

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

Amazing God, we come with fear and trembling to reach out for help. We, who have little faith, come closer to you. Help us to lift up our faith. We believe that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ through the grace of God. Help us with our little faith so your grace and Jesus' love will not be in vain! We have created our own definitions of the abundant life, yet we dare to seek your will for us as world citizens and bearers of your steadfast love. Amen!

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

*After each prayer request:
Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,
All: Hear our Prayer.*

PRAYER SONG

UMH 487

This is our prayer. This is our prayer, O God!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison**

We pray that you will find our gifts acceptable, God. If we have not given according to what we have, we seek the courage to do so. May these gifts relieve suffering and reveal hope. May they give meaning to all who give and all who receive. We dedicate them to you, that those who have much may not have too much, and those who have little may not have too little. Amen!

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

***CLOSING HYMN** *Hymn of Promise* **UMH 707 (vs. 1 & 2)**

***BENEDICTION** **Pastor Jenny Lee**

***POSTLUDE** **Toni Koons (G), Sharon Asp (A & SCF)**

Worship designed "Led By Love" by Lavon Bayler

 **Upper St. Croix Parish
United Methodist Church**

The 2024 Parish Ministry Theme:
"Let's Replant It" (Galatians 6:7-10)

6th Sunday After Pentecost



Grantsburg-Central
Since 1897



Atlas
Since 1887



St. Croix Falls
Since 1859

SUNDAY SERVICES:

9:00 AM at Grantsburg with Online Zoom Service
(9:15 AM, Sunday School)
10:00 AM at Atlas (No Sunday School-Summer break)
11:15 AM at St. Croix Falls

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Parish Office: 715-463- 2624 **St. Croix Falls Office:** 715-483-9494
www.upperstcroixparish.org
<https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>

Upper St. Croix Parish
Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls
June 30th, 2024
6th Sunday After Pentecost

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRELUDE** **Toni Koons (G), Sharon Asp(A & SCF)**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

“Peace be with you”

(Waive your hands at one another)

We Celebrate New Life in Christ

***CALL TO WORSHIP** **Responsive**

Arise, people of faith, that Christ may give us life.

This is the day of meeting in Christ’s name.

We reach out for health and wholeness.

We embrace one another with concern and care.

God is attentive to us and hears our cries.

God challenges us to eager engagement in life.

Like those who watch eagerly for the morning.

We wait in joyous anticipation of God’s Word.

The word of life is ours to receive.

The good news is available to be shared.

We will sing praises to God’s holy name.

We will tell of God’s faithfulness day by day. Amen.

***DEDICATING HYMN** *Open My Eyes, That I May See* **UMH 454**

OPENING PRAYER **Unison**

We gather to thank you, gracious God, for those times when we have been lifted up by you and known your healing touch. You have clothed us with joy and filled us with hope. We are grateful that even in our days of deepest gloom and despair, you have surrounded us with a love stronger than all our pain and doubts and grievous losses. Come to us now that, together and individually, we may sense larger realities than the narrow focus of our daily concerns. We await your word. Amen!

CHILDREN’S TIME (G)

UMH 191 (vs. 1)

Proclamation of God’s Word

***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Mark 5:21-43

21 When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him, and he was by the sea. 22 Then one of the leaders of the synagogue, named Jairus, came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet 23 and pleaded with him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live.” 24 So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. 25 Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years. 26 She had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had, and she was no better but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 for she said, “If I but touch his cloak, I will be made well.” 29 Immediately her flow of blood stopped, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30 Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my cloak?” 31 And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’ ” 32 He looked all around to see who had done it. 33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

35 While he was still speaking, some people came from the synagogue leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” 36 But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the synagogue leader, “Do not be afraid; only believe.” 37 He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. 38 When they came to the synagogue leader’s house, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39 When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.” 40 And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. 41 Taking her by the hand, he said to her, “Talitha koum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!” 42 And immediately the girl stood up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. 43 He strictly ordered them that no one should know this and told them to give her something to eat.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

SERMON

“Lift Up Your Faith!”

Pastor Jenny Lee

JULY CHURCH MISSIONS

ATLAS

Mission committee chair: Ashleigh Olson

<p>INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:</p> <p>Atlas collects and recycles ink jet cartridges and cell phones year-round.</p> 	<p>LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS OUR ONGOING SUPPORT</p> <p>Requested items: Peanut Butter & Jelly</p> 	<p>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</p> <p>We will be collecting school supplies to support children in our own community.</p> 
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GRANTSBURG

Mission committee chair: Deb Hammer

<p>BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!</p> <p>REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY! Supporting the Salvation Army's "Happy Kids Back-Pack Program"</p> 	<p>Will we be collecting financial donations and school supplies for the children in the Grantsburg area. The supplies will be distributed at Faith Lutheran Church in August. Thank you for your support!</p> 
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ST. CROIX FALLS

Mission committee chair: Kate Murtaugh

 <p>Food Shelf (Communion Sunday)</p>	<p>Sailor Hat Offering:</p> <p>The Sailor Hat offering will go to support CRA and Butterfly House!</p> 
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Thank you for your support!

