

# THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 17th, 2022



## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1  
Church: 905-685-8294  
[www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon  
**Bulletin Announcements:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).  
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

**Pastor:** Pastor Todd Hoeffs (289-362-0113) [pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com)  
**Parish Assistant:** Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) [parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca)  
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**Prayer:** O God, because You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding, pour into our hearts such love towards You that we, loving You above all things, may obtain Your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Luke 9: 15-21                      Wed.: Luke 9: 51-57a                      Friday: Luke 9: 18-26  
Tuesday: 1 Kings 19: 15-21                      Thurs: 11 Tim. 4: 1-5                      Saturday: Luke 14: 25-35

**SCRIPTURE MEMORY MOMENTS:** We all agree how important it is for each of us (no matter our age) to know and even be trying to memorize scripture. Each week we will have a short video helping us memorize one verse from the Gospel readings of the week. Feel free to share this with others.

**For this Sunday:** Luke 10:41 <https://youtu.be/wAkle0zIPYQ>

**Musician:** 10 a.m. – Mayumi Munoz  
**Reader:** 10 a.m. – Paul Wachs  
**Greeters:** Christina & David Coghlan

**COMMUNION AT THE RAIL:**

This past Sunday, July 10, communion distribution returned to the method of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ at the rail. This had been the practice prior to the restrictions of the Covid Pandemic. A number of concerns were voiced since that Sunday. The following are the most common raised:

- 1) The time for the overall distribution was lengthy;
- 2) Worshippers visibly experienced a physical struggle going up and down the chancel stairs;
- 3) Worshippers displayed difficulty physically kneeling at the railing and then having difficulty rising back up again;
- 4) The voice levels in the pews with conversations during the distribution was distracting as this is also a time for prayer and reflection before receiving the Sacrament;
- 5) The former Pilgrim Style method of distribution may be preferred. The common cup will still be offered as well.

Since returning to pre-Covid practices has been the motive for the benefit of all worshippers, your feedback is appreciated. We ask your prayerful patience at this time as our church leaders, ushers and staff seek to act in the church’s best interest. Please feel free to make your concerns known to Pastor Todd or Judy Slingerland following the service or in the days ahead. This is helpful so that how we serve is for the glory of God and the building up of you and all members of the Body of Christ.

**IN-Person SOUL** at Christ Lutheran is tentatively offered the end of July depending on timing of completion of all basement renovation projects. SPARKS is taking place at the Kiwanis Park led by the Simons. This is separate from SOUL. Thank you for all who help support this vital outreach.

**UPDATE ON YOUTH GATHERING MEMBERS:** Later Tuesday, July 19th the group will leave to start their trek back home (*estimated arrival by Friday evening, with an overnight in Magnetawan Thursday night*). **Thank you in advance** for your prayers for the Gathering itself: the speakers and the Bible Studies and connections. For our adults and youth group: accident free travelling, that all will stay healthy, that the Lord works in us personally as we relate and are an encouragement to others. For our families—that God will watch over them as we are apart. Know that all of you are treasured by us as brothers and sisters in Christ. We thank God for you! May God’s blessings be showered on you as well. *In Christ, Louise Gondosch;*

<b><u>Last Sunday Attendance: July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022</u></b> <b>Attn: 10 a.m. – 78</b>					
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly Need</u></b>	<b><u>Last Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>Year To Date</u></b>	<b><u>+ or – (--)</u></b>
Current:	283,291.00	5,554.73	2,970.00	117,993.76	(34,547.55)
LCC Missions	20,000.00	392.16	160.00	8,289.50	( 2,479.73)
Property Improvement:			44.00	3,830.50	

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God by Anne Schneikart in loving memory of her sister Kaye Tiffney.

**A MEMORIAL DONATION** has been given To Haiti Lutheran Missions Society by Elvira Zernikel in loving memory of her mother, Martha and her nephew, Hamelet.

