



JULY 20, 2025



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

This Sunday we continue our series on The Good Samaritan, turning our attention to those who saw a neighbor in need—and chose not to act. The story challenges us to examine our own capacity for spiritual blindness, asking: Who are we walking past? Are we more like the priest and the Levite than we care to admit?

Today's music follows a journey from honest self-examination to compassionate response. We begin with "Hands" — a contemporary reflection on human agency and mercy. In our hymns and songs, we affirm that God is present in our worship and also in the cries of the suffering. Through prayerful music and spiritual lament, we seek healing and transformation, culminating in a sending song that calls us to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength—and, in doing so, to love our neighbor.

PRELUDE

Hands

by Patrick Leonard and Jewel Kilcher
Arranged by Jennifer Eklund
Anna Keiserman, Solo Piano

Originally released by singer-songwriter Jewel, "Hands" is a deeply introspective piece affirming that "in the end, only kindness matters." This piano arrangement by Jennifer Eklund preserves the vulnerability of the original while drawing attention to its core message: we are each responsible for how we respond to suffering. In the context of today's reading from Luke 10:31–32, this piece serves as a reflection on the missed opportunities for compassion by the priest and the Levite.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

God Is Here

This modern hymn invites us to remember that God's presence is not confined to sacred spaces, but also moves through the community and world around us. Written in the 20th century by Methodist hymnwriter Fred Pratt Green and paired with Cyril Taylor's sturdy tune ABBOT'S LEIGH, the hymn opens our hearts to worship that is not ritual alone, but connected to action. In light of Amos 5:21–24, it reminds us that true worship is marked by justice and compassion.



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A: We are gathered together in the name of God the Creator, God the Son, and ✠ God the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

A: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence For Reflection

A: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

A: We belong to Christ Jesus and we are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation.

C: Amen.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together,

C: Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest.

Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

We receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. You may greet one another and say "peace be with you" or similar words.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

THE WORD

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy

Verse 1:

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

Refrain

And I'm so happy, so very happy;
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart!
Oh I'm so happy, so very happy.
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

A READING FROM

PSALM 82:1-8

Arise, O God, and rule the earth. (Ps. 82:8)

L: God stands to charge the divine council assembled, giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

C: "How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?

L: Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;

C: rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.

L: They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

C: Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High;

L: nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.’ ”

C: Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Savior Of The Nations Come

Voice

Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, vir - gin's son, in - car - nate Word!

To the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty, praise we sing e - ter - nal - ly!

THE GOSPEL READING

LUKE 10:25-37

(CONGREGATION STANDING)

L: The Holy Gospel of St. Luke, beginning in the tenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

PREACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

This hymn anchors our response to today's Gospel with its prayerful call to embody Christ's love through service. Written in 1961 by English minister Albert Bayly, the text reminds us that humble service—not status or ritual—is the true mark of faith. The familiar tune Beach Spring, from the early American shape-note tradition, lends the hymn a sense of rooted and communal integrity. It contrasts sharply with the inaction of the priest and Levite and points us toward the Samaritan's path.



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

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 into hell. 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Each petition shall conclude with:

A: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The Prayers conclude:

A: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

Food for the Poor

THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Prayer (No. 1) from Jewish Life, B.54

by Ernest Bloch

Hee Won Jeon, Solo Cello

Ernest Bloch (1880–1959), a Swiss-American Jewish composer, wrote Three Sketches from Jewish Life to capture elements of prayer, struggle, and faith in the Jewish tradition. The first, simply titled 'Prayer', is poignant and searching, filled with yearning and dignity. In this setting for solo instrument and piano, it evokes the quiet sorrow of the man left for dead on the roadside—and the deeper spiritual yearning for a world where neighbors do stop and care.

THE OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart



new a right spir - it with - in me.

Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your

Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray,

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

We practice "Open Communion," acknowledging that Jesus welcomes all persons, sinners and saints alike, to the table. All means ALL. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Sacrament in a continuous line, exiting by the side aisles.

Communion is by intinction. *We offer a chalice of wine and a chalice of white grape juice in which you may dip the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask for them at the altar, if needed. The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen.*

Infants who are not yet ready to receive food will receive a blessing. Parents who have questions about the practice of open communion may instruct their children to receive just a blessing.

