

## Order of Worship for June 26, 2022

### Prelude

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

### Opening Hymn: “*The Man Is Ever Blest*” – Hymn #705

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

### Entrance Psalm

P: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

**C: and grant us Your salvation.**

P: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,

**C: for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.**

P: Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

**C: that glory may dwell in our land.**

P: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;

**C: righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

P: Righteousness will go before Him

**C: and make His footsteps a way.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

**C: and grant us Your salvation.**

P: The Lord be with you,

**C: and also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray: Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of Your name and nourish us with all goodness that we may love and serve our neighbor; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### Hymn of Praise: “*O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild*” – Hymn #546

### Old Testament Lesson: 1 Kings 19:9b-21

R: And behold, the word of the LORD came to Elijah, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” And God said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." And the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

So Elijah departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. And Elisha left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And Elijah said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" And Elisha returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Holy Gospel: Luke 9:51-62**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

P: When the days drew near for Him to be taken up, Jesus set His face to go to Jerusalem. And He sent messengers ahead of Him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for Him. But the people did not receive Him, because His face was set toward Jerusalem. And when His disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But Jesus turned and rebuked them. And they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow You wherever You go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." To another He said, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Children's Message**

**Sermon Hymn:** "*O Love, How Deep*" - **Hymn #544**

**Sermon:** "*Stubborn for Us*" - **Luke 9:51-62**

"Stubborn as a mule." We have all experienced stubborn people. As Lutherans many of us have German backgrounds, so we know that stubbornness is in our genes. A policeman

pulled over a man on Highway 30 west of Boone. The man was only going 30 mph on the highway. The policeman asked him if something was wrong. The man insisted that he was supposed to only go 30 mph. When the policeman asked him why, the man said, “The sign says US 30, so I only go 30.” Then a policeman looked into the back seat and noticed an old woman who was visibly shaken. When he asked her if something was wrong. She answered, “Everything is okay now, but we just got off US 169.”

If you talk with couples as they prepare for marriage, when they get serious about things they do have to admit that they are stubborn. Think of how we argue and go on rather than admit we might be wrong. We are stubborn.

In the year 490 BC a stubborn man named Themistocles became prominent in ancient Greece. The mighty Persian Empire had tried to invade Greece that year, but they were driven back at Marathon, a victory that is still remembered in foot races today. Most Greeks thought their worry about the Persians was over. But Themistocles thought otherwise. He knew the Greek had won at Marathon only because the Persians had only got a small army ashore. He was convinced that the Persians would come back with a much bigger army. And when they did his home city of Athens would be forsaken by most of the Greeks who would try to protect southern Greece. He felt the only way to secure Greece and especially Athens was to build a navy strong enough to keep the Persians from supplying a large army in Greece. But the people didn't want to hear what he had to say. The movie “Evan Almighty” depicts a modern day version of Noah and the ark. Remember how foolish Noah looked to people as he built an ark. Who needed a boat in the middle of land? Why did the Greeks need a navy for an enemy that was far away?

But Themistocles didn't give up. When he realized that he would never get the funds to build a navy to stop Persia, he made up an imaginary threat from a neighboring city of Athens. He was able to convince the people of Athens to build a navy to protect from this imaginary threat. But when that threat did not materialize, Themistocles got in trouble from people who thought the navy was a waste of funds. He had to stubbornly fight and persuade to keep it going.

Then in 480 his fears came true. The Persians sent such a large army that it took two days for it to cross a pontoon bridge they built from Turkey to Greece. No Greek army seemed capable of stopping it. At Thermopylae, the Greeks held the Persians back until the Persians found a way around that pass. Most of the Greeks fled to the south; leaving Athens to the Persians. What were the people to do? Themistocles convinced them to abandon Athens to the Persians. He lured the Persian fleet into a trap and crushed it at Salamis. The Persian army was still intact, but it could not be kept supplied. Most of the army went back to Persian. The forces

left behind were defeated the next year by the Greeks. Themistocles was stubborn, but his stubbornness saved Greece.

