



4300 N. 82nd Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
480-947-5525
Pastor Joseph Dillon
www.bethanyscottsdale.com

Worship At Home
June 27, 2021

GATHERING

PRELUDE – “If I Touch Him”
GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Erin/Kristan

Call to Worship

Pastor: Come, People of God, and let us worship Jesus the Christ.

Reader: Let us worship the eternal God, the Source of love and life, who created us. Let us worship Jesus the Christ, the risen one who lives among us. Let us worship the Spirit, the Holy Fire, who renews us. Let us worship the one true God who is to be praised in all times and places.

Opening Hymn – “All Are Welcome”

Greeting

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P May the risen Christ fill us with life, light, and hope.

*C Thanks be to God. The Spirit teaches us, inspires us, and give us the voice of the Gospel.
Amen.*

Hymn of Praise – “Our God Is Here”

THE WORD

First Reading

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:22-33

**The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.**

**‘The LORD is my portion,’ says my soul,
‘therefore I will hope in him.’**

**The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.**

**It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.**

It is good for one to bear
the yoke in youth,
to sit alone in silence
when the Lord has imposed it,
to put one's mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
to give one's cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.

For the Lord will not
reject forever.
Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Psalm 30

A Psalm. A Song at the dedication of the temple. Of David.
I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.
O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.
O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.
For his anger is but for a moment;
his favour is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

As for me, I said in my prosperity,
'I shall never be moved.'
By your favour, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:
'What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?
Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!
O LORD, be my helper!

You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Response – *“I Will Praise You Lord, for You Have Rescued Me”*

Gospel Reading

Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, ‘My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.’ So, he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, ‘If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.’ Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched my clothes?’ And his disciples said to him, ‘You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, “Who touched me?”’ He looked all round to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.’

While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, ‘Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?’ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, ‘Do not fear, only believe.’ He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, ‘Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.’ And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, ‘Talitha cum’, which means, ‘Little girl, get up!’ And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome

with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

5th Sunday After Pentecost, June 27th, 2021. “Desperate People.”

This is another Gospel text that I wish we had two weeks to cover. There is so much going on here and one cannot separate the two stories that we have this morning. Both are rich in what they are telling us about Jesus and those who sought him—and still do.

Both Jarius and the woman are desperate. For Jarius (whose name means ‘he sees’) his desperation is caused by the illness of his daughter. She lies dying and Jarius is rushing—running—to get Jesus to turn death away from his young daughter.

Mark is telling us several amazing events that are going on here with Jarius and his daughter. It is often forgotten that daughters were not very prized in ancient Judea—well, in many parts of the Middle East, that is still true. Daughters did not carry on the family name; they could not inherit the property of their father. Daughters left the house and went to live in their husband’s family home. Daughters cost money: the daughters family had to pay a dowry to the groom’s family when she got married. Yet given all of that, here is Jarius a leader of the synagogue, a man held in great respect, running (something that didn’t happen very often) to Jesus, whom many religious leaders wanted out of the way—and then Jarius at the end of his run, falls at the feet of Jesus. There he pleads with Jesus to come and save his daughter from death. Jarius had forgotten all decorum when it came to his daughter’s life, so Jarius begs Jesus to come. Jesus doesn’t hesitate. He goes and he follows this crazy father who wants his daughter healed!

The crowd is so great that making any headway is difficult, painfully slow at best. Hundreds of people are pressing around Jesus, Jarius and the disciples. Then suddenly Jesus stops. He looks around the crowd and then asks a strange question: “Who touched my clothes?!” As though anyone could tell in that press of bodies—and that basically is what the disciples tell Jesus. But then a lone woman comes forward. The people melt away from her. She stands alone before Jesus. She is filled with fear; she is alone; she is desperate. Bleeding for 12 years. Isolated by being unclean according to Lev. 15, she could not go to worship; she could not be around other family or friends as she would make them ritually unclean as well. Little wonder she, in her desperation, searches out Jesus. And she reaches out in hope just to touch the clothes of Jesus in hopes of healing. Rather than rebuffing her, Jesus speaks to her saying, “Daughter, peace, your faith has made you well.” Her hope is answered in spades, her 12-year ordeal is over.

Meanwhile Jarius daughter dies, and one wonders what Jesus will do now. Jarius sees in Jesus, a true prophet—and perhaps more. Jarius sees in Jesus the work of God. He sees that Jesus reaches out to those the world ignores; those that the world uses and disposes of; the least of society. In spite of his status, Jarius knows what others think of his love and care for his daughter: MISPLACED!! And when he should be concerned about getting a son. Yet Jarius brings Jesus and life and love are restored. The Daughter is returned to life and to the love of her family and her father.