**SILVER SPIRE UNITED CHURCH Donations for the Homeless:** Silver Spire provides showers and laundry facilities for those experiencing homelessness or anyone in need of those services in the area. Our church has helped them in the past by donating laundry soap, body wash, towels, etc., but now they need: Men’s boxer briefs, Women’s underwear, Deodorant, \$25 GIANT TIGER GIFT CARDS (or pantry items). There is a laundry basket in the narthex for any of the above items. Judy Mason 905-641-7546 is overseeing this project if you wish to donate, please contact her if you have a gift card. Proverbs 19:17: *“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his deed”*.

**Notice to Church Extension Fund Depositors:** The Church Extension Fund (CEF) is winding down its operations and as of now all depositors with current addresses have received their deposited funds plus the interest owing. However, we have a number of unclaimed savings accounts and savings certificates as we do not have current contact information for these. If you or someone you know thinks they may have a CEF account which has not been redeemed, please contact Darryll Holland at: 800-465-8179 ext4 or [dholland@lcecast.ca](mailto:dholland@lcecast.ca). Also if you are in possession of God Bank Savings Stamps or Tracky Stamps, these too can be redeemed by returning the books or stamps to: Lutheran East District, 275 Lawrence Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3.

*LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE*  
THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
July 17, 2022 + 10 AM

OPENING HYMN: *"Praise To The Lord, The Almighty"*

**1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear; now to his temple draw near,  
joining in glad adoration.**

**3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
if with his love he befriends you.**

**4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the Amen sound from his people again;  
gladly forever adore him.**

*Words: Joachim Neander, 1680, public domain; [://www.godtube.com/popular-hymns/praise-to-the-lord-the-almighty/](http://www.godtube.com/popular-hymns/praise-to-the-lord-the-almighty/)*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**who made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

O Almighty God, merciful Father,

**I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ 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

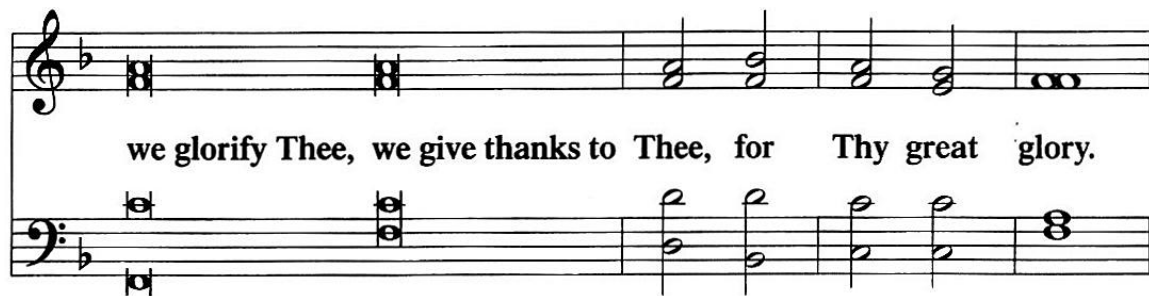
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score for "LORD, HAVE MERCY" is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us." The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.

GLORIA

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

The musical score for "GLORIA" is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,". The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.



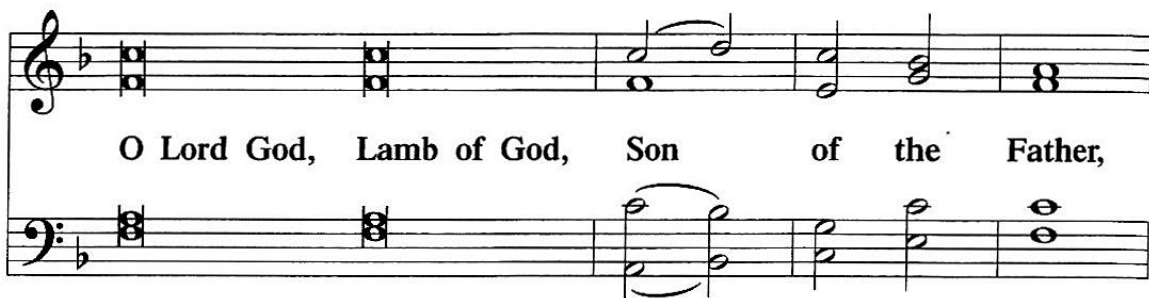
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



