



CHURCH ON THE AVENUE

St. Luke's, Hampden

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 9, 2024

WELCOME & INSTRUCTION

Participants are invited to respond with the text in bold type.

INVOCATION

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

RITE OF CONFESSION

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is held for the examination of conscience.

Loving God, **we have turned against you.**

By our thoughts, words, and deeds, we have broken our relationship with you and with each other. *Breathe*

Gracious God, **when you showed us love, we have thought and spoken poorly of our neighbors.** *Breathe*

God of Abundance, **when you provided for our needs, we ignored the needs of others and often justified our wants.** *Breathe*

Consoling God, **when you said "do not be afraid," we allowed fear to fester, giving birth to anger and hatred of the other.** *Breathe*

Empowering God, **when you made us caretakers of the earth, we hurt your creation with our greed and selfishness.** *Breathe*

Merciful God, **often we do not recognize our own sinfulness though we are quick to point out the sinfulness of others;** *Breathe*

God of Compassion, **at times, we believe we are unforgiveable and we do not trust in the capacity of your Spirit.** *Breathe*

Redeeming God, **Forgive us, transform us, empower us by your grace. Amen.**

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.

Amen.

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING | Deuteronomy 5:12-15

This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.

¹²Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁴But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 81:1-10

¹Sing with joy to ¹ God our strength
and raise a loud shout to the ¹ God of Jacob.

²**Raise a song and ¹ sound the timbrel,
the merry harp, ¹ and the lyre. R**

³Blow the ram's horn at ¹ the new moon,
and at the full moon, the day ¹ of our feast;

⁴**for this is a stat- ¹ ute for Israel,
a law of the ¹ God of Jacob.**

⁵God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the ¹ land of Egypt,
where I heard a voice I ¹ did not know:

⁶**"I eased your shoulder ¹ from the burden;
your hands were set free from the grave- ¹ digger's basket. R**

⁷You called on me in trouble, and I de- ¹ livered you;

I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the wa- ¹ ters of Meribah.

⁸**Hear, O my people, and I will ad- ¹ monish you:
O Israel, if you would but lis- ¹ ten to me!**

⁹There shall be no strange | god among you;
you shall not worship a | foreign god.

¹⁰I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the | land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and | I will fill it. R

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Alleluia

ELW 175

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

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

Music: "Alleluia 7." Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community
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GOSPEL READING | Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

God is with you. **And also with you.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus went home;]²⁰ and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come.

²⁷But 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.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him.

³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

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

MESSAGE |

Rev. Jim Muratore

BREAKOUT QUESTIONS

- Do you identify anyone as extended or chosen family? How have those relationships impacted your life?
- How do you consider your own calling in this divisive climate whether among family, community, or nation?

RITE OF RECEPTION FOR NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these people*, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new *members* into the life and ministry of this congregation.

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

Address and Questions

The presiding minister addresses those being welcomed.

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Siblings in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the assembly.

People of God,

do you promise to support and pray for *these* new *members* in *their* life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Welcome

Those being welcomed face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.

Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

You reawaken our hearts to your mercy. We give you thanks for renewers of the church in every age. Enliven the creativity and persistence of all seeking to transform the church into a closer vision of your beloved community. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your presence is revealed in the shade of trees, the growth of seeds into flowers, and in the blessing of plants granting food in their right season. Heal lands scarred by deforestation, pollution, or infestation. Teach us to cultivate the earth with respect and reverence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Our nations and communities are divided, O God. Teach us again to listen with curiosity and mercy, even in disagreement. Grant us the humility to acknowledge our hardness of heart and make us bold in modeling cooperation for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Hear the prayers of all who cry out to you from the depths of fear, despair, or hopelessness. With haste, rescue victims of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse, and bless organizations and individuals who work on their behalf. We pray for Bob and Jeanette, Rob and Scott, Sharon and Erick, Ron and Beryl, Amanda, Rosha and Ron, Buddy, Luke and Melissa, Jack, Amelia, Matt and Kelly, Michael, Noah, Landis, Trish, Roman, Pam, Jim, Charles, Joe, Katie and for all whom we now name....

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Grant wisdom and clarity to all who are in seasons of discernment and transition: high school graduates preparing for first jobs or new educational journeys, those who are shifting careers, and those who are navigating changes in their relationships. Accompany them with your peace. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Praise to you for our ancestors in faith who believed, spoke, and lived in you. Give us confidence that as Jesus was raised, so we too will be raised, with all the saints, into your everlasting presence.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Offering may be made electronically on the church's website at www.churchontheavenuehampden.org. You can also sign up for automated giving. See announcements at the end of the bulletin.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

The assembly is invited to stand in body or spirit.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



[A] God's Spir - it is with us

[P] Let us lift up our hearts

[A] We lift them to our God

[P] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

[A] It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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, O God, our Father and Mother,
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. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ ✝
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is
yours Almighty God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

And so we have this meal. Simplicity and mystery bound together. And though we cannot fully comprehend its meaning, we share, we remember and we trust in the promise of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.

Blessed be God forever!

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion is served by way of intinction. Come forward in a counter clockwise circle. Hand sanitizer is available at the altar for your use. Receive the bread in your hand and dip into the cup. The clay chalices are filled with grapes juice, and the metal chalices are filled with win. The second station of chalices is reserved for gluten free recipients. If you wish not to receive you are welcome to remain seated or come forward with crossed arms to receive a blessing. ALL are welcome to come and receive without exception.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOST & FOUND THRIFT SHOP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS ASAP

If you are a thrift shop volunteer (or would like to be) we need to fill the schedule as soon as possible to ensure that the shop will be open for our community members. Jan Borison, our new volunteer coordinator is away on vacation so please see Pastor Jim after the service and/or text him with your Saturday availability. Volunteers generally share the day in 2-1/2 hr shifts. Thank you!

COME AND SEE!!! So much is going on here at St. Luke's Church on the Avenue, please visit our website to view the calendar and explore links to activities happening every day! Visit us at www.churchontheavenuehampden.org or by scanning the QR Code below.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for sustaining our ministry during this strange and difficult time! You can provide offering or make a special gift at anytime through the church's giving portal. Links can be found in the e-newsletter and on the church website at <http://www.churchontheavenuehampden.org>. or by scanning the QR Code below.



BENEDICTION

God is with you! **And also with you!**

May God bless you and keep.

May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you

May God look upon you with favor and give you peace.

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

SENDING HYMN | I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

ELW 860



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**