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Ministers All God's People
Rev. Jenny Lee



VOLUNTEERS

Central -Grantsburg

Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland and John Ambeling
Fellowship	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Counter	Dave Huff
Cleaning	Sandra Erickson
Mowing	Dave Huff
Sunday School	Jenni Stedman

Atlas

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Sue Olson
Usher	Colleen Adams-Schween
Cleaning	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Sunday School	Summer Break

St. Croix Falls

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Jim Andrews
Usher(s)	Karen Sciacca
Money Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Sciacca
Flowers	Kathy Gionis



Breakthrough Prayers:

Please pray for those who are in need, the sick, those who have lost loved ones, and for God's peace and justice for all over the world!

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) **An Online Zoom Service is scheduled for this Sunday only at 9:00 am.**
- 2) The link will be posted on our parish website and Facebook page.
Click the LINK to Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84147808460?pwd=SDZleFNubmEvaDBlcytTRzVxMFIIZz09>
Phone: +1 312 626 6799,
Meeting ID: 841 4780 8460, Passcode: 568271
- 3) Our Sunday Sermons are on the website at upperstcroixparish.org under Sermons!
- 4) This Sunday's video may be uploaded next week!
<https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>
- 5) We will also send you a weekly bulletin and written sermon through post mail and email. If you have any questions regarding the mailing weekly materials, please contact our parish secretary, Colleen Norenberg.

This Week's Calendar:

Today: 6th Sunday After Pentecost.
God Bless you all!

Worship Service Schedule

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|-------|--------------|---|
| 6/30: | 9:00 am | Grantsburg with Zoom (9:15 am, Sunday School) |
| | 10:00 am | Atlas (No Sunday School-Summer Break) |
| | 11:15 am | St. Croix Falls |
| 6/30: | 1:00 pm | Pool Party at Grantsburg Pool |
| | 2:00 pm | Pastor Jenny Leads Worship at C.C.C. |
| 7/2: | 10 am-2 pm | Junior Youth Visits Franconia Sculpture Park |
| | 4:30-5:30 pm | Youth Guitar Lesson at Central (G) |
| | 6:30-8:00 pm | Senior Youth Gathering (G) |

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries

Scott Olson 7/2

Elli Olson 7/3

Sharon Huff 7/3



Next Sunday (July 7th):

VOLUNTEERS:

Central -Grantsburg

Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	Volunteer Needed
Acolyte(s)	Willow Nyland and John Ambeling
Fellowship	Volunteer Needed
Counter	Dave Huff
Cleaning	Sandra Erickson
Mowing	Dave Huff
Sunday School	Jenni Stedman
Communion	Barbara Loomis

Atlas

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Colleen Adams-Schween
Usher	Sue Olson
Cleaning	Volunteer Needed
Sunday School	Summer Break
Communion	Sue Olson

St. Croix Falls

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Maeta Burns-Penn
Usher(s)	Lynn Hanson
Money Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Andrews
Flowers	Kathy Gionis
Communion	Peter and Kathy Gionis

Upcoming Events & News-Mark Your Calendar

- 7/10 **UMW Meeting (G)-Birthday Party**
- 7/12 **Family Game Night (G)**
- 7/13 **UMM Meeting (G)**
- 7/8-7/11 **North Central Jurisdiction Conference of Korean Caucus**
in Chicago.
- 8/4-8/8 **2024 VBS (except 8/6)** (We received a grant of \$1,000)
Donations and volunteer signup sheets are posted.
We can make VBS happen together!





“Lift up your Faith!”

I want to start with something funny that I found on an internet site: A young woman brings home her fiancé to meet her parents. After dinner, her mother tells her father to find out about the young man. The father invites the fiancé to his study for a drink.

“So, what are your plans?” the father asks the young man. “I am a Torah scholar,” he replies. “A Torah scholar. Hmmm,” the father says. “Admirable, but what will you do to provide a nice house for my daughter to live in, as she’s accustomed to?” “I will study,” the young man replies, “and God will provide for us.” “And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring, such as she deserves?” asks the father. “I will concentrate on my studies,” the young man replies, “God will provide for us.” “And children?” asks the father. “How will you support children?” “Don’t worry, sir, God will provide,” replies the fiancé.

The conversation proceeds like this, and each time the father questions, the young idealist insists that God will provide. Later, the mother asks, “How did it go, Honey?” The father answers, “He has no job and no plans, but the good news is he thinks I’m God.”

