



*Journeying Through Acts*

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

June 19, 2022

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**INVOCATION**

*We gather for worship today in the name of the Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen*

**GATHERING HYMN**      *All Are Welcome*      #641 vs 1-3

**Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

*Refrain*

**All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain***

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Amen.**

*Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

*In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

**HYMN**

*All Are Welcome*

#641 vs 4-5

**Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger**

**bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain***

**Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.**

**Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain***

### **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.**

### **PRAYER**

*O Lord God,*

**we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

#### **Selections from Acts 6 & 7**

Stephen, brimming with God's grace and energy, was doing wonderful things among the people, unmistakable signs that God was among them. But then some men from the meeting place whose membership was made up of freed slaves, Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and some others from Cilicia and Asia, went up against him trying to argue him down. But they were no match for his wisdom and spirit when he spoke.

So in secret they bribed men to lie: "We heard him cursing Moses and God."

That stirred up the people, the religious leaders, and religion scholars. They grabbed Stephen and took him before the High Council. They put forward their bribed witnesses to testify: "This man talks nonstop against this Holy Place and God's Law. We even heard him say that Jesus of Nazareth would tear this place down and throw out all the customs Moses gave us."

As all those who sat on the High Council looked at Stephen, they found they couldn't take their eyes off him—his face was like the face of an angel!

Then the Chief Priest said, "What do you have to say for yourself?"

Stephen replied, "Friends, fathers, and brothers... And you continue, so bullheaded! Calluses on your hearts, flaps on your ears! Deliberately ignoring the Holy Spirit, you're just like your ancestors. Was there ever a prophet who didn't get the same treatment? Your ancestors killed anyone who dared talk about the coming of the Just One. And you've kept up the family tradition—traitors and murderers, all of you. You had God's Law handed to you by angels—gift-wrapped!—and you squandered it!"

At that point they went wild, a rioting mob of catcalls and whistles and invective. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, hardly noticed—he only had eyes for God, whom he saw in all his glory with Jesus standing at his side. He said, "Oh! I see heaven wide open and the Son of Man standing at God's side!"

Yelling and hissing, the mob drowned him out. Now in full stampede, they dragged him out of town and pelted him with rocks. The ringleaders took off their coats and asked a young man named Saul to watch them.

As the rocks rained down, Stephen prayed, "Master Jesus, take my life." Then he knelt down, praying loud enough for everyone to hear, "Master, don't blame them for this sin"—his last words. Then he died.

Saul was right there, congratulating the killers.

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

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Acts 9:1-19**

All this time Saul was breathing down the necks of the Master's disciples, out for the kill. He went to the Chief Priest and got arrest warrants to take to the meeting places in Damascus so that if he found anyone there belonging to the Way, whether men or women, he could arrest them and bring them to Jerusalem.

He set off. When he got to the outskirts of Damascus, he was suddenly dazed by a blinding flash of light. As he fell to the

ground, he heard a voice: “Saul, Saul, why are you out to get me?”

He said, “Who are you, Master?”

“I am Jesus, the One you’re hunting down. I want you to get up and enter the city. In the city you’ll be told what to do next.”

His companions stood there dumbstruck—they could hear the sound, but couldn’t see anyone—while Saul, picking himself up off the ground, found himself stone-blind. They had to take him by the hand and lead him into Damascus. He continued blind for three days. He ate nothing, drank nothing.

There was a disciple in Damascus by the name of Ananias. The Master spoke to him in a vision: “Ananias.”

“Yes, Master?” he answered.

“Get up and go over to Straight Avenue. Ask at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus. His name is Saul. He’s there praying. He has just had a dream in which he saw a man named Ananias enter the house and lay hands on him so he could see again.”

Ananias protested, “Master, you can’t be serious. Everybody’s talking about this man and the terrible things he’s been doing, his reign of terror against your people in Jerusalem! And now he’s shown up here with papers from the Chief Priest that give him license to do the same to us.”

But the Master said, “Don’t argue. Go! I have picked him as my personal representative to non-Jews and kings and Jews. And now I’m about to show him what he’s in for—the hard suffering that goes with this job.”

So Ananias went and found the house, placed his hands on blind Saul, and said, “Brother Saul, the Master sent me, the same Jesus you saw on your way here. He sent me so you could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” No sooner were the words out of his mouth than something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes—he could see again! He got to his feet, was baptized, and sat down with them to a hearty meal.

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

**SERMON**

*“Brimming with Grace and Energy”*

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

**APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father,

He will come again 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

*God, of grace, hear our prayer.*

## OFFERING

### OFFERING PRAYER

*Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.*

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love.**

**Prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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 DISTRIBUTION

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

### SENDING SONG

*Shalom*

VBS Song

*(Folksong from Israel. The Hebrew text translates approximately to "peace, my friends, until we meet again.")*

**Shalom, chaverim. Shalom, chaverim. Shalom, shalom.**

**Till we meet again, till we meet again, shalom, shalom.**

*(Repeat 4X, singing faster each time)*

## DISMISSAL

*Filled with the Holy Spirit, go in peace! Serve the Lord!*

**Okay, we will! Thanks be to God.**

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# PLEASE PRAY FOR....