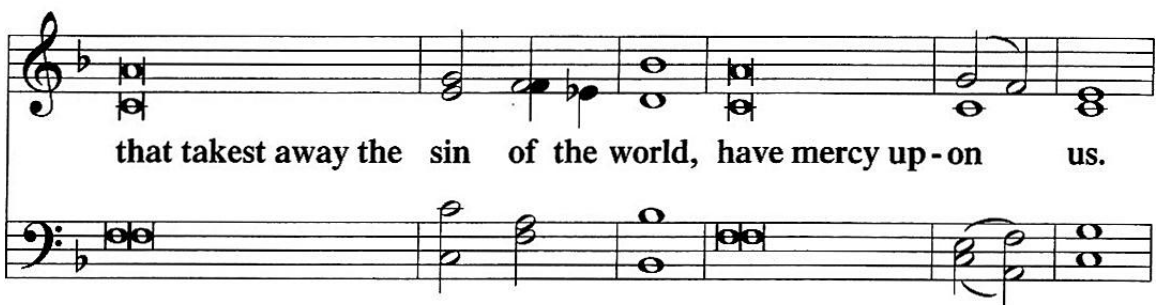
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



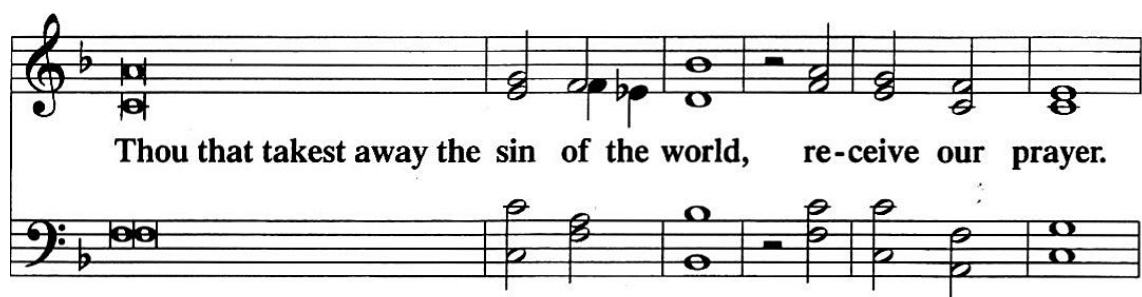
O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



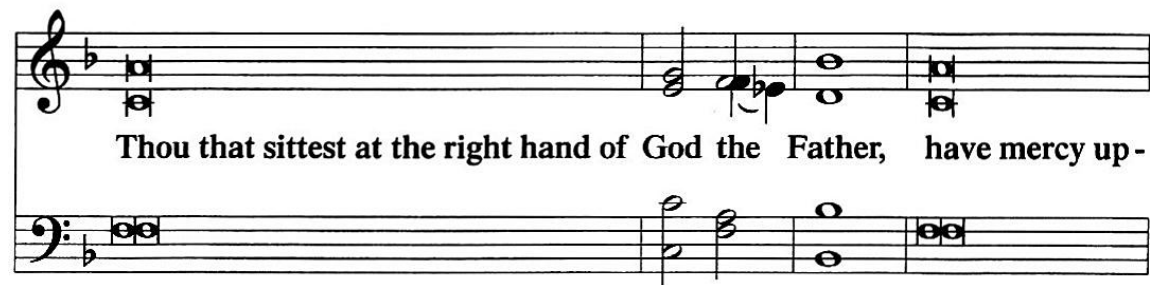
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



