



June 25, 2023

Time After Pentecost

Outdoor Worship

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

We welcome you to First Lutheran Church!

we GATHER

Prelude — “Come Now”

Song by Steve Kidder
Steve Kidder, guitar and vocal

*Words of Welcome

In this
Gathering
Hymn, we find
comfort and
belonging.
Sundays and
Seasons says this
about today’s
worship: “Jesus
declares that his
words may bring
stark division.
Even so, we need
not be afraid, for
God accounts for
each hair on our
heads.”

*Gathering Song — no. 781

“Children of the Heavenly Father”



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kån - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Righteous God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God’s mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***Canticle of Praise** — *from ELW Setting Ten*

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

***Prayer of the Day**

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Teach us, God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Stewardship Sharing Story

Mike Stewart

we LISTEN and RESPOND

A Reading from Jeremiah — Jeremiah 20:7-13

O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day
long; everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and
destruction!"
For the word of the Lord has become for
me a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a
burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"

All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."
But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.
Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18 — *spoken responsively by half verse*

Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.
 Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.
 I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.
 Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.
 Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.
 Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans — Romans 6:1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

***Gospel Acclamation — from ELW Setting Ten**

“Alleluia”

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

***Gospel — Matthew 10:24-39**

The Gospel of Matthew, the 10th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even

the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Chris Culuris

*Song — no. 798

“Will You Come and Follow Me?”

While the opening song offered comfort, this song offers a series of challenging questions for us to ponder. The life of a disciple is a difficult life. We are asked to “go where you don’t know,” to “risk the hostile stare,” and to “quell the fear inside,” all while understanding that the act of following Christ will change us and may threaten others.



1 “Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 “Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 “Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 “Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

*The Apostles' Creed

P: Let us confess our faith together:

**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 power of 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

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

You entice your church to speak truth that challenges false notions of peace. Prevail upon us with the good news of Christ's death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share the gospel with all the world. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Under your watch not even a sparrow goes unnoticed. Safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our world is enduring violence and destruction. Rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis. Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have counted even the hairs of our heads. Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation that every life has value. Look favorably upon all who struggle. Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Even when we experience rejection, your love invites us to new life. Lift up anyone who feels shunned or excluded on account of their gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or any other human distinction. Make your people one. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All who have died with Christ also live with him. We give thanks for all the saints whose faithful confession inspired our own discipleship, and raise us, with them, to eternal life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Offering

Music During Offering

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Sebastian Temple
Jeremiah Band

This well-known prayer calls on us to be channels of peace, bringing love, pardon, joy, hope, and light into the world, even when that may be a difficult path.

*Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

we SHARE the meal

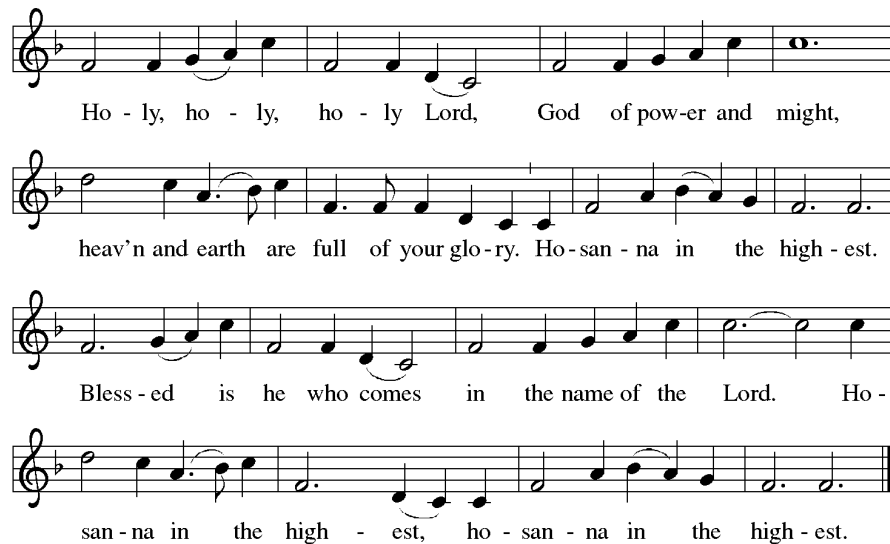
*Great Thanksgiving & Preface — page 206, front of hymnal, from ELW Setting Ten

P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy” — from ELW Setting Ten



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

*Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray: **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: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

We will observe continuous communion this morning - let the ushers help guide you forward.

Distribution of Communion

Reflection — “Your Kingdom Come” Song by Larry Olson & Julie Hennies
Steve Kidder, guitar and vocal

Prayer After Communion

P: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

we DEPART to serve the world

Announcements

*Sometimes the journey of discipleship may be difficult, but we ask in this **Sending Song** for Jesus to walk with us and be our guide.*

*Sending Song — “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

*Blessing & Dismissal

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed the Father, the Son \oplus and the Holy Spirit bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.
Amen.

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude — “Let's Go Out”

Setting by Larry Olson
Jeremiah Band

Acknowledgements

From sundaysandseasons.com. © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and broadcast by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SASo20319.

Words and music of the following hymns and worship songs under copyright are reprinted and broadcast using OneLicense #A-724285.

“Children of the Heavenly Father” text by Carolina Sandell Berg, tr. Ernst W. Olson, copyright © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America

“Will You Come and Follow Me” text by John Bell, copyright © 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

“Your Kingdom Come” text and music by Larry Olson, Julie Hennies Clark, copyright © 1992 Dakota Road Music

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” music arr. hymnal version, copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

“Let’s Go Out” text and music by Larry Olson, copyright © 1989, Dakota Road Music

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris

Director of Music: Emily Bruflat

Musicians: Jeremiah Band - Steve Kidder

Reader/Greeter: John Holte

Ushers: John Nadeau

Communion Preparers: Mike & Diane Stewart

Communion Servers: Cindy Nadeau, Sharon Domeier

Bread Baker: Cheryl Kautt

Announcements

- FLC serves at The Kitchen tomorrow. If you’d like to help serve, or donate to this cause, please contact Marilyn Kochsiek.
- Thank you to Karen Wendroth for donating three flats of flowers for the Bell Garden and the Courtyard Garden.
- We’re looking for people to march in the 4th of July parade! Please come to help decorate our church’s float from 6:30 - 8:30pm on July 3rd. We’ll meet at 8:15am on July 4th to ride down to the parade together.
- Stop in the office to buy Moondog tickets. 10 includes admission and a meal ticket!
- The Green Committee will be serving refreshments after worship.

Prayers

We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Betty Gustafson, Erika Schuldt, Ursula McRostie, Karen Wendroth, Allen Storkson, Gene Roemhildt, Karen Smithers, Paul Aasen, Shirley Storkson, Claire Cardwell, Alana Gage, and Ella Twaddle.

- We pray for the family of Theresa Gault who died on June 15.