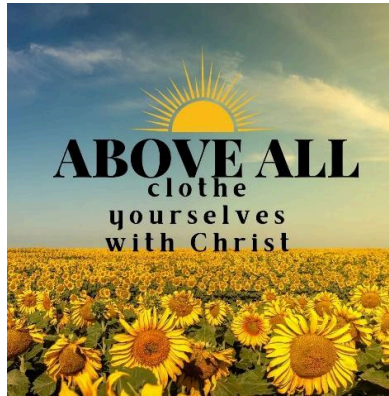


ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
JUNE 30, 2024 9 AM
6th Sunday After Pentecost
“The Clothing of Kindness”



CALL TO WORSHIP

We are God's beloved people!

Called to lives of kindness, humility and compassion.

We are God's beloved people!

Called to love our neighbor as ourselves.

God seeks to clothe us with kindness so that we may go out into this world with compassion, grace, and love.

We gather in worship to remember God's kindness to us and God's call to share that with the world.

Let us worship the God who binds everything together in perfect harmony!

We worship the God who calls us beloved and clothes us in love! Amen.

OPENING HYMN *Seek Ye First*

#783 Blue Book

GREETING

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

OPENING LITANY

What does the Lord require of you?

To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

What does God command of us?

To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.

Let us worship the God who believes in us, and trusts in us, and abides with us.

Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **O God, rich in mercy, full of kindness, out of your great love, you raise us up from sin and death and make us alive together with Christ. Write your word upon our hearts and restore in us the image of your love that, by your Spirit, our way of life may become the way of Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *10,000 Reasons*

FIRST READING Micah 6:6-8

⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Ephesians 4:29-5:2

²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING Luke 10:25-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He 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." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Jesus 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. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He 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. ³⁵The 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.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN *For the Fruit of All Creation*

#760 Blue Book

SERMON

HYMN *Be Kind to One Another*

TUNE: AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D ("The Church's One Foundation")

Be kind to one another, be tender-hearted too —
forgiving one another, as Christ has pardoned you.
Refrain from any gossip, for gossip is a sin.
Be open to new friendships, and welcome people in.

Be kind in all your speaking and hear what others say.
Be open to Christ's teaching, and in all matters, pray.
Be gentle, loving, faithful and keep a humble mind.
Remember what is truthful. In everything be kind.

Be kind within your circle, but look past what you see;
Be kind to those in trouble — the poor, the refugee.
The world is filled with violence; write letters, call out sin!
Don't ever sit in silence and let the evil win.

O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to do:
Be just, commit to kindness, walk humbly here with you.
Your Spirit gives us courage to truly live this way.
May love become our message; may kindness win the day.

Biblical References: Ephesians 4:25-32; James 1:26; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7;
Philippians 2:1-11; Galatians 5:22; Romans 15:2; Colossians 3:12; Micah 6:8
Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864 ("The Church's One Foundation")
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Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/

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 OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, we ask for the grace to be vessels of your love, compassion and truth. Impart a spirit of kindness, generosity, and love to those entrusted to our care. May our words and actions be a reflection of your

**grace, and may our gifts be used to shine the light of kindness into the world.
Amen.**

PRAYERS: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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.

BLESSING

Go into this week,
held together by the love of God
clothed with the nature of Jesus the Christ
reinforced by the strength of the Holy Spirit.
And may the blessing of Almighty God be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Hymn of Promise*

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise, butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end, is our beginning, in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Altar Flowers donated by Corinne Bolz in memory of Phil Bolz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VBS: Vacation Bible School, presented jointly with Our Saviour's and St. Paul Lutheran Churches, will be held from July 22nd-25th. Registration forms can be found in the current edition of the Journal, on the front page of our website, at the church office or at the Usher's table during Outdoor Worship. Volunteers are also needed! Volunteer registration is at the bottom of the regular registration form. Please call the office with any questions!

Lend a Helping Hand in Spencer, Iowa: Join a crew from Mason City heading to Spencer, Iowa to help people affected by flooding on Wednesday, July 3. We will partner with Bethany Lutheran Church in Spencer. Please call 641-423-0536 or e-mail becky.elsbernd@trinity-mc.org if you want to help so transportation can be arranged. Meet in the Trinity Lutheran Church Parking Lot (213 North Pennsylvania Ave) at 7:00 a.m. We will be back to Mason City in the early evening. Transportation, supplies, and food provided for all volunteers.

Blood Drive at St. James Monday, July 8th: 12:30 PM to 5 PM Register by



scanning this code:

Youth Gathering Fundraiser: Stocks: On July 15, four of our youth and one adult will travel to New Orleans for the National ELCA Youth Gathering. You can buy stock in their trip for \$10. Stocks are available for purchase for the next three Sundays. Stockholders will be invited to a Stockholder's Meal later in the summer to hear more about the trip. We will pray for and bless our Youth Gathering participants at our worship service on July 14.