

Readings for July 4, 2021

Prelude: “*Draw Near, All ye People*” from *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn

Prayer of the Day:

P: God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-5

¹[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” ⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing

for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Hymn of the Day: Verses 1 & 2

Postlude: “*God of our Fathers*”, arr. David Schack

Prayer list: *Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Jean, Guy, Perry, Rose, Cindy, Corie, Sandy, Gary, Michael, Ray, Will, all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and those we hold in our thoughts.*

Concordia Church is partnering with the Common Pantry to support a ‘Take What You Need’ food pantry in the lobby of Swedish Covenant hospital, created for patients to grab grocery staples they need on their day of discharge. **Our next pick-up date is July 6th!** Please bring shelf-stable groceries (examples are: canned goods, pasta, jarred sauces, rice, boxed mixes, etc.) to the marked container(s) in the church’s main entrance on or before Monday, July 5th. Connect with [Jen Phillips](#) if you have any questions.

We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:

1. Text-to-give: Text “Concordia” to 73256 and follow the link you receive
2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
3. Send a check via mail to the church