Desperation was the emotion that brought the unknown woman and Jarius to Jesus. Clearly, for both, life was restored; both were made whole again: in their bodies; in their community; in their faith. There is a clear statement by our Lord here: God in Christ brings hope to all people. Those with no standing in the community and those with great standing in the community. We know in faith that Christ is there for us—and how then do we, as the body of Christ give hope to those society would ignore, how do we bring light and the promise of life to our world. It is really a lot of little things often times: a smile to an overworked office person; a word of reassurance to someone whose world seems to falling apart; sharing a hug and tears with a friend; a family member who is mourning the loss of a loved one. Refusing to listen to gossip and clear falsehoods about people and refuting such things. Reaching out in reconciliation with those we have estranged from. I know this sounds like little things, but in a world in which people are being shot for asking someone to wear a mask, maybe the little things of our Christian life, aren't so little after all? Amen.

Hymn of the Day - *"We Walk By Faith"*

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God has established the Church, and will preserve and protect it, and will provide us with a foretaste of our greatest hope.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the church and died and rose again in His resurrection, to give eternal life through our baptism into Christ.

We believe that the Holy Spirit breathed fire and life into the Church at Pentecost and still provides power for its preservation and ministry.

We believe the Church is the community of disciples, using their gifts freely and wisely for the common good of the body and to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ until He comes again. Amen.

Prayers of the People

P. As we are rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the Church, the World, and all of Creation.

(A Brief Silence)

P. In these days of conflict and lack of trust among peoples, we pray for the people of Israel and Gaza, that their leaders will find peace and hope, so that their people may live without fear once more. Indeed, Lord, we pray for all peoples who are enduring conflict that soon peace will come. Hear us O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

P. Lord, you draw near to these who cry out for help. Enable us to be your hands that feed the hungry; to those who are in darkness and are looking for hope; let us be your arms to those who are mourning the death of loved ones; let us be your comfort to those who are ill of body mind or spirit, and enable us to bring your light and your hope who are searching for light and hope in their lives. Be especially with those for whom we pray on our prayer list, and those for whom we pray in this moment of silence.....Hear us O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

P. On this day Lord, we would pray for all those who serve our town and cities to keep us safe, and pray for their safety this day. We pray for those who serve us in far off places, that they will be able to return to their loved ones soon.

C. Your mercy is great.

P. Lord we here at Bethany would ask that your Spirit guide the search for a new pastor for your people here. Bless our Call Committee with the spirit of discernment as they examine those who believe that God is calling to a new congregation in Scottsdale, AZ Hear us O God.

P. We lift these and all of our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Prayer of Blessing

P Let us pray:

C. Gracious God, we give our best, lest in gaining the world we lose life itself. As a covenant people, we seek to witness to your will and way. Help us to know more clearly what you would have us do with the gifts entrusted to our care. Direct us according to your will O God. Amen.

MEAL

A Brief Confession

P. Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sins and hear again, Christ's words of forgiveness.

A brief silence

C. Too often Lord, we question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn instead to our own understanding rather than trusting in You. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again Lord, to you. Where else can we turn? Enable us Lord to help to hear your words for us and to enable us to be light and life for our world. Lord we confess that we have not always lived up to the covenant that you have made with us, and we ask for your forgiveness. Amen.

P. Beloved People of God, through Jesus the bread of life, the light of the World, you are forgiven all of your sins, and you are loved into the life with Christ.

All: Amen.

P. The love of Christ has gathered us as one, to remember Christ, the Son of God, who loved his own until the end.

C. In His great, unselfish love, the Lord who calmed the storms and turned water into wine, stooped to a servant's duty and washed his disciples' feet.

P. When we are gathered here, let us be drawn together by His passion. Let no love be less than His.

C. Let us follow Christ's example and serve one another as He first served us. For by this, the world will know that we are Christ's followers, if we love one another.

P. On the night He was betrayed....

The 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.**

Communion Invitation

P: Come to God's table; be fed and satisfied.

C: We come to feed our spirit and be in the presence of God.

Communion Music - "10,000 Reasons"

Erin/Kristan

Communion Blessing

P. Let us pray:

C. Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

Pastor: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every good blessing. Amen.

Closing Hymn - "Ever We Praise You"

Dismissal

Paster: Go in Peace...to live and serve in the way of the cross.

Response: Thanks be to God.