

COMMUNION HYMNS: 'Kum By Yah'

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! (x3) O Lord, kum ba yah!

We are breaking bread, kum ba yah! (x3) O Lord, kum ba yah!

We are sharing wine, kum ba yah! (x3) O Lord, kum ba yah!

Nourish us O Lord, kum ba yah! (x3) O Lord, kum ba yah!

'Put Peace into Each Other's Hands' – (HON 559)

'Break Not the Circle'

Break not the circle of enabling love
where people grow, forgiven and forgiving;
break not that circle - make it wider still,
till it includes, embraces all the living.



Come, wonder at this love that comes to life,
where words of freedom are with humour spoken
and people keep no score of wrong and guilt,
but will that human bonds remain unbroken.

Come, wonder at the One who came and comes
to teach the world the craft of hopeful craving
for peace and wholeness that will fill the earth:
Christ calls his people to creative living.

Join then the movement of the love that frees,
till people of whatever race or nation
will truly be themselves, stand on their feet,
see eye to eye with laughter and elation.

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POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

FINAL HYMN: 'O Jesus, I Have Promised' – (493)

7th Sunday after Trinity

14th July 2024

GATHERING HYMN: 'At the Name of Jesus' – (48)

COLLECT:

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST READING



Amos 7: 7-17

The Lord showed me a vision of himself standing beside a wall and holding a string with a weight tied to the end of it. The string and weight had been used to measure the straightness of the wall. Then he asked, "Amos, what do you see?" "A measuring line," I answered.

The Lord said, "I'm using this measuring line to show that my people Israel don't measure up, and I won't forgive them any more. Their sacred places will be destroyed, and I will send war against the nation of King Jeroboam."

Amaziah the priest at Bethel sent this message to King Jeroboam of Israel, "Amos is plotting against you in the very heart of Israel. Our nation cannot put up with his message for very long. Here is what he is saying:

'Jeroboam will be put to death,
and the people will be taken
to a foreign country.'

Then Amaziah told me, "Amos, take your visions and get out! Go back to Judah and earn your living there as a prophet. Don't do any more preaching at Bethel. The king worships here at our national temple."

I answered: I'm not a prophet! And I wasn't trained to be a prophet. I am a shepherd, and I take care of fig trees. But the Lord told me to

leave my herds and preach to the people of Israel.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1.3-14

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the spiritual blessings that Christ has brought us from heaven! Before the world was created, God had Christ choose us to live with him and to be his holy and innocent and loving people. God was kind and decided that Christ would choose us to be God's own adopted children. God treated us with undeserved grace because of the Son he dearly loves, and so we should praise God.

Christ sacrificed his life's blood to set us free, which means our sins are now forgiven. Christ did this because of God's gift of undeserved grace to us. God has great wisdom and understanding, and by what Christ has done, God has shown us his own mysterious ways. Then when the time is right, God will do all he has planned, and Christ will bring together everything in heaven and on earth.

God always does what he plans, and this is why he appointed Christ to choose us. He did this so we Jews would bring honour to him and be the first ones to have hope because of him. Christ also brought you the truth, which is the good news about how you can be saved. You put your faith in Christ and were given the promised Holy Spirit to show you belong to God. The Spirit also makes us sure we will be given what God has stored up for his people. Then we will be set free, and God will be honoured and praised.

For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL HYMN— ‘One More Step along the World I Go’ – (510)

We sing verse 5 after the Gospel Reading

GOSPEL

Mark 6: 14-29

Jesus became so well-known that Herod the ruler heard about him. Some people thought he was John the Baptist, who had come back to life with the power to work miracles. Others thought he was Elijah or some other prophet who had lived long ago. But when Herod heard about Jesus, he said, “This must be John! I had his head cut off, and now he has come back to life.”

Herod had earlier married Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip. But John had told him, “It isn't right for you to take your brother's wife!” So, in order to please Herodias, Herod arrested John and put him in prison.

Herodias had a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she could not do it because Herod was afraid of John and protected him. He knew that John was a good and holy man. Even though Herod was confused by what John said, he was glad to listen to him. And he often did.

Finally, Herodias got her chance when Herod gave a great birthday celebration for himself and invited his officials, his army officers, and the leaders of Galilee. The daughter of Herodias came in and danced for Herod and his guests. She pleased them so much that Herod said, “Ask for anything, and it's yours! I swear that I will give you as much as half of my kingdom, if you want it.”

The girl left and asked her mother, “What do you think I should ask for?” Her mother answered, “The head of John the Baptist!”

The girl hurried back and told Herod, “Here and now on a serving plate I want the head of John the Baptist!”

Herod was very sorry for what he had said. But he did not want to break the promise he had made in front of his guests. At once he ordered a guard to cut off John's head there in prison. The guard put the head on a serving plate and took it to the girl. Then she gave it to her mother.

When John's followers learned that he had been killed, they took his body and put it in a tomb.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE GIFTS:

‘O Lord, All The World Belongs to You’ – (498)

