

# 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025; 9 a.m.



**St John's**  
Lutheran Church

*(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)*

## Welcome and Announcements

### Temple Talk

Amanda Burkart, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

### Prelude

*(Acolytes light the candles)*

Linda Ranney

### Confession and Forgiveness *(please stand)*

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Merciful God,

**you free us to love others,**

**but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**

**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,**

**but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.**

**You surround us with patience, kindness,**

**and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

**Do not give up on us.**

**Heal us, break our bonds,**

**and show us the path of life.**

**Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✝ Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.  
**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

ELW #556; *Morning Has Broken* vs. 1-3

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

## Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## Kyrie

ACS Setting 12

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Canticle of Praise

ACS Setting 12; vs. 1, 3

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Eternal God, **you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## Reading: Genesis 18:1-10a *(please sit)*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10a</sup> Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

<sup>15</sup> [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,<sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all

things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, <sup>23</sup> provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

<sup>24</sup> I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup> I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

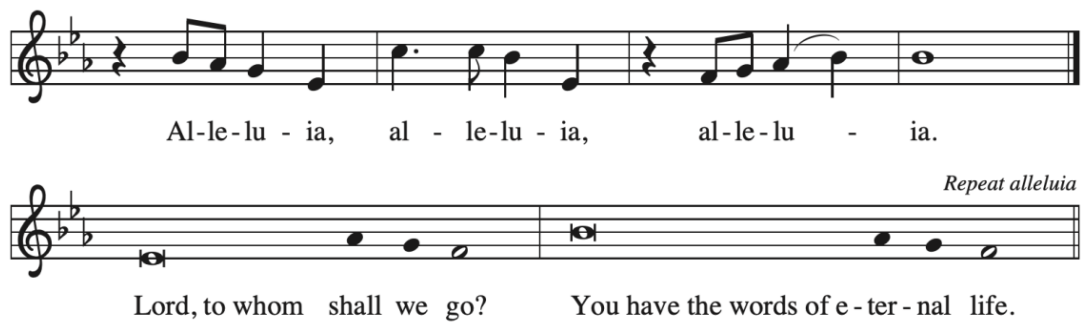
Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Time

### Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*

ACS Setting 12



## Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>38</sup> Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon *(please sit)*

*"The Better Part"* -- Pastor Christine Emerson

## Hymn of the Day *(please stand)*

ELW #769; *If You but Trust in God to Guide You* vs. 1,3,4

1 If you but trust in God to guide you  
and place your confidence in him,  
you'll find him always there beside you  
to give you hope and strength within;  
for those who trust God's changeless love

build on the rock that will not move.

3 Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving,  
offer your service faithfully,  
and trust his word; though undeserving,  
you'll find his promise true to be.  
God never will forsake in need  
the soul that trusts in him indeed.

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the  
third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right  
hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I  
believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  
everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

Petition:  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

## The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always!  
**And also with you.**

## Offering

*(Ushers take up the collection)*

Jill Heinke Moen, flute

## Offertory *(please stand)*

*(Ushers bring collection forward for acolytes to receive)*

ELW #451; *We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus* vs. 1-2

- 1     We are baptized in Christ Jesus,  
      we are baptized in his death;  
      that as Christ is raised victorious,  
      we might live a brand new life.  
      And if we have been united  
      in a dreadful death like his,  
      we will all be reunited, for he lives.
  
- 2     In the water and the witness,  
      in the breaking of the bread,  
      in the waiting arms of Jesus  
      who is risen from the dead,  
      God has made a new beginning  
      from the ashes of our past;  
      in the losing and the winning we hold fast.

## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Creator God, **in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



## Proper Preface

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Invitation to the Table

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

*(acolytes prepare for communion distribution; ushers come forward to invite assembly by pew)*

## Lamb of God



## Communion Hymn

ACS #1078; *There is a Longing*

### *Refrain*

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,  
for you to reveal yourself to us.  
There is a longing in our hearts for love  
we only find in you, our God.

- 1 For justice, for freedom,  
for mercy: hear our prayer.  
In sorrow, in grief:  
be near; hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*
- 2 For wisdom, for courage,  
for comfort: hear our prayer.  
In weakness, in fear:  
be near; hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*
- 3 For healing, for wholeness,

for new life: hear our prayer.  
In sickness, in death:  
be near; hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

4 Lord, save us, take pity,  
light in our deepest night.  
We call you; we wait:  
be near; hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

### **Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer** *(please stand)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Mothering God,  
**you gathered us to your table  
and we drank deeply of your grace.  
Send us out by your Spirit  
to love our neighbors as ourselves  
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

### **Benediction**

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit  
✠ bless you and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

### **Sending Hymn**

*(Acolytes extinguish the candles)*

ACS #979; *Making Their Way* vs. 1-2

1 Making their way down through the ages,  
sinners and saints have heard God's call:  
wealthy and poor, powerful, lowly,  
Jesus' disciples, one and all.  
Gathered for worship, offering thanks,

the greatest with the least  
have come to share this feast.

- 2 Making their way all the world over,  
Christians assemble on this day,  
hearing the Word, sharing the Banquet,  
learning to walk in Jesus' way.  
Members of Christ, united in love,  
they seek our God to know,  
and so together grow.

## Sending

Go in peace, Live by the spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

Linda Ranney

## Altar Flowers

Linda In Memory of Jerome & Gladys Turney's Wedding Anniversary by their  
daughter, Kathy & Verne Schellfeffer

## Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Pr. Christine Emerson
Assistant	Cora Klawiter
Lector	Rozie Bejin
Acolytes	Braham Ginter, Reese Boeckmann
Ushers	Ron Norby, Gary Kersten
Greeters	Bryan Sedlander, Mike Torud
Communion Servers	Jenna Boeckman, Julie Kersten, Rachel Torud, Pam Sorebo
Media & Streaming	Scott Olsen
Screen Operator	Lois Mai
Musicians	Linda Ranney, piano/organ; Jill Heinke Moen, flute

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