\*\*Those who are grieving losses of any sort, especially the friends and family of Bill (Cousin of Suzan Heidelberger); Rick Eley (Son of Peg and Bob Tesch); Doris Isebrand (Grandma of Sarah Kimball); Maurice (Cousin of Peg Tesch)

\*\*Those recovering from COVID-19, surgeries, and those who are ill or hospitalized, including Glenyce (Cousin of Carla Oerter); Maysyn Sorenson; Patty Baker (Friend of Linda Morrison); Reece Ullerich (Friend of Linda Boll); Sara (Cousin of Toni Ramsey); Matt (Cousin of Jake Borden); Gary McKean (Nephew of Lane Pine)

\*\*Those with on-going concerns, including Iris Brimer; Helen Murphy (Sister of Mikkey Twitero); Roger Spitzer (friend of Dar and Gwen Schroeder); Clay Walberg; Peg Tesch; Kimberly Heuer; Lynzee Makowski (Niece of Rebecca Kaiser); Esther Downen; Jason Boll (Son of Linda Boll); Rod Dikkoff (Cousin of Roger); Suzan Heidelberger; Chelle Schefcik

\*\*For the community of Uvalde TX and all affected by the recent school shooting

\*\*For students, teachers and staff as they begin summer break

\*\*For Bible campers and camp staff

\*\*For our military members and their families

\*\*For those who are homeless and those whose homes do not provide warmth and safety

\*\*For our leaders at every level

\*\*For our siblings in Christ, our friends and enemies, both near and far



## June Mission of the Month

This month we are partnering with VBS participants and ELCA World Hunger to raise \$1000 for the Global Farm Challenge. Ending hunger isn't just about food. It's about access, justice, and caring for creation and each other. It's about hope for the kind of world we want to live in. Ending hunger means

recognizing the ways God is at work in farming communities and the ways God is calling all of us, together, to be a part of the solution. Through giving to the Global Farm Challenge we will join congregations across the United States to help equip

communities around the world and in the United States with livestock, seeds, tools and training to turn a hungry season into a hopeful season. Together we can make a difference - creating healthier families, stronger economies and a future filled with hope. Read more at [www.ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge](http://www.ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge).

*Financial donations can be mailed or dropped off at the church, placed in the Globe Offering during worship or given electronically. There is a Mission of the Month option in the dropdown section on Tith-ly. Thank you in advance for your generosity. You can also grab a 'barn' box at church to fill with change during the month and bring back at the end of the month.*

# Announcements

Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

*Father's Day*

**9:30am** Worship and Communion in the building and online live on Facebook and YouTube

**10:30am** Pie and Ice Cream for Father's Day

Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

**9:30am** WELCA

Thursday, June 23-Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>

*WELCA Synodical Convention*

Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

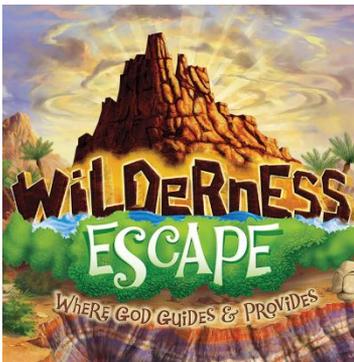
**8:00-3:00** Community Rummage Sale and Craft/Vendor Fair @ Hermosa Community Center

Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

**9:30am** Worship in the building and online live on Facebook and YouTube

*Fellowship following Worship*

**11:00am** Church Council Meeting



**We had a wonderful week  
at Vacation Bible School!  
Be sure to check out our  
Facebook page or our  
website for all the pictures  
and videos from the week!**

[www.facebook.com/OSLHermosa](http://www.facebook.com/OSLHermosa)

[www.oslhermosa.com](http://www.oslhermosa.com)

# CRAFT, VENDOR AND RUMMAGE SALE FAIR

*Saturday, June 25th*

*8:00am-3:00pm Hermosa Community Center  
Hermosa SD*

**Space available to rent:  
Approximately 10 foot spaces**

**Inside: \$20  
Parking Lot: \$15**

**\*Limited electric inside and outside +\$5.00**

**\*Tables available, if requested.**

**\*Canopy and weights not provided**

Concessions Stand in the Parking Lot  
Break-fast, Lunch and Snack Menu  
Fundraiser for Bible Campers

Held in conjunction with the Hermosa citywide rummage sale.

Please contact Nick at 701-690-8063 or  
hermosacommunitycenter@gmail.com