

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

Mighty Ruler, Teacher of all who are willing to grow, let us hear enough of your Word to be astounded. Let us see as many of your deeds as will make us eager to join in outreach to people in need. Grant us enough of Christ's vision and compassion that our weakness may be useful to you in proclaiming your word, sharing your grace, and casting out demons. We pray in Jesus' name. 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!

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison**

Thank you, God, for your steadfast love. We offer our praise; may it reach to the ends of the earth. We ask that our gifts empower ministry in this place and wherever our influence can reach. Let unbelief be turned to faith, ignorance to knowledge, sickness to health, brokenness to wholeness, both in us and in our neighbors near and far. Guide us, as we seek to invest our best for the sake of Christ. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen!

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

***CLOSING HYMN**

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593 (vs. 1 & 2)

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Jenny Lee

***POSTLUDE**

Toni Koons (G)/Sharon Asp (A & SCF)

Worship resource "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)

7th 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

Pastor Jenny Lee: jennlee1732@gmail.com
Youth Director Shayna Schmid: snssnyder@gmail.com
Parish Secretary Colleen Norenberg: centralumc2016@gmail.com
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
July 7th, 2024
7th 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

Great is our God and greatly to be praised.

Worship the One whose grace covers all our needs.

The God of hosts is with us here.

We praise, with joy, God’s holy name.

Ponder God’s steadfast love in the temple.

Practice sharing that love while we are together.

God’s love is amazing, beyond our understanding.

We seek to share the love we are receiving.

We are here to be equipped for the journey of life.

We have gathered that our daily witness might be empowered.

Sometimes we are not strong enough to love.

We pray that God will use our weakness for good. Amen.

***DEDICATING HYMN** *Christ for the World We Sing*

UMH 568 (vs. 1 & 4)

OPENING PRAYER Unison

God of faithful and humble followers, we invoke your presence among us in this time of worship. Your name is proclaimed through all the earth, and by your hand we are made victorious over the unclean spirits and unbelief’s that stalk our paths. When we ponder your greatness, we are filled with awe. When we come to your holy mountain, we are amazed. Who are we to approach your majesty? How can we fulfill the covenant you offer us? Come, Spirit of truth, to show us the way. Amen!

Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION FOR COMMUNION

Pastor Jenny Lee

CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Merciful God,

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against you love,

we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(prayers in Silence)

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;

that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ,

We are forgiven! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 13-14 (See insert)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

TFWS 2260

COMMUNION PRAYER Unison

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Proclamation of God’s Word

***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Mark 6:1-13 (See insert)

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

Thanks be to God. Amen!

SERMON

“As You Believe, so It Shall Be!”

Pastor Jenny Lee

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his
disciples,

and said: “take, eat; this is my body which given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it
to his disciples, and said: “drink from this, all of you; this is my blood
of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice,
in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of
faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

**(Together) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on
these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and
blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.**

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,

one with each other,

and one in ministry to all the world,

until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly
banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy
Church,

all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 6:1-13

6 He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2
On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him
were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this
wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his
hands! 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses
and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took
offense at him. 4 Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor,
except in their hometown and among their own kin and in their own house.” 5
And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few
sick people and cured them. 6 And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7 He called the twelve and
began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean
spirits. 8 He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff: no
bread, no bag, no money in their belts, 9 but to wear sandals and not to put on
two tunics. 10 He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you
leave the place. 11 If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you,
as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”
12 So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13 They cast out many
demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

Thanks be to God. Amen!

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
Fellowship	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
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	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Sunday School	Summer Break
Communion	Sue Olson

St. Croix Falls

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Karen Sciacca
Usher(s)	Lynn Hanson
Money Counter	Peter Gionis
Bell Ringer	Jim Andrews
Flowers	Kathy Gionis
Communion	Peter and 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) Sunday's video may be uploaded on late Sundays!
<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: 7th Sunday After Pentecost.
God Bless you all!

Worship Service Schedule

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|----------|--------------|--|
| 7/7: | 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 |
| 7/7: | 7:00 pm | Korean Caucus Board Meeting |
| 7/8-7/11 | | North Central Korean Caucus Jurisdiction Conference in Chicago |
| 7/10: | 1:00 pm | UMW Meeting-Birthday Party (Contact Mary McNally) |
| 7/11 | 4:30-5:30 pm | Youth Guitar Lesson at Central (G) |
| | 6:30-8:00 pm | Senior Youth Gathering (G) |
| 7/12 | 5:30-8:00 pm | Family Game Night (G) |
| 7/13 | 8:00 am | UM Men's Meeting (G) |

This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jamie Steffen

7/12



Next Sunday (July 14th):

VOLUNTEERS:

Central -Grantsburg

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

Atlas

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Pianist | Sharon Asp |
| Liturgist | Mariah Gaffey |
| Usher | Sue Olson |
| Cleaning | <i>Volunteer Needed</i> |
| Sunday School | Summer Break |

St. Croix Falls

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

Upcoming Events & News-Mark Your Calendar

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|---------|--|
| 7/20 | Bishop Jung's Farewell Service in Madison |
| 7/21 | VBS Volunteers Training Day 1 |
| 7/27 | Bishop Jung Farewell Service in Stevens Point |
| 7/28 | VBS Volunteers Training Day 2 |
| 7/30 | SPRC Meeting |
| 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! |



EMPTY CEREAL BOXES NEEDED

We are collecting cereal boxes (any brand) for Vacation Bible School. We need 35 boxes that have NOT been broken down. If you are able to drop off the empty cereal boxes at Central UMC we would appreciate it.