Jesus was stubborn too. In Luke 9:51 we aren't even near halfway through the Gospel of Luke. Yet already at that point Luke tells us, "As the time approached for Him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem." The rest of Luke's Gospel tells us how Jesus set out on His way to His death on the cross in Jerusalem. He would send out 72 of His disciples in pairs to prepare the way for His coming. He would travel through Samaria on His way south to Judea and Jerusalem. He would stop at the home of Mary and Martha, teach many parables including the prodigal son and the lost sheep. He would encounter ten lepers whom He would heal, but only one, a Samaritan, would come back to thank Him. He would meet a little man named Zacchaeus and make him come down from the tree to take Jesus to his home. Then He would enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. All along the way Jesus would face distractions. In our text His disciples James and John wanted Him to rain fire down on Samaritan towns that would not welcome Him. People would come to Him with all kinds of requests. He would be tempted to let them turn Him into a king, to win a popularity contest by His miracles or to just leave people to their own problems. But Jesus was stubborn, so stubborn. He let nothing keep Him from what awaited Him in Jerusalem—a cross.

The obstacles didn't end there for Jesus. The crowds that awaited Him on Palm Sunday wanted to make Him a king. His enemies, the Jewish leaders, wanted to eliminate Him, but not during Passover when so many of Jesus' supporters were around. And Pontius Pilate and the Roman government didn't want to do anything radical like execute a popular Jewish figure during the Passover festival. Jesus' disciples didn't want to hear about Jesus being arrested. In fact Peter wanted to put up a fight in the Garden of Gethsemane. Pilate was almost begging Jesus to help make it possible for Pilate to let Him go free. Herod just wanted Jesus to do a miracle. It would have been so easy for Jesus to just stop. But instead he stubbornly went on as the nails were driven into His hand and feet and He was lifted up to die.

And God doesn't stop in that stubbornness. Some have referred to God as the "hound of heaven" because like a hound stubbornly going after its prey, God stubbornly goes after us, refusing our constant rejection and sending His Holy Spirit into our lives to turn our lives around and follow Him.

Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. He stubbornly set out to enter into your heart and mind. He went the way that led to His death on the cross because He was thinking of each and every one of us. He thought of your sins and mine and went the way that took to Him the cross where He could nail those sins there forever.

**Sharing Our Ministry**

## **Epistle Lesson: Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

R: For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. ...For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Confessing our sins and receiving God's forgiveness**

P: Lord God, you call us to love our neighbor as ourselves. But we bite and devour one another as we compete, compare, judge, make excuses, lie to put ourselves first in our lives.

**C: We can convince ourselves that since we don't blatantly show the sins of the flesh—sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies--- that we aren't all that bad.**

P: But you call us not just to stay away from the works of the flesh, but to show the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

**C: Do we see that fruit or do we see so many failed opportunities, weak excuses, false justifications, and running away from responsibilities?**

P: We take for granted the freedom Jesus won for us on the cross.

**C: Forgive us, Lord.**

P: Those who belong to the Lord have their flesh crucified with Jesus. Our sins have been nailed to the cross with Him. By His command and authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Walk then as those freed by Jesus.

**C: Lord, send us Your Spirit so we walk by that Spirit, that we are filled with the fruit of the Spirit-- love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.**

P: Through Baptism we now walk by that Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **Responsive Prayer on the Fruit of the Spirit**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of love.

**C: "A new command I give to you that you love one another as I have loved you."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of joy.

**C: "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, 'Rejoice!'"**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of peace.

**C: "My peace I leave with you. Not as the world gives, so I give to you."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of patience.

**C: "Be patient, therefore, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and late rain. You also be patient."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of kindness.

**C: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of goodness.

**C: "We ask our God to make you worthy of the life He has called you to live. May He fulfill by His power all your desire for goodness and complete your work of faith."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of faithfulness.

**C: "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of gentleness.

**C: "Put on, then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, gentleness, and patience, forbearing one another, and if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us the Spirit of self-control.

**C: "Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires."**

P: Holy Spirit, give to us your fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

**C: "Against such things there is no law."**

P: "We who belong to Jesus Christ have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires."

**C: "Since we live by the Spirit, let us also walk with the Spirit!"**

## **Prayers**

### **Lord's Prayer**

#### **Closing prayer :**

**ALL: Heavenly Father, however we are treated by other people, we pray that Your love may shine forth in us. Whatever happens in our lives, we ask that Your peace and joy would abide within us. No matter what difficulties we may encounter in life, teach us to be patient and kind in all our dealings with others and show the goodness and grace in us that only comes from You. However hard times may become, we pray that we may be gentle and self-controlled in our actions and attitudes. May we be good and faithful servants. Lord, we thank You that no matter what happens, even when we step away from You, You remain faithful. Amen.**

**Blessing (Pastor) C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: "On What Has Now Been Sown" – Hymn #921**

**Postlude**