

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, July 19, 2020**  
**Living Faith Lutheran Church**  
**Sechelt, BC**

*We welcome all who share this occasion of worship, thanks and praise wherever you may be reading or hearing this, praying and sharing the meal with us.*

**GATHERING**

Gathering Song      #554    “Lord, Your Hands Have Formed” (*a traditional Philippine song*)

1. Lord, your hands have formed this world, ev’ry part is shaped by you—  
    water tumbling over rocks, air, and sunlight:  
    each day’s signs that you make all things new.
  
2. Yours the soil that holds the seed, you give warmth and moisture too.  
    Sprouting blossoms, crops and buds, trees and plants:  
    the season’s signs that you make all things new.
  
3. Like a mat you roll out land, space to build for us and you  
    earthly homes and, better still, homes for Christ:  
    the truest sign that you make all things new.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, (+)  
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all and always. Amen.

Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour, Brother and Friend. Amen.

**WORD**

First Reading      Genesis 28:10-19a

<sup>10</sup>Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. <sup>11</sup>He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. <sup>12</sup>And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup>And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring;

<sup>14</sup>and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.

<sup>15</sup>Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." <sup>16</sup>Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place — and I did not know it!" <sup>17</sup>And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

<sup>18</sup>So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. <sup>19</sup>He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

*Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God*

Second Reading      Romans 8:12-25

<sup>12</sup>So then, sisters and brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — <sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption.

When we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

*Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.*

Lesson Hymn      #496    "One Bread, One Body"

*Refrain:      One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many through the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.*

1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *Refrain.*
2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *Refrain.*
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *Refrain.*

Holy Gospel                      Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43                      *Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>4</sup>He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup>but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup>He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup>But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." <sup>37</sup>He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup>the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

*The gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

Song of the Day                      #466                      "In the Singing"

1. In the singing, in the silence, in the hands expectant, open,  
in the blessing, in the breaking, in your presence at this table,

Refrain: Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace.

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

2. In the question, in the answer, in the moment of acceptance,  
in the heart's cry, in the healing, in the circle of your people,

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace.

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

## 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

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.      *A brief silence.*

God of the harvest, you sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into your field. Help your church throughout the world to be both diligent and patient, full of resolve and gentleness, that our witness may be faithful to your intentions. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all space and time, your whole creation groans in labour pains, awaiting the gift of new birth. Renew the earth, sky, and sea, so that all your creation experiences freedom from the bondage of decay and relief from exploitation and overuse. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, teach us your ways, that we may walk in your truth. Mend the fabric of the human family, now torn apart by our fearful and warring ways as well as by the fear or folly present everywhere across the globe due to the coronavirus and its spread. Guide us by your mercy, grace, and steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of hope, you accompany those who suffer and are near to the broken-hearted. Open our hearts to your children who are lonely and abandoned, who feel trapped by despair or anxiety, and all who suffer in any way (*especially those whom we name in our hearts before you now. . .*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the seasons, in the midst of summer, give us refreshment, renewal, and new opportunities for enjoying the company of family and friends. We pray for the safety of those who travel, especially Jocelyn and her family. We pray for those who cannot take the rest they need, particularly first responders and front-line health care professionals who are overworked and worn down or burned out but who still serve and care. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, those who have died in you shine like the sun in your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints of all times and places and saints close to us (*especially those whose names and faces we recall now. . .*). Gather us with them on the day of salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace May the peace of Christ be with us all and always.

Offering Prayer

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **MEAL**

*Those who are communing at home are to have bread and wine/grape juice close at hand. All may either participate in the Thanksgiving and the Meal by following the printed order below or by resuming the video in which the Presider leads the Thanksgiving. The bread and wine may be raised when they are blessed as a reminder of Christ's being "lifted up" on the cross as the offering of himself for us.*

God is with us. Therefore, let us celebrate and rejoice at the gifts of Christ's presence and love given to us in this foretaste of the feast to come.

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, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer over the gifts of field and vine

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,  
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,  
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners  
and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; (+)  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, (+) and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave,  
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:  
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,  
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honour is yours, gracious and generous One,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen

Let us pray together with all Christians everywhere in space and in time

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.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### Sharing of the Meal

*In this blessed communion of Christ with us and us with all others who are in Christ,  
our Saviour grants us grace, forgiveness, life and healing*

*A Song before, during or after the Meal* #483 “Here is Bread”

1. Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

**Refrain:** In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

2. Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here.

**Refrain:** In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

3. Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified.

**Refrain:** In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

#### Prayer after communing

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.  
Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace. Amen.

#### Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. Amen.

Sending Song #464 "Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal"

1. Bread of life, our host and meal, Jesus, feed us.  
Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
2. Bread now break and wine now pour, Jesus, feed us.  
Make us one, our hope restore; feed us with your love.
3. Grant forgiveness in the feast—Jesus, feed us—  
for the greatest and the least; feed us with your love.
4. Thank you for this gift we share. Jesus, feed us.  
Save God's children everywhere; feed us with your love.

Dismissal Let us go in peace and feed the world with what we have been fed this day.