

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion towards all who call this place home.

COMMUNITY LIFE

A message from Pastor Joel.

Dear Congregation:

Times of waiting are the most fascinating because they test our nerves and our patience.

Years ago, both I and a congregation where I served also had to wait several months for my arrival.

Just like back then, I am very anxious, and so is my family. It was during that same time that we were awaiting the birth of our son, Hans, and that taught us a lesson: Often, wonderful things happen while we wait; dreams propel us forward and prepare us for the arrival of what is to come.

My family and I trust that this time of waiting will give us the opportunity, despite the anxiety, to prepare to walk a path together that, we pray, will be a mutual blessing.

We trust that God sustains, guides, and accompanies us on this journey. And with that trust, and as we look forward to soon having our visas affixed to our passports, we greet you with open hearts, awaiting what is to come, trusting that it will be wonderful.

Joel, Vanesa and Hans.

Church Campout – sign up in place of welcome

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel story of the two sisters, Mary and Martha, reminds us of a struggle: when are we to set aside our lists and activities and simply rest in God's presence? What word might God have for us, and what rest might we know in God's loving presence? How crucial it is to set aside time to spend with Jesus, the person in whom God was pleased to dwell, that same one who is "the hope of glory."

We take a moment to quiet our minds and hearts for worship.

GATHERING SONG "Ten Thousand Reasons" ACS 1097 – refrain, v 1, refrain

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,

O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;

. . . it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (based on Psalm 25)

We lift up our souls to you, Holy God.

We trust the Lord with our past, present, and future.

Teach us, Lord, that we may know your ways.

Guide our every move, Holy One,

that we may walk in your paths of love and mercy.

Let us worship the One who leads us in what is right.

Together, let us worship God!

"Ten Thousand Reasons" verse 2, refrain, verse 3, refrain with coda

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.

Your name is great and your heart is kind.

For all your goodness I will keep on singing –

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul:

Worship his holy name

Sing like never before, oh my soul,

I'll worship your Holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing,

The end draws near and my time has come;

Still my soul will sing your praise unending –

Ten thousand years and then forevermore!

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul:

Worship his holy name

sing like never before, oh my soul,

I'll worship your Holy name,

worship your holy name,

worship your holy name.

"Shout to the Lord" ELW 821



My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won-ders of your might-y love.



My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev-'ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.



Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise



to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;



for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.



Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Our Jesus, our Savior,
Lord, there is none like you.
All of our days we want to praise
the wonders of your mighty love.
Our comfort, our shelter,
tower of refuge and strength:
let ev'ry breath, all that we are
never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing.
Power and majesty, praise to the king.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.
We sing for joy at the work of your hands,
forever we'll love you, forever we'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise we have in you.

GREETING and PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

It is our delight to pray. Loving God, faithful and eternal, you call to dwell in your presence those who walk with integrity and listen attentively to your Word. Grant that we may hear it and, like Mary, choose the better part, remaining at the feet of your Son and living according to your justice, so that our lives may be pleasing to you and, accompanied by your Holy Spirit, we may find in you our eternal home. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

READERS' THEATRE: Colossians 1: 15-28

Christ is the exact image of the invisible God.
He existed before anything was created
and is supreme over all creation,
**for through him, God created everything
in the heavenly realms and on earth.**

He made the things we can see
and the things we can't see—
thrones and kingdoms,
spiritual powers and authorities.
Every detail was crafted through His design,
by his own hands and for his purposes.
He has always been!

It is his hand that holds all creation together.

Christ is also the head of this body, the church.

He is the beginning, the first of those to be reborn from the dead.

So he is first in everything!

For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,

through him, reconciling everything—the whole creation—to himself.

He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth

by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

This even includes you who were once far away from God.

You were his enemies,

separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions.

Yet now he has reconciled you to himself

through the death of Christ in his physical body.

As a result, he has brought you into his own presence,

and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him

without a single fault.

But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it.

Don't allow yourselves to be shifted away from the hope of the gospel,

which you have heard,

and which, indeed, the whole world is now having an opportunity to hear.

I myself have been made a minister of this same gospel,

and though it is true at this moment

that I am suffering on behalf of you who have heard the gospel,

yet I am far from sorry about it.

Indeed, I am glad, because it gives me a chance to experience in my own suffering

something of the untold pains which Christ suffers

on behalf of his body, the Church.

