

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 7, 2026

Introduction to the day

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord’s day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God’s mercy for the world.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15—6:6

Because the people have trusted in military powers and not God, God decides to withdraw from the scene until Israel acknowledges its guilt and seeks God’s face. The response of the people does not acknowledge this guilt and is as fickle as fog or dew burned away quickly by the sun. God desires loyalty rather than words or meaningless deeds.

PSALM: Psalm 50:7-15

Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God. (Ps. 50:15)

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as a living model of right relationships. For Abraham and for us, a right relationship with God involves trusting that God’s promises will be fulfilled because God makes the dead alive and calls into existence what otherwise does not exist.

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Jesus demonstrates God’s mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.

GOSPEL MESSAGE - To Be Well

The fourteenth-century mystic Julian of Norwich is famous for writing about a vision of Jesus assuring her that “all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.”

Jesus, in today’s reading, is deeply concerned with the matter of wellness. He uses a metaphor of illness and wellness to defend his decision to keep fellowship with those whom society has rejected, despised, or cast out. Just a few verses later, Jesus performs two intertwined acts of healing, saying to one of the individuals, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well” (Matthew 9:22).

Wellness, for Jesus, is a holistic endeavor. Physical health is one part of the equation, but so are spiritual wholeness, mental and emotional well-being, financial stability, and health in relationships and society. Jesus does not limit his work to any one of these areas. Consistently in the gospels, Jesus is concerned with all aspects of life. He recognizes and works to dismantle all kinds of barriers to full, whole, peaceful living.

Too often, our contemporary society exploits the idea of wellness to sell us a product, to market an unattainable lifestyle, or to guilt us into a particular set of behaviors. Jesus, however, is not trying to sell us something. Jesus invokes wellness as a way of assuring us that he cares deeply about our whole being, and that every part of us is worthy of God's care and keeping. Jesus desires that we be at peace in our bodies, minds, spirits, and relationships.

When our world and our lives are difficult and painful, we can turn again and again to scripture, which witnesses to Jesus' deep compassion, empathy, and care for us. He is a living sign of God's power to comfort and heal. He is our living sign and symbol of resurrection and restoration. He is the embodiment of our divine assurance that all manner of things will, one day, be well, and whole, and at peace.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

God of mercy, you call us to a life filled with acts of mercy. Ground us in following Christ, that we might extend the mercy we receive. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, all you have made is yours. Revive lands in need of healing and make us wise stewards of all you have given us to tend. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you promise to deliver those who call on you. Bring an end to conflict, bigotry, and injustice in all their forms wherever they are found. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, you provide for those in need. Bring an end to addiction. Comfort people as they mourn. Provide tenderly for those in need especially Chris Burchat, Natasha Gagnon-Burchat, Shirley Glickman, Donna L. Hoffman, Glenda Panke, Marilyn Schneider, Carolyn Schroeder, Heather Schruder, Doug Sell, Kimberly Thom, Roy Zadow, those in long term care facilities and senior residences. In this moment of silence, we name out loud or in the quiet of our hearts, those who need your healing touch. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of blessings, you send the Holy Spirit to provide varieties of gifts in the body of Christ. Accompany those who travel this summer, make our gatherings joyous, and grant us a spirit of hospitality and togetherness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, we give you thanks for saints whose lives revealed your faithfulness. May remembering their faithfulness strengthen our own. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Announcements:

Sunday, June 7th - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM – Grace – Holy Communion

Monday, June 8th

9: 00 AM to 3:00 PM - Quilting at Grace

5:00 PM – Messy Church Youth Group at Grace

Tuesday, June 9th

10:00 AM – Bible Study

Thursday, June 11th

10:00 AM – Grace Choir

12:00 PM – 8: PM – Blood Donor Clinic

Saturday, June 13

10 AM – Burial of Betty Wieland at St. John’s, Sebastopol

1:00 PM – Fairfield Worship

Sunday, June 14th – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM – Grace – Service of the Word

Grace – Helpers – Greeter: Ellen Weigold

Reader: Michael Johnson

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Just a Reminder:

Starting June 7, 2026 to Sunday, August 30, 2026

services times are as follows:

9:00 AM – Grace Eganville

10:30 AM - 3rd and 4th Sunday of the month

St. John’s, Bonnechere

Just A Reminder: Anyone Committee or Group needing to include information in the July / August newsletter, or anyone wanting to sponsor the newsletter in honour of a special occasion or in loving memory of a loves one, your deadline is Tuesday, June 16, 2026.