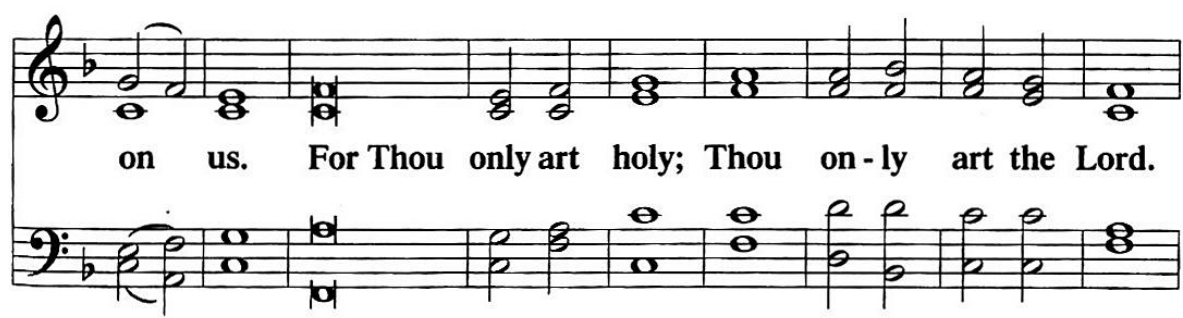
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



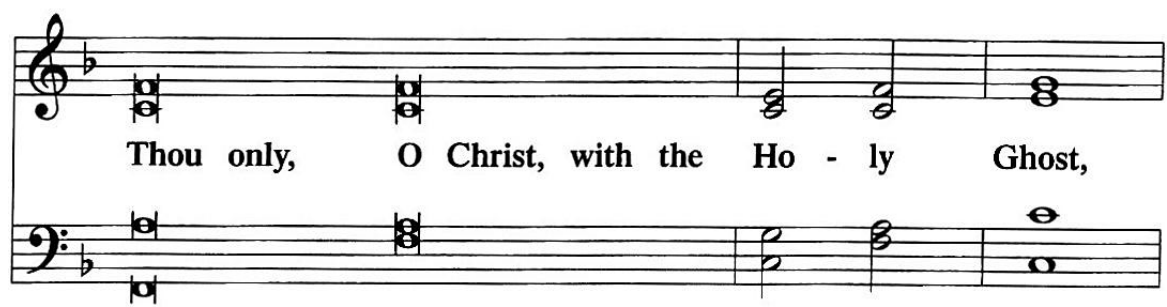
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.



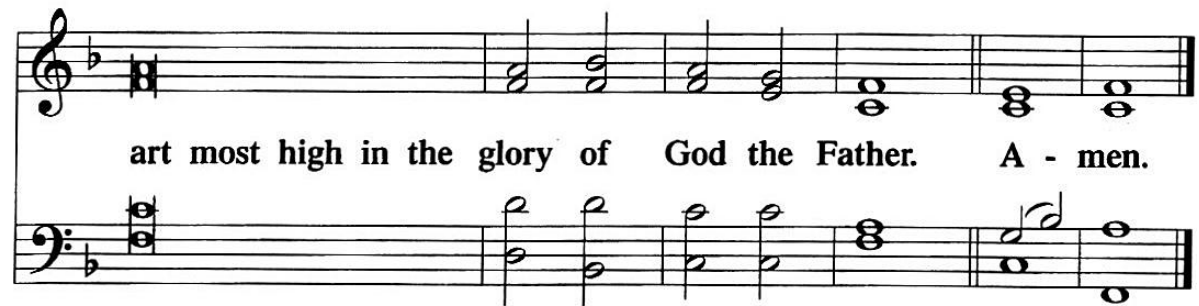
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## SPOKEN GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The Lord be with you: **And with your spirit.**

Let us pray: O Lord God, give us Your Holy Spirit to hear Your Word and know the one thing needful that by Your Word and Sacraments we may live according to Your holy will and purpose. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD

**The Old Testament:** *Genesis 18: 1-14*

And the LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth and said, "O Lord, if I have found favour in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Seven quarts of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**The Epistle:** *Colossians 1: 21-29*

[St. Paul writes:] And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



## ALLELUIA

A musical score for the Alleluia. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The treble staff contains a melody with lyrics underneath: "Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia." The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The piece ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

### **The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 10: 38-42**

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter:

 **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.** 

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." This is the Gospel of the Lord.

