

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Called to Tell the Truth

July 4, 2021



**As We Gather:** When Israel was in exile, God called Ezekiel to speak for Him to tell the truth to Israel. The Lord made no promises about results, but at least the people would recognize that a prophet had been among them. After His hometown did not believe His Messiahship, Jesus still sent out the Twelve to the surrounding towns. Not only did He

instruct them about what to do or say, He also prepared them for rejection and how to respond to it. Now it is our turn, as we are called to tell others the truth about sin and grace. But we might think we are not up to the task. Here, Paul is our model, for he was well aware of his limitations, including his thorn in the flesh. Rather than keep silent, he spoke and wrote, confident that God's power was made perfect in weakness. Our worship today is a reminder that above all else, the truth reveals God's great love for us in Christ.

### ✘ PREPARATION ✘

Hymn      God Has Spoken by His Prophets      #583



1 God has spo - ken by His proph - ets, Spo - ken His un - chang - ing Word;  
2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,  
3 God is speak - ing by His Spir - it, Speak - ing to our hearts a - gain,



Each from age to age pro - claim - ing God, the one, the righ - teous Lord.  
Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry, With the Fa - ther ev - er one;  
In the age - less Word de - clar - ing His own mes - sage, now as then.



In the world's de-spair and tur-moil, One firm an-chor holds us fast:  
Spo-ken by the Word In-car-nate, God of God, be-fore time was;  
Through the rise and fall of na-tions One sure faith yet stand-ing fast;



God is king, His throne e-ter-nal; God the first, and God the last.  
Light of Light, to earth de-scend-ing, He re-veals our God to us.  
God a-bides, His Word un-chang-ing; God the first, and God the last.

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## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## God's Kids Song and Message

Are You Lost in the Dark?

Are you lost in the dark? Do you need a little spark?  
Do you need a little light to help you see?  
Out of the darkness Jesus' love is shining  
Down in the hearts of you and me.

*Refrain:*

He is the light that's shining bright  
He's the truth that sets the captives free.  
He is the light that gives us sight  
And reveals the Father's love to you and me.

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## Confession and Absolution

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

P Your people, O God, were a rebellious people in Ezekiel's day.

**C We, too, have rebelled against Your good and gracious will. We have sinned against You in thoughts, words, and action. Forgive us and open our ears to Your promises.**

P In great love, God sends His word of mercy and forgiveness. Now He uses Word and Sacrament and one another to assure us of the grace that is readily available to us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

☩ WORD ☩

## Kyrie

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace in our hearts and calm in our nation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace among nations, growth in the Church, unity of faith, and proclamation among all believers, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For ourselves gathered here and all who join us wherever they are, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help us in our weakness, comfort us in setbacks, and defend us from all evil, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

**Hymn** Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness #849 v. 1, 3



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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**Salutation**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy.

**C Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures;**

P through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading *Ezekiel 2:1–5*

<sup>1</sup> He said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.” <sup>2</sup>And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ <sup>5</sup>And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual *Romans 11:33, 36*

P Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

**C How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!**

P For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

**C To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

**Epistle**    *2 Corinthians 12:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup>and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.

<sup>7</sup>So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**P**    This is the Word of the Lord.

**C**    **Thanks be to God.**

**Verse**    *Mark 6:13*

**P**    Alleluia. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick

**C**    **and healed them. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel**    *Mark 6:1–13*

**P**    The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

**C**    **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, “Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. <sup>6</sup>And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

<sup>7</sup>And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. <sup>11</sup>And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. <sup>13</sup>And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **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.  
 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 T everlasting. Amen.