For I am a minister of the Church by divine commission,

a commission granted to me for your benefit,

and for a special purpose:

that I might fully declare God's Word—

that sacred mystery which up till now has been hidden

in every age and every generation,

but which is now as clear as daylight to those who love God.

They are those to whom God has planned to give a special vision

of the full wonder and splendor of his secret plan for the nations.

And the secret is simply this: Christ in *you*!

Yes, Christ *in you* bringing with him the hope

of all the glorious things to come.

So, naturally, we proclaim Christ!

We warn everyone we meet,
and we teach everyone we can,
all that we know about him,
**so that, if possible, we may bring everyone
to full maturity in Christ Jesus.**

A brief silence.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL VERSE: "There is a Hope so Sure" (binder) solo – v 1 & chorus; all – v 3 & chorus + repeat

1. There is a hope so sure, a prom - ise so se - cure: the mys - te -

ry of God at last made known. trea - sures so vast ap - pear, all wis - dom,

Chorus

know - ledge here: it's Christ in us the hope of glo - ry. And the life that

I now live, no long - er is my own, Je - sus lives in me the hope of glo - ry. And each

day I live no long - er is my own, Je - sus lives in me the hope of glo -

1. 2. 3. *D.S.*

- ry.

3. There is a life so strong, that a whole world of wrong, and all the

pow'rs of hell could not de - feat. For Je - sus rose a - gain, and if we

Chorus

died with him, with him we'll rise to share his end - less life. And the life that

I now live no long - er is my own, Je - sus lives in me the hope of

glo - ry. And each day I live no long - er is my own, Je - sus

lives in me the hope of glo - ry. And the life that ry.

A F#m7 B 1. E To end E

Today's gospel reading and sermon are shared by Matthew Sennf, Assistant to the Bishop,
Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, BC Synod

GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Be Thou My Vision" ELW 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

APOSTLES' CREED

We confess our faith in the 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.**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Creator God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray to the God of life, interceding for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Loving God, we pray for your Church throughout the world so that, like Mary, your church may faithfully listen to your Word and proclaim it with joy. Support those who serve in the various ministries of the Church, and as they offer their gifts, time and commitment, grant them wisdom, humility and love. We pray especially that you will uphold Bishop Susan Johnson as she concludes her ministry and Bishop-elect Larry Kochendorfer and Cathy in this time of transition. Continue to guide your church's every move that all Christians may walk in your paths of love and mercy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ever-present God, through Christ you created all things, visible and invisible. Teach humankind to honour and protect all creation, including living things that we see and those that remain hidden from our eyes. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ you reconcile all things. We pray for the nations and their rulers. Inspire those who exercise authority to seek justice, peace and the common good. Lead us all in paths of truth and reconciliation with the Indigenous people with whom we share this land. Help us to work together with responsibility, caring for creation and for the weakest for whom you have a special love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Through Christ you bring peace. Look with compassion on the sick, those who care for them, on those who are grieving, and those who feel alone. Support victims of violence, disaster, and those living in the midst of conflict. Assure all who are worried and distracted by many things of your constant presence. We pray for Myrtle, Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Margaret, Karen, Dave, Tiffany, Blair, Corrie, Kyra, Patrick, Joel and Ellen, Linda, Shirley, Nikola, Reinhold and Isabel, Derek, Hugh and Ally, Jim, Carter, Doreen, Helga, Margaret and Clayton, Alan, Nancy, Sheila, Cindy, Jody, Barry and Christine, Nicola and those we name silently now . . . [silence]. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In Christ you make your word fully known. Inspire this worshipping community, to abide fully in your word as we sit at the feet of Jesus. Bless the ministry of our Soup Kitchen volunteers. As you prepare Pastor Joel, Vanesa and Hans to join us, prepare our hearts to receive them. Hold them in your care as they wait. We pray too for Henry Vaurhaug and Donna Virostek. Give us all the strength to rise and go out and be doers of your Word, trusting that you go with us now and always. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In Christ you brought forth the firstborn from the dead. We give thanks for the saints you have gathered at your table. Gather us with them in your eternal glory. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favour and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: "May the God of Hope Go with Us" ACS 984 (sing twice)



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
bring-ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
Pray-ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

SENDING

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God. We will

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6. **“Prayer of Praise and Adoration”** ~ written by Amy Loving, and posted on The Worship Closet: The Place for Creative Worship Ideas. <http://worshipcloset.com/baptism-of-the-lord-sunday-year-b-words-for-worship/>

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