Today, I want to talk about “faith.” The young man in that story has such a great faith. He has nothing, but strong faith (?) that God will provide everything he needs. We believe that we are saved by faith through Jesus Christ. The scriptures say, “The One who is righteous will live by faith.” (Romans 1:16; Habakkuk 2:4; Hebrews 10:38) I wonder if we indeed live by faith in our everyday lives.

I met a gentle middle-aged man in a hospital when I worked as a chaplain. He was a strong believer in Jesus, dedicating his time and energy to the church ever since he was young. He had read the entire Bible several times and memorized many biblical verses. However, he was diagnosed with cancer and became frustrated, believing that God was punishing him. As a result, he rejected everything, including eating food, communicating with others, and receiving medical treatment. Several chaplains and nurses tried to help him, but all failed. Then, my turn came to see him one night when I was on call. A nurse called me to help him. Of course, he rejected me when I greeted him, saying, “I am one hundred percent a Christian. I don’t need your help.” However, I didn’t withdraw. Instead, I challenged him, saying, “Well, I don’t think so. You are not one hundred percent Christian. Maybe 50 percent or a little more, about 55 percent maybe?” Finally, he looked at me and I said, “You know, if you were one hundred percent Christian, you would pray to God instead of rejecting medical treatment,” He then asked me, “Where are you from?” this started our conversation, and he shared his stories. As he shared, he cried and prayed with me. He later confessed that he saw Jesus in his dream on that night and realized that Jesus loves him so much. He promised to receive treatment with prayers. Yes, he was born again in Jesus through his difficult situation.

We believe that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ through the grace of God. I wonder if your faith is strong enough to save you. I mean, when you face a life crisis, is your faith firm in Jesus Christ? Jesus used to say, “Your faith has saved you” or, “your faith has made you well” when he heals the sick. He didn’t say, “I healed you,” but rather, “your faith has made you well.”

The word “faith,” according to *the Dictionary of Jesus and Gospel*, “is essential to human relationships in general, but gains its special biblical connotations from the interaction of God with humanity, his reliability, and our response of trusting in him.” Therefore, the faith in Jesus Christ is given to us as a free gift in a good relationship with God. We may simply say our faith journey is about building a good relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Today’s scripture shows us an excellent example of faith. There are two stories, but one story about faith. Whenever Jesus appeared, many crowds followed him. At that moment, one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came, fell at Jesus’ feet, and begged him, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her so that she may be made well and live.” It is unusual for a Jewish leader to kneel down to Jesus because most religious and political leaders ignored him.

On his way, a woman who had been suffering from a bleeding illness for twelve years came to Jesus. She had suffered much under many physicians and had spent all that she had, but she grew worse and worse. She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his robe, because she believed that even if she touched his clothes, she would be made well. As she wished, she was healed; her bleeding stopped. Meanwhile, someone came from the leader’s house and said, “Your daughter is dead.” What? No way!! His daughter had died because he delayed in helping the poor woman.

Let’s pause here and think about Jairus and the woman. Jairus was one of the leaders of the synagogue. A synagogue is a Jewish temple. Jairus was a Jewish leader, socially, religiously, politically, and economically in a higher class. In contrast, the woman suffering from a bleeding illness was an outcast socially, religiously, politically, and economically.

Imagine Jesus delaying his journey to Jairus’ house because of a poor and outcast woman. She couldn’t approach Jesus as courageously as Jairus did. Instead, she reached out to him from behind in the crowd, wanting to touch Jesus’ robe silently. As soon as she touched Jesus’ robe, she was immediately healed. Then, Jesus said, “Who touched me?” She was filled with fear and trembling. “No, please Jesus! Don’t look for me!” She thought, wanting to hide herself. However, she couldn’t, because Jesus shouted, “Who touched me?” His disciples were panicked, saying, “Hello, teacher, did you say, ‘who touched you?’ See, how many people are around us pushing and pulling. How can you ask, ‘who touched me?’” Jesus looked all around to see who had done it. Finally, with fear, she showed up before Jesus and told him her whole story in public. And, Jesus said to her in front of everyone, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.” He brought her back into society from being an outcast. She was healed, but Jairus’ daughter was dead.

If you were Jairus, how would you feel? You might feel frustrated, angry, heartbroken, and disappointed. Jairus, who was a leader in society, knelt down to Jesus, and begged for mercy on his daughter without shame, but with humility. Jairus also seemed to be “afraid” of her death. Jesus understood his fear and said, “Do not fear, only believe.” Finally, he went to Jairus’ house to see his daughter. He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha cum*,” which means. “Little girl, get up!” and immediately, the girl got up and began to walk.

Through Jairus and the woman, we learn about faith. Faith is to act courageously for what we hope for. Faith is to come before Jesus as Jairus and the woman did. No matter what situations we face, just lift up your faith! Faith saves us when we come to Jesus courageously and show evidence of our good relationship with God. So let us come closer to Jesus and lift up our faith to God so our faith will save our loved ones as well as ourselves! Thanks be to God. Amen.