June 28, 2026 ☩

5th Sunday after Pentecost

We welcome you to First Lutheran Church!

"God's Work. Our Hands. To serve ALL people."

An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read aloud responses found in **bold.**

P: Indicates the Presider. AM: Indicates the Assisting Minister.

We Gather

Prelude

Words of Welcome

***Gathering Hymn** – no. 604 "O Christ, Our Hope"

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

***Apostolic Greeting**

P: 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** – page 184, *ELW Setting Eight*

***Hymn of Praise** – page 185, *ELW Setting Eight*

***Prayer of the Day -**

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We Listen to God's Word

First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

7 5 The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all
the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, 6 and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen!
May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to
this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. 7 But listen now to
this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. 8 The prophets who
preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many
countries and great kingdoms. 9 As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that
prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: *the psalm will be spoken today by whole verse* Psalm 89:1-4,15-18

1 Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
2 **For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;**
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
4 **'I will establish your line forever,**
and preserve your throne for all generations.' "
15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.
16 **They rejoice daily in your name;**
they are jubilant in your righteousness.
17 For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.
18 **Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;**
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

12 Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. 13 No longer present
your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those
who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of
righteousness. 14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under
grace.

15 What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no
means! 16 Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are
slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which
leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become
obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted 18 and that you,
having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. 19 I am speaking in human
terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to
impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as
slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.
20 When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 So what fruit did
you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is
death. 22 But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads
to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of
God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation** – page 188, *ELW Setting Eight*

***Gospel:** Matthew 10:40-42

The Gospel of Mathew, the 10th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] 40 "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me
welcomes the one who sent me. 41 Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will
receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous
person will receive the reward of the righteous, 42 and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to
one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their
reward. "

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – "A New Team" Pastor Ted Kunze

***Hymn** – no. 865 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

***The Apostles' Creed** –
Together let us profess our faith:
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 Intercession**
AM: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.
After each petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
AM: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

***Sign of Peace** P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please offer one another some sign of Christ's peace.

Offering – For electronic giving please scan the QR on acknowledgement page and **Thank you!**

Offering music

***Offering Prayer**

AM: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

We Share God's Holy Meal

***Great Thanksgiving and Preface** – page 190, *ELW Setting Eight*

***Holy, Holy, Holy** – page 190, *ELW Setting Eight*

***Words of Institution** – page 108-109, *ELW Setting One*

***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__ – P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Distribution of Communion – *communion will be served continuously today.*
Music:
Hymn no. 592 "Just As I Am, without One Plea"
Hymn no. 462 "Now We Join In Celebration"

Prayer After Communion
P: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

We Go in Peace

Announcements

*__Sending Hymn__ no. 860 "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

*__Blessing & Dismissal__

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

AM: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

*__Postlude__ -

In Worship Today
Pastor: Ted Kunze
Organist: Michael Asmus
Assisting Minister: Cheryl Kautt

Ushers: Tom Thorkelson"A New Team"
Communion Preparers: Mary Spear
Communion Servers: Shirb and John Sylvester

Tech: Shanon Nowell
Bread Baker: Nancy Thorkelson

Prayers: We pray for those on our long-term list: Joan Williams, Betty Gustafson, Paul Aasen, Karen Handel, Erika Schuldt, Ruth Edberg, Bob Lamb, Dorothy and Paul Lutz, Steve Erickson, Barbra Grabowski (Ted Kunze's sister), Garrett Paul, Mary Ann Scharf, Nate Tuener (family friend of Bob and Rhoda Stenson), Kay Moline, Kevin Nicholson (Betty Thompson's nephew), Leah Crosby and baby (niece of Aileen Bipes), Hazel Adelman (niece of Mary Gaebler).

Acknowledgments

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FLC Refrigerator Page

Worship, Education and Service:

- **Fellowship** after worship will be provided by Shirb Sylvester with Gabriela Roemhildt from Fellowship Committee assisting.
- **Pray for FLC/Trinity Service Trip to Milwaukee:** 15 students and 5 adults from St. Peter left to "Serve Boldly" in Milwaukee early this morning. Please keep our students and Chaperones in your prayers this week: Wes, Laird, Timmy, Jake, Cole, Malcolm, Sam, Lathe, Pastor Chris and Deacon Brenda.
- **FLC Director of Choirs and Handbells position is open.** If you are interested in applying for this position to lead Youth and Adult Choirs, or Handbells, please contact Kaari Bly, Pastor Chris, or Deacon Brenda.
- **Rental Assistance:** The need for emergency funds continues as many of our immigrant neighbors have not returned to work or are working part-time hours. All money collected will be dispersed through the Good Neighbor Diversity Council's Emergency Fund.
- **Personal care donation for SPAF:** FLC is collecting bar soap and laundry detergent during June and July. Place any donations in the grocery cart in the Gathering space. Thank you!
- **Resurrection Cemetery workday, Tuesday, June 30 from 9-11:30.** Because of the large amount of work that remains, the Cemetery Committee has scheduled an extra workday. Many hands make light work! Thank you from the Cemetery Committee.

Events at FLC and around the area:

- Please pray for the adults going to the **BWCA** from June 28 – July 2.
- The **Church Office will be closed** on July 3rd in celebration of July 4th.

Public Discipleship Series

- Public Discipleship is a Christian inter-congregational program that builds on ISAIAH's recent Palm Sunday action and reclaims Christianity from those who have weaponized it for cruelty and greed. This is a learning and action series this summer where participants learn about the scriptural and historic foundations of Christian public witness, and learn how to lead your own faithful public actions with others from your congregation
- **Group 1: Mankato Churches and Communities.** Starts June 22 and June 29, 6:30-8:30pm.
- **Group 2: St. Peter Churches and Communities.** Starts June 30 and July 7. 6:30-8:30pm
  Step into something deeper. Step into community. Step into faith that moves.
- Come support a **fundraiser for scholarships** for future grads of St. Peter-Kasota.
  July 3, 2026, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, Pork Chops - $5, Meal - $10
  Red Men Parking Lot – Walk Up and Drive Through Available off Mulberry Street.