + Our Service Begins



The 7th Sunday after Pentecost — July 7, 2024

Sent Out

In today’s gospel reading, Jesus sends the disciples out on their own (in pairs, but without him) to spread his message, and he gives them a packing list: no food, no bag, no money, no extra clothes—only the love and power of Christ, and the good will of the people they would encounter to support them. The disciples must have felt woefully unprepared. And yet Jesus sent them anyway.

As Christians, we may feel unprepared for our journeys. We know that the Lord has sent us out into a broken world to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, but . . . *How do we do that? What do we say? What if people don’t want to hear the message? Isn’t it impolite to discuss religion?* Surely the disciples shared those concerns. But they went anyway, trusting Jesus. And in trusting Jesus, they found that his message of repentance and salvation was well received. “They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.”

Perhaps this story can serve as inspiration in our own vocations. Although we may not know how to tell others about the love we’ve found in Jesus, we know that Jesus is supporting us in our meager efforts. We may fear rejection, but Jesus tells us to shake the dust from our feet and carry on. If we worry that we won’t get it right, we can remember that the word of God does not return empty. In your baptism, Jesus has called you into his family. In holy communion, he nourishes you for the journey. Throughout your life, he gives you a story to tell others, and the power to share his good news. Take courage, Christian, and go forth in his name. He’s got your back!

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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