Readings for June 13, 2021

Prelude: "*Lamb of God*", arr Mark Hayes

Prayer of the Day:
P: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

22 Thus says the Lord GOD:
I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.
23 On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.
24 All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.
I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

26 [Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, 27 and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. 28 The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29 But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."
30 He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? 31 It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."
33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Hymn of the Day: Verses 2 & 3

Closing Hymn: Verses 2 & 3

Postlude: "*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*", arr. John Carter

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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.*

Worship Leaders:
Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Zook
Deacon:
Lector: Ruth Thiede

Musicians:
Organist: Luke Duroc-Danner
Music Director: Marisa Buchheit
Tenor: Benjamin Burney
Baritone: Will Roberts

Get ready for the **First Annual Concordia Place Golf Classic**, a benefit for Concordia Place. This year's event will be on Monday, June 28, 2021, at River Forest Country Club in Elmhurst, IL. Proceeds from the outing will help in supporting Concordia Place's mission to create involved communities where all our neighbors can gather, learn, and grow. **To read more details and/or to register, visit:** concordiaplace.org/golf

Do you have pictures of past Concordia Church events? We would love for you to share them with us for use in our service slideshows. If you have any photos of Concordia Church, members engaged in church activities, or other memories from past years, please send them to Desirae in the church office at ddiehl@concordiafaith.org .

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

1. Text-to-give: Text"Concordia"to73256 and follow the link you receive
2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
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