

Old Testament Reading: **Genesis 2:7–17**

⁷then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. ¹⁰A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. ¹¹The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹²And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. ¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Epistle: **Romans 6:19–23**

¹⁹I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. ²⁰For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹But what fruit

were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Holy Gospel: **Mark 8:1–9**

¹In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, ²“I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. ³And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away.” ⁴And his disciples answered him, “How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?” ⁵And he asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven.” ⁶And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. ⁷And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. ⁸And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ⁹And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away.

✠ ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠

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✠ **Jesus Restores Paradise and Feeds Us Freely** ✠

In the Garden of Eden, our first parents received food freely from the gracious hand of God, apart from any burdensome work (Gen 2:7–17). But after the fall, food would be received only through toil and labor. The curse declared, “By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground...” (Gen. 3:19). In other words, “The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23). But into this wilderness world came Jesus the Messiah to restore creation. Having compassion on the weary multitudes, He renewed the bounty of Eden on the third day, freely granting an abundance of bread to the 4,000 (Mark 8:1–9). So also our Lord Jesus, having endured the burden of our sin, was raised on the third day to bring us back to Paradise. He now miraculously turns the bread of death into the Bread of Life in the Sacrament, giving you His very body and blood for your forgiveness. For “the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 6:23).

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

July 22 & July 26, Year of Our ✠ Lord 2020

COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT: Communion is offered today for those who: (1) repent of their sins, (2) believe in Jesus as their Savior, (3) believe that with the bread and the wine Christ gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, and (4) desire to amend their sinful ways with the help of the Holy Spirit. We also believe that Holy Communion is a fellowship meal with those of the same confession of faith: therefore, we ask that those **NOT** of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the American Association of Lutheran Churches, or Lutheran Church Canada **please speak with the Pastor before communing.**

Introit *(Sing to the Tune of C)*

☩ Clap your hands, all | peoples!

Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!

**For the Lord, the Most High, is | to be feared,
a great king over | all the earth.**

**He subdued peoples | under us,
and nations un- | der our feet.**

**Sing praises to God, sing | praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing | praises!**

**For God is the King of | all the earth;
sing praises | with a psalm!**

**God reigns over the | nations;
God sits on his | holy throne.**

(Sing Gloria Patri p.186)

Prayers of the Church

☩ Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

☩ Remember, Lord, Your promise to be a rock of refuge for Your baptized children. Be gracious to us. Create in us humble and contrite hearts, that we might always cry out to You for mercy. Fill us with Your love. Grant us renewal by Your Holy Spirit, that we may always abide in Jesus Christ, our Savior, beholding His glory in His Holy Word and Sacraments and being made well by the same. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

☩ Remember, Lord, the elderly and shut-in. Provide them with compassionate and loving caregivers, and bless the nursing homes throughout our land. Send pastors to bring them Christ through His Holy Word and Sacraments, and sustain those who remain isolated. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

☩ Remember, Lord, the elderly and shut-in. Provide them with compassionate and loving caregivers, and bless the nursing homes throughout our land. Send pastors to bring them Christ through His Holy Word and Sacraments, and sustain those who remain isolated. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

☩ Remember, Lord, those who are sick, hospitalized, in treatment, undergoing surgery or recovering, and all who are in need [especially those who have requested our prayers, including... Comfort them with Your presence, sustain their faith through Your gracious promises, and bring healing to them as You will and know to be best. Lord, in Your mercy,

☩ Hear our prayer.

☩ Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

☩ Amen.

Divine Service

Setting Three



Preparation

Pastor's Welcome

Announcements

Hymn of Invocation #804

Invocation/Absolution p.184

Word

Introit *Bulletin*

Kyrie/Gloria in Excelsis p.186

Collect of the Day

Old Testament *Reverse*

Epistle *Reverse*

Alleluia P. 190

Holy Gospel *Reverse*

Nicene Creed p.191

Hymn of the Day #819

Sermon

Offertory p. 192

Offering *(In back of the Sanctuary)*

Prayers *Bulletin*

Sacrament

Communion Announcement

Preface p.194

Distribution #634, #621,
#623, #633

Nunc Dimittis p.199

Benediction

Departing Hymn #849