

# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, June 12, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

## OPENING MEDLEY:

### “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. *(Repeat song)*

*(“Spirit of the Living God”, copyright 1963 Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, CCLI Lib. #921494)*

### “Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing”



1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the  
2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing, Bring to life the



Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,  
hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,



Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your  
Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,



Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with  
song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our



thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.  
eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

*(“Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing”, text by Timothy Dudley-Smith, copyright 1997  
Hope Publishing Company, OneLicense.Net #A-704112)*

## INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## PLANTING A MOVEMENT:

L: What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it?

**C: It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth.**

L: Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants,

**C: With such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.**

L: For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow,

**C: So the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.**

L: Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies,

**C: It remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.**

L: If you have faith as small as a mustard seed,

**C: You can say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea," and it will obey you.**

L: As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth

**C: And making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,**

L: So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty,

**C: But will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.**

L: Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

**C: Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow,**

**ALL: Will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.**

"Spirit of the Living God" (see above, X1)

## CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Let's come into God's holy presence by confessing our need to be here and our need to be forgiven by him. Holy God, you plant your seed in human hearts.

**C: But we have often failed to be good soil.**

L: Holy God, you call us to live in mystery, to walk by faith.

**C: Yet we want to control everything. It's hard to live by faith.**

L: You call us to place our trust in you, to live according to your direction, to walk in Jesus' ways.

**C: Yet we want life to make sense from a human point of view. It's hard to live by faith.**

L: You call us to feel the mystery of life, to marvel at the power of your love.

**C: Yet it's not easy to accept your promise that everything old has passed away. It's hard to live by faith.**

L: Forgive us, holy One, for you are God and we are not.

**C: Forgive us for playing god instead of accepting your reign in our lives. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

# FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

## SONG OF PRAISE/PSALM OF THE DAY (Psalm 1): "We Shall Not Be Moved"

1 How bless - ed are the ones who nev - er walk With -  
2 Our joy is in the stat - utes of the Lord, And  
3 The wick - ed shall not stand the judg - ment day, But  
4 Sing glo - ry be to God, the Fa - ther, Son, And

in the place where wick - ed scof - fers talk.  
night and day we pon - der on the Word.  
like the chaff they'll all be blown a - way. We're like a  
Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er Three in One.

tree that's plant - ed by the wa - ter. We shall not be moved!

We shall not, we shall not be moved! We shall not,  
we shall not be moved! We're like a tree that's plant - ed by the  
wa - ter. We shall not be moved!

*("We Shall Not Be Moved" – Paraphrase of Psalm 1, by John Ylvisaker, OneLicense.Net #A-704112)*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **God, you plant your seed in our hearts. You know what we need. You are the holy, prophetic sustainer of community. We gather here today as your people, children of the good news, to hear it again. Assure us of your presence once again, that we may be the good soil of life and growth, as we gather in the name of our Savior, who is Jesus, the Christ. Amen.**

### GREETING TIME

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ezekiel 17:22-24

This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. All the trees of the forest will know that I the LORD bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter four.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come." Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade." With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

### SONG OF THE DAY: "O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"

**O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and follow You,  
Forsaking old, familiar ways For ventures bold and new:  
Grant us to hear Your call To risk security  
And, bound in heart and will to You, Find perfect liberty.**

**O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for ages sealed,  
Whose words and works awakened faith, The ways of God revealed:  
Instruct us now, we pray, By Your empow'ring Word.  
True teacher, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.**



Hope for all the dy - ing. ————— How will — they know?  
 In - side they are dy - ing. ————— How will — they know?

How will — they know that Je - sus loves — them,  
 How will — they know that Je - sus loves — them,

And He died to save — them?  
 And His heart is break - ing? Car - ry — the

*(opt. D.S.)*  
 Light, ————— car - ry — the Light. Go and tell the chil - dren —

they are pre - cious in — His sight. ————— Car - ry — the Light, —

— car - ry — the Light. Go and preach the gos - pel — 'til  
*3rd (last) time to CODA ⊕*

there is no — more night. In the name of Je - sus Christ, ————— car - ry — the

1. Light. 2. (optional) Go ye in - to all — the world, Go ye in - to all — the

*D.S. al CODA* ⊕ CODA  
 world, And car - ry — the Light, the Light. Car - ry the Light.

("Carry the Light", by Twila Paris, copyright 1988 Ariose Music, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

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Lay Minister: Bob Nehring