 **Praise Be to Thee, O Christ.** 

### THE APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And 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. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence 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.**

### GOSPEL SONG:

*"Jesus, Name Above All Names"*

**Jesus name above all names  
Beautiful Savior glorious Lord---  
E-mman-uel God is with us  
Bless-ed Redeemer, living Word**

**Jesus loving Shepherd  
Vine of the branches, Son of God--  
the Prince of Peace, suffering Servant,  
Bread of life and Light of the world.**

**Praise him Lord above all lords  
King above all kings, on-ly Son--  
The Lamb of God, who with the Spir-it  
Live in us as Saviour and Friend**

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## MESSAGE

### OFFERTORY is sung



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

OFFERINGS are gathered

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of your Son- the Word made flesh. Thank you for revealing yourself to us through Jesus, and for all that you've done to bring us forgiveness and new life. Forgive us our many sins and purify our lives. Help us to follow Christ in faith-filled repentance and devotion.

We speak to You, O Lord; **hear our humble prayer.**

We pray for our nation, Canada. Thank you for the abundant blessings you shower on us here. Graciously uphold the military, the police, and all rescue workers, protecting us from fire and flood, from war and disease, from famine and strife, and from every kind of disaster. Draw all Canadians into the radiance of your light, so that we may properly care for and use the resources of this land.

We speak to You, O Lord; **hear our humble prayer.**

Thank you for the blessings of good government and civil peace. We commend to you our Queen, our Prime Minister and Premier. Help all in government and positions of responsibility maintain honesty and truth, justice and peace. And give our leaders wisdom and compassion in policy regarding refugees. Draw us into the radiance of your light, that we may be obedient to proper authority.

We speak to You, O Lord; **hear our humble prayer.**

We pray for the churches in Canada. Keep your people true to your word, regular in the use of the means of grace, and genuine in renewal. Where there is error correct it, and bring the churches to unity in you. Draw us into the radiance of your light, that we may give a clear witness to you in this land.

We speak to You, O Lord; **hear our humble prayer.**

Have mercy, Lord, on those suffering in the shadows of darkness and caught in the traps of sin and death. Shine on them with your grace and peace. Give health and strength to all we know to be in need [especially....] that if it be Your will, restore fullness of health or uphold them with grace to endure;

We speak to You, O Lord; **hear our humble prayer.**

Lord God, Gracious Creator, may your word be heard wherever your people gather, so that they are set free to bring your good news to all the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come....**

SUNG BENEDICTION:

♪The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift His countenance upon you, + and grant you peace. ♪

♪ **Amen, Amen, A—men.** ♪

G G'

I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got  
 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got  
 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got

3 C D7 G Em

peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a  
 love like an o - cean, I've got love like an  
 joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a

6 A7 Am7/D D7 G

riv - er in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_ I've got peace like a  
 o - cean in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_ I've got love like an  
 foun-tain in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_ I've got joy like a

10 G7 C D7

riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got  
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, I've got  
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got

13 G Em A7 D7 G

peace like a riv - er in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_  
 love like an o - cean in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_  
 joy like a foun-tain in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_

*Words & Music: Traditional African-American spiritual*

**Rev. Todd Hoeffs**

**Pentecost 6**

**Scripture: Luke 10:38-42**

**July 17, 2022**

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

You have a very long list of things to do in a day.

Laundry Garbage Meals Shopping Pick up from work Take the dog to the vet Yard work

Whom to phone That's its own list – The listing goes on, And it's so easy finding all sorts of new things to add to it. My problem – I will create a list – And then forget to look at it – As if making the list was the biggest job and now I'm done! So where is Jesus? Is He at the top of the list?

I hope not. If there's anywhere Jesus doesn't want to be, it's on our to-do lists.

If you want to forget about someone fast, put them on a checklist.

Out of sight, out of mind, done. Check!

Just look at Martha. She puts Jesus first. She's terrific at it.

Jesus comes. Jesus enters. And she receives Him into her home. Jesus is on the top of Martha's list.

But her list is long. And now, having received Him into her home, she's on to the next thing.

That's the problem with lists. You cross off what's accomplished, feels so good, and then you move on. When Jesus and His Word becomes just another thing we "do",

And the people He gives you in your life become a to-do project, All of a sudden the One thing needful is equivalent to groceries. That ONE thing IS Jesus Himself the faith to see Him as the ONLY thing needed. In the best-case scenario of life, we--: Woke up and prayed this AM. Check.

