



*Nurturing Faith . . .
Every Day in Every Way*

June 13, 2021

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

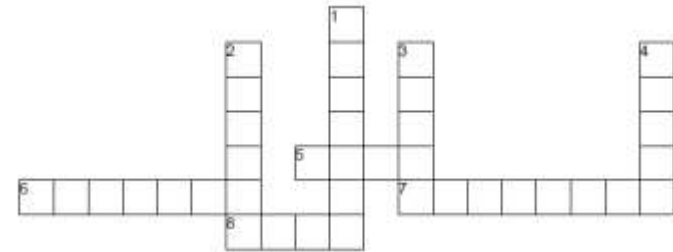
Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 Mark 4:26-34

Helloo Friends! Have you ever seen a mustard seed? It's a teensy, tiny little seed and from that teeny seed, it can produce more than one BIG, HUGE mustard bush! Mustard bushes are weeds and they can take over a whole field of crops! But...the beauty of this weed is that it can provide shade for animals to take a rest from the heat of the sun. Birds can build a nest in this big bush and mama can make it a safe space to have her babies. All of this....from one teeny, tiny seed.

In our Gospel lesson from today, Jesus tells his disciples a parable about the mustard seed. Remember, a parable is kind of like a story within a riddle, but it makes his disciples think hard about what Jesus is trying to teach them. Jesus says "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed." WE are like that mustard seed. Everything we do, even the teeny, tiny things can make a BIG difference. Even something as simple as a smile can help brighten someone's day. When we share the seeds of God's love with others, it makes God's kingdom even bigger.

Prayer: Loving God, you sew love within our hearts. Help us to scatter that love throughout the world. Amen.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 5. A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
- 6. A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
- 7. Not as big as any of the others
- 8. The place where birds lay eggs or give birth to their young

DOWN

- 1. Bigger than any of the others
- 2. An area where plants are grown
- 3. Animals that have wings and are covered with feathers
- 4. A living thing that grows in the ground, usually with leaves or flowers

SEED	SMALLEST	PARABLE	NEST
PLANT	BIRDS	LARGEST	GARDEN

Activity: Summer is a great time for planting a garden. With the help of your grown-up, plant a salsa garden. You can start from seed or you can buy baby plants. Choose tomatoes, bell peppers, green onions, and cilantro. Nurture your garden daily and when it's mature, find a simple recipe for homemade salsa..

Discussion Question: What are some ways, (BIG or small) that you and your family can make a difference in the world?

June Table Prayer: In your love, we dance and sing. We twirl and spin in the colors you bring. Thank you, God, for Summer and fun, and for the love of Jesus, your Son. Amen.

June Memory Verse: Psalm 86:7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, for you will answer me.



Jesus told parables to teach people about the Kingdom of God.
In one famous parable, he said that the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed -
it will start small and then grow! (Mark 4:30-32)