



June 20, 2021 4th Sunday of Pentecost



Worship Participants

Preaching Today: Pastor Meredith McGrath
Assisting Minister: Pastor Lamont Koerner
Organist/Pianist: Brian Voss
Reader: Janet Beckman

Ruth's story comes at a crucial place in the biblical narrative. The book of Judges, which comes right before Ruth, ends with inter-tribal conflict and these words: "In those days . . . all the people did what was right in their own eyes." (Judges 21:25) The people of God, were denying the Law God gave to them. A Law meant to promote life, life with God and life in community. In contrast we now get the story of Ruth, a woman and a foreigner, which is a tale of belonging, about blessing, and about faithful love, God's faithfulness, incarnated in human beings.

Prelude

Ring of the Bells

Welcome

Hymn: *ELW 801 - Change My Heart, O God, sing 2 times*

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✚ the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

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 of the Day

Lord we are your people, washed in the waters of baptism, named there as your children. Yet, we acknowledge before you that we are also a broken people in need of healing. We are sinners in need of forgiveness and renewal. Clothe us in your loving faithfulness that we may be revived as individuals and as a community of faith so we may boldly glorify you by embodying your faithful love to all. In the name of Jesus we pray, through the power of the Spirit and for the sake of your world. **Amen**

Reading: Mark 12:28-34

Reading: Ruth 1:8-22

Sermon

Hymn: *ELW 614 - There Is a Balm in Gilead, verses 1 & 3*

Prayers for Healing

(Those who wish to receive laying on of hands and anointing may come forward at the conclusion of worship to either be seated in the first pews or to kneel at one of the kneelers at the front of the sanctuary.)

Offering

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

Communion - Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Table Blessing/Prayer

Blessing and Sending

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

For readings, refer to your Bible or use an online Bible source, such as [Bible Gateway](https://www.biblegateway.com/). [NOTE: The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) is used.]