We got to Church on Sunday. Check. Move on. I will take what I received and live it out this week.

Check. That's best-case. In more believable scenarios of life the standard is far lower.

Sunday comes. You just don't feel like getting ready to go. Maybe there's too many other things left undone....Maybe the routine is broken...So and so still believes. Something's changed, diverted attention to other places or things...Jesus no longer makes it even to the check list....So many people have just -- moved on. That's the risk of putting Jesus first. The risk is that you check the box, and move on. And eventually, in a world full of better options, the One thing needful becomes the one thing optional. And so Jesus teaches us today that instead of being first,

HE DESIRES THE CENTRE OF OUR LIVES! He wants all of you, body, soul, mind, will, attention, all of it. The world doesn't revolve around you – you revolve around Him. Jesus refuses to be the first on a list of many things needful. He is the One thing, the ONLY THING needful.

Which means that every other thing, however necessary we think it to be, is not.

It may still be important. It may still need attention. But Christ in the centre prioritizes our lives and our hearts. Puts everything into perspective. Mary sees this. That's why she's sitting down at Jesus' feet. It's the position of a disciple. A place for learning. Like kids sitting at a K teacher's feet while reading a book.

In Mary we see the picture of discipleship that our Lord gives us in [Matthew 28](#).

*....Go out...baptize and teach people to observe all what I have given to you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

In Holy Baptism Jesus made His home with you. In fact, He and you are ONE.

But that's not the end of it. Baptism, Catechism instruction, worship in the church, witnessing the faith – None of these are just once and never again. Jesus' Spirit holds you in the ONE thing needful And disciplines you every day of your lives. Making disciples means mentoring followers which involves teaching But word and example. By listening and by sharing what is heard.

Mary is being *discipled*. She's not checking off a box. She's not moving on. Jesus is not first on her list. Jesus is central. He is her life. Everything else in her life now orbits around Him and His gifts.

Martha does not share that interest. And not because she is focused on serving as opposed to listening. Jesus scolds Martha here because her own anxiety and distraction is sabotaging her own desire to offer true hospitality. Which involves welcoming Jesus for Who He is Not what WE feel WE must do for Him. He tells us what is needed. He offers Himself as a sign of divine welcome and Mary receives it with listening joy. And she gets communion with the Word made flesh. We all get distracted and anxious with life's busyness. Doing too much good in too many directions is one way of thwarting your own desire to offer hospitality.

PROPER SERVING comes from PROPER VIEW OF JESUS & setting in your life.

He is the one thing needful. And he will not be taken away from Mary. We dare not risk the idea that service is NOT needed. Jesus doesn't need it, but your neighbour does. You serve the person you see because you worship the Lord Who is unseen. Martha eventually learns this. Later when Mary and Martha's brother Lazarus dies. The sisters weep. Jesus raised him from the dead, and the week before His crucifixion, Jesus is a guest in their home again. Martha is serving. Mary is at Jesus' feet, anointing Him with oil. But this time there is no scolding for Martha.

She's not checking boxes anymore. Her serving has taken on a new character. She's been at Jesus' feet, too. She saw the Living Lord make her brother come back to life And breathe new life into her. She's no longer anxious and troubled about many things, and she doesn't insist that Mary be either. She is free. And in the freedom Christ gives, everything is different. When you have the ONE thing needful, Life is overflowing with hope. Hope won when Jesus became the ONE NEEDED sacrifice on the cross. Where He dies for Mary, Martha's sins, yours, mine and the world's. After all, He did not come to be served but to serve. And to give His life as a ransom for many. You are ransomed. You are free. Free from condemnation. Free from the spiritual checklist. Free to live a resurrected life right now. With Jesus at the very center of it all. This makes others your centre in life. Your family, friends, neighbours. Your choices are informed by Christ-centred living, For the good of those in your life and their well-being.

Caring

Compassion

A way of living

Not a way of being – like lists and things and running around

Christ is the one thing needful.

To all of you, His disciples, He will not be taken away from you.

And you will not be taken away from Him.

And life in Jesus goes from good to better.

Amen.