Communion can be served to those who are not physically able to join us for worship. Please speak with an usher if you know of someone who would desire communion from Sunday's table brought to them.

COMMUNION MUSIC

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Traditional Spiritual
arranged by Mark Hayes
Anna Keiserman, Solo Piano

This beloved African American spiritual speaks of divine healing and reassurance: "There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole." The arrangement by Mark Hayes combines gospel harmonies with classical nuance, making it a perfect meditation during Communion. As we partake in the sacrament, this song speaks not only to personal comfort, but also to the communal balm we are called to bring to a hurting world. It resonates with the hope denied by the priest and Levite—but fulfilled by the Samaritan.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace until life everlasting.

C: Amen.



THE SENDING

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG

Love the Lord

by Lincoln Brewster

Drawing from the words of the 'Shema' (Deuteronomy 6:5) and echoed by Jesus in Luke 10:27, this contemporary praise song by Lincoln Brewster offers a vibrant, joyful call to action: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength." The Levite and priest may have known the words—but failed to live them. As we leave this space, we are charged to live what we profess, loving God and neighbor as one.

Verse 1

Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength
(REPEAT)

Chorus 2

With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind with all my strength
I will serve the Lord with all my heart
With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength

Chorus 1

With all your heart with all your soul
With all your mind with all your strength
Love the Lord your God with all your heart
With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength

Bridge

I will love You (I will love You)
I will praise You (I will praise You)
I will serve You (I will serve You)
I will trust You Lord (I will trust You)

Verse 2

I will serve the Lord
With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind and with all my strength
(REPEAT)

Chorus 3

With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind with all my strength
(REPEAT)
I will love You Lord with all my heart
With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSED AND SENT TO SERVE

A: This little light of mine...

C: I'm gonna let it shine!

A: When The Priest and the Levite are not so different from us. They, like us, have their excuses for not helping someone in need. One of our own excuses for not helping is that we are too busy. Living hurried lives can mean missing out on opportunities to be Jesus' hands and feet in the world. May God's Holy Spirit work on us to reach out and lift up others in the light of God's grace until...

C: Everyone knows that God loves them!

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

If you are worshipping with us at 9:00 am we kindly ask that you leave your bulletin on the back table on your way out for those that are worshipping at 11:00 am if you did not make notes. We wish to be good stewards of our environment and resources.



EPIPHANY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am & 11:00 am (in-person and online)

Ministers: The People of God

Pastor: Chris Hermansen

Minister of Youth: Kris Perkola

Director of Worship and Music: Michael Parker

Worship Production: Steve Belfield

Worship Accompanist: Anna Keiserman, Ph. D.

Copyrights

Hands

Published Under License From EMI Music Publishing
© 1998 WB MUSIC CORP., WIGGLY TOOTH MUSIC and
BUMYAMAKI MUSIC
All Rights on behalf of WIGGLY TOOTH MUSIC
Administered by WB MUSIC CORP.
All Rights on behalf of BUMYAMAKI MUSIC Administered by
WIXEN MUSIC PUBLISHING, INC.
This arrangement © 2024
All Rights Reserved

God Is Here

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
Text © 1979 and music © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing
Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by
permission.
Licenses OneLicense 211821

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy

By George W. Cooke
Copyright: Public Domain

Savior Of The Nations Come

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; Martin Luther,
1483–1546; tr. hymnal version
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission
or valid license from copyright administrator.

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid
license from copyright administrator.

Prayer (No. 1) from Jewish Life, B.54

Editor: Hans Kindler (1892–1949)
Publisher Info. - New York: Carl Fischer, 1925. Plate 23586.
Copyright: Public Domain

Create in Me a Clean Heart (W&P 34)

Text: Public Domain
Music: Public Domain

There Is a Balm in Gilead

©1948 © 2021 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of The Lorenz
Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.
www.lorenz.com

Love the Lord

CCLI Song #4572938
© 2005 Integrity's Praise! Music
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Financial Giving Options



- ◆ Text EPIPHANYGA to 73256
- ◆ Use your bank's online bill pay feature to set up recurring giving
- ◆ Mail a check to Epiphany
- ◆ Drop it in the offering plate on Sunday

1350 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Suwanee, GA 30024
(770) 831-1966 ~ info@epiphanysuwanee.org
www.epiphanysuwanee.org