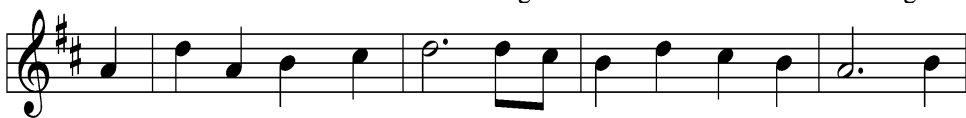
Sermon Hymn O Christ, Who Called the Twelve #856 v. 1, 3, 5



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -  
 3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And  
 5 O Christ, the a - pos - tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:  
 broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:  
 cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,  
 Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And  
 Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our





bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.  
 help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.  
 hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

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**Sermon** "My Grace is Sufficient" - Mark 6:1-13

**Offering Hymn** We Praise You, O God #785 v. 1, 3



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
 And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;  
 With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.  
 To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

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**Prayer of the Church**

**P** Let us pray for the Church around the world, for ourselves and our nation, and for all people in their various circumstances.

For peace and harmony between nations,

**C** Lord, hear our prayer.

P For human rights, freedom, and justice in our nation and for people everywhere,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For bountiful harvests and an end to malnutrition and hunger,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For human dignity and ample clothing and shelter,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For wise leaders, alert armed forces, and compassionate first responders,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For the bold proclamation of the Gospel and compassionate care for the poor,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For new insights into the workings of God's good creation,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

P For answers to the prayers of [*names, and*] all who call to God for healing, comfort, or any other need,

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

*[Additional petitions may follow. After each petition the pastor prays: Lord, in Your mercy, and the people respond Lord, hear our prayer.]*

P For these and any other things You would have us ask, heavenly Father, that You would grant them for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,

**C Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.**

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray.:

## Lord's Prayer

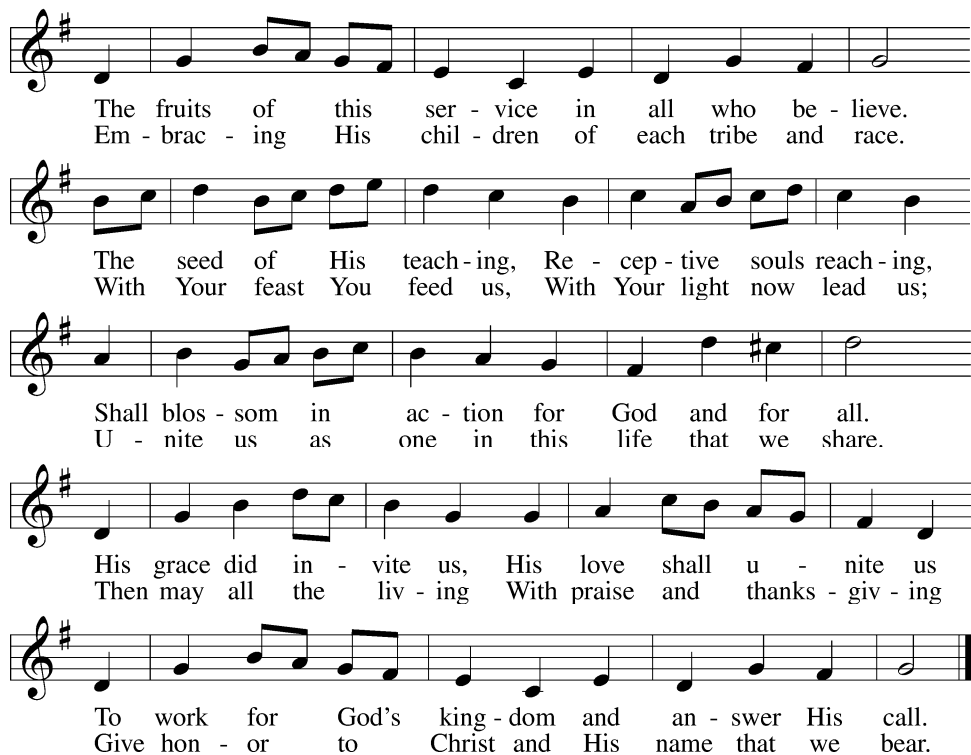
**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

## Closing hymn Sent Forth by God's Blessing #643

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,  
The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.  
The Sup-per is end-ed, O now be ex-tend-ed  
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,



The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing

To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.  
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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**Video Prayer for Grace for all Nations. Then, we sing 'O Canada' (See insert or the monitors)**

### Dismissal

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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