Atlas United Methodist Church Annual Thrift and Bake Sale Saturday, August 3RD, 2024



Downtown Atlas
2110 295th Avenue/County Road B
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Household items, holiday decor, clothes, books, picture frames, and much more!!

*****\$5/BAG SPECIAL BEGINS AT 12:00pm*****



Lots of great baked goods for sale as well!!

July 7th, 2024

Mark 6:1-13

Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.
Upper St. Croix Parish UMC



“As You Believe, so It Shall be!”

I want to start with something funny that I found on an internet site: A girl asked her mother how the human race got started. Her mother explained how God created Adam and Eve. They had children, and then on and on. Finally, here we are today. A few days later, she asked her father the same question. He explained how many years ago, there were monkeys. And little by little, they became more like people. Now here we are. With confusion, she went back to her mother and said, “Mom, you said that God created people, but daddy said, we came from monkeys. I am confused about how that can be.” Her mother said, “Oh, honey, that’s easy. I told you about my side of the family, and daddy told you his.”

Yes, as you believe, so it shall be! If you believe God created you, you resemble God. If you believe you evolved from monkeys, you are some sort of monkey. What do you want to be? Kin of God or a kind of monkey?

Today, I want to talk about this thought, “as you believe, so it shall be!” You might have heard, “As you think, so you are led,” or “As you believe, so you are led.” Actually, its original reference is from Jesus. In his healing ministry, when he healed the sick, he used to say, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace” (Luke 7:50), or “Your faith has made you well” (Mark 5:34; Luke 17:19; Matthew 9:22). Therefore, the important thing is that whatever you believe, it leads you.

Last Sunday, we learned about Jairus and a woman’s faith. Faith is like the woman’s conviction, which was “If I touch his robe, I will be made well.” And then, she was healed immediately as she touched Jesus’ robe. Faith is like Jairus’ trust in Jesus. When he heard that his daughter was already dead, he was not afraid of her death, but only believed in Jesus. Then his daughter was raised from the dead. Faith is like Abraham’s decision, which was when he was called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, he obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. Then he arrived at the Promised Land. Faith is like believing that Jesus is here with us even though we can’t see him.

Today’s scripture gives us a great example of how our faith, thoughts, and prejudice lead us. After Jesus healed Jairus’ daughter, he went back to his hometown with his disciples. When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue. Many people who heard him were astounded. They were curious, asking, ‘Where did this man get all this?’ ‘What is this wisdom that has been given to him?’ ‘What deeds of power are being done by his hands?’ They became curious about Jesus and began remembering him from his childhood. In their recollection, Jesus was the boy of Mary.

This is an interesting point: they should have mentioned his father, instead of mother, saying, “the boy of Joseph.” But they said, “the boy of Mary,” which suggests they were still suspicious about Mary’s conception of Jesus. They also knew Jesus was a poor carpenter and uneducated. They knew Jesus’ family members and siblings well. Finally, they took offense at him. Their prejudice led them to reject Jesus and not trust him at all. Remember, faith is simply believing in what you hope for without any bias.

Let’s look at verse 5. It says, “He could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them.” another version of the Bible says, “He could not do any miracles there...”

(NIV). Do you think that Jesus really had no power to do any miracles or to heal the sick there? People sometimes misunderstood what Jesus meant by “a prophet is not without honor except in his hometown.” I wonder if a prophet or hero is literally dishonored in his hometown.

In the case of the Korean culture, they are very proud of their hometown if anyone famous is from there. I remember that when my younger brother went to a university, and got a Ph.D. degree, there was a banner hanging at the entrance of the town: “Congratulations to the son who is the pride of our town.” I think American culture is not much different. We celebrate our hometown’s graduates and prospective students of college/university by having a big party. If there are any successful people or any celebrities from our hometown, we might be proud of our hometown because of them.

If it is so, we wonder why Jesus said, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” It is because they might have prejudice based on what they knew. Therefore, we must open minds and open hearts. If you block your mind and heart with any bias, God cannot work for you. The way we open our minds and hearts to others is the way we open our minds and hearts to God.

Be careful about what kind of mindset you have because your mindset might lead your life. If you have a positive mindset, it will lead you positively; if you have a negative mindset, it will lead you negatively. Remember, as you believe, so it shall be!

The Gospel of John tells us, “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (John 3:16). I shared my story with you several times: when I was in the hospital due to a broken spine, a pastor and his wife visited me to pray with care and love. They told me that if I read the Bible, I might walk again. But I didn’t believe them; rather, I believe that my doctor, who told me I wouldn’t walk again. So, I didn’t read it but threw it away. And as I believed, so it was. I couldn’t walk for three years until I got a second chance. Yes, God’s grace gives us a second chance. I met a pastor who told me Jesus is the healer: He said, “if you believe in him, you may be healed, and walk again.” Then, I believed, and it was done! I was healed with another surgery, and walked again. As I mentioned, faith is a free gift given from God. If you trust and build a good relationship, your faith grows in God.

Going back to the scripture, after being rejected by his hometown, Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Then he called the twelve disciples and began to send them out two by two, giving them authority over unclean spirits (6:6-7). This marked a turning point in Jesus’ ministry, shifting from teaching his disciples to using them as instruments of the gospel. Through his disciples, the good news finally spread over the world. So, sometimes, the world rejects the people of God, then the process may seem bad. But it ultimately brings a good result in God’s work. Therefore, “let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up” (Galatians 6:9).

Even if you see something seems bad, keep your trust in God, and God will make it happen as you believe and pray. Remember, just a few years ago COVID-19 seemed to bring the end of the world, but we are still here, then technology advancements have made the world smaller. The Apostle Paul says, “Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6). Keep trust in God, and so it shall be by God. Thanks be to God. Amen!