

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 19, 2020



COLONY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FM Frequency 101.7

WELCOME:

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We begin in the name in which we are baptized, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

St John writes: *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN: ELW# 596 MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!

Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

GREETING:

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

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BOLD= *Indicates the response of the assembly.*

2

PRAYER OF THE DAY: 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 Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: ROMANS 8:12-25

A reading from Romans 8, beginning in the 12th verse.

Paul writes: ¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for 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. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For 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!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and 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.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that 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. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and 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. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 86:11-17

¹¹Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.

¹³For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people
seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger,
and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant,
and save the child of your handmaid.

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it
and be put to shame; because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted
me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (SETTING 10)



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

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BOLD= *Indicates the response of the assembly.*

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And 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?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let 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.’”

³⁶Then 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.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON:

The Reverend Michele Fischer

HYMN ELW# 638 BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his
love. ***Refrain***

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

APOSTLES CREED

Baptized into the Holy Trinity, let us confess our common faith using the ancient words of 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

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 labor 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. 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. 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 brokenhearted. Open our hearts to your children who are lonely and abandoned, who feel trapped by despair, and all who suffer in any way *especially Cheryl Bedenbaugh, Linda Blackburn & Family, Jeremy & Breanne Burns, Patsy Chappell, Rebecca Gardner, Berniece Fort, Juanita Fulmer, Shelby Gilliam, Mrs. Frances Long, Donnell Minick, Joe Morris, Patsy Nichols, Barry Palm, Kat Shealy, Bernice Shealy, Gloria Bedenbaugh & Gordon Windham, Ellie Jane Wise, and Pat & Steve Wise. The family and friends of Susan Miller (sister of Joyce Jaqua)* Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of the seasons, in the midst of summer, give us refreshment, renewal, and new opportunities. We pray for the safety of those who travel. We pray for those who cannot take the rest they need. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Be with those who seek to peacefully call for reform and change. Be with our police officers who are grieving the actions of a few and questioning their call to serve and protect. Keep all people safe, peaceful protesters, police officers and help us to talk to one another, to forge a new way together, that respects the lives of black people and white people equally. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, support and strengthen all those who serve the sick, especially those placing their lives at risk as they care for those who have contracted this wretched virus. They are your hands, serving as best as they are able. In their concerns and fears, may they know your peace. In their faithful serving, may they know your steadfast love. May they not grow weary or faint-hearted. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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*). 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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us in your kingdom, Lord 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.

BENEDICTION

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

HYMN ELW# 840 NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harmin this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

+ PLEASE KEEP THESE INDIVIDUALS IN YOUR PRAYERS +
Joe E. Morris, Finlay Towers, Apt. 1104, 2100 Blossom St., Columbia, SC 29205-2296; Bernice Shealy, JF Hawkins Nursing Home, Room 6, 1330 Kinard Street, Newberry, SC 29108.

Cheryl Bedenbaugh, Linda Blackburn & Family, Jeremy & Breanne Burns, Patsy Chappell, Rebecca Gardner, Berniece Fort, Juanita Fulmer, Shelby Gilliam, Mrs. Frances Long, Donnell Minick, Joe Morris, Patsy Nichols, Barry Palm, Kat Shealy, Bernice Shealy, Gloria Bedenbaugh & Gordon Windham, Ellie Jane Wise, and Pat & Steve Wise.

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