

**Sunday, July 20, 2025**  
**The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Please rise.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your Holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of Almighty God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of Almighty God our heavenly Father, His Son, Jesus Christ was given to die for us; and for His sake, He forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins: in the name of the Father, the ✙ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN:**

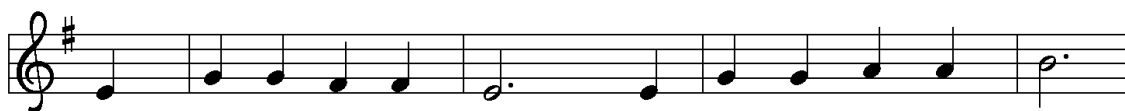
***Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak #676***

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.  
2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray together:

**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 our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Please be seated.**

## **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### **FIRST READING: The Book of Genesis 18:1-10a**

<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."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 15 (Please read responsively by whole verse.)**

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in Your tabernacle? Who may abide upon Your holy hill?

**<sup>2</sup> Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup> they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**<sup>4</sup> In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who revere the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

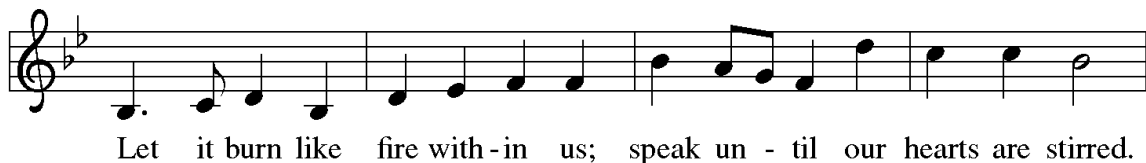
## SECOND READING: The Letter to the Colossians 1:15-28

<sup>15</sup> Jesus Christ 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 all things. <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.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Please rise.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## **GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42**

The Holy Gospel according to St. 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' 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.**

**Please be seated.**

**SERMON**                      **"Is Your Jesus Big Enough?"**

**PASTOR SCOTT DENNIS**

**Please rise.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**                      ***Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God #783 (Blue Book)***

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**WORDS ON SCREEN**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

...through our Messiah and Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always!

**And also with you.**

*We may greet one another with a wave, handshake or hug in the name of the Lord. God's peace is more than an absence of conflict. Our prayer for one another is that we live together in the wholeness of God's love and grace.*

**Please be seated.**

## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*If you would like to support our ministry through automatic, electronic giving, please visit our website (see QR code on last page) or download the Vanco mobile app to your phone, or you can mail your offering directly to the church. When we give an offering, we are saying thanks to God for all of His wonderful gifts.*

## OFFERING

Please rise.

## OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Blessed are You,

**O Lord our God, Maker of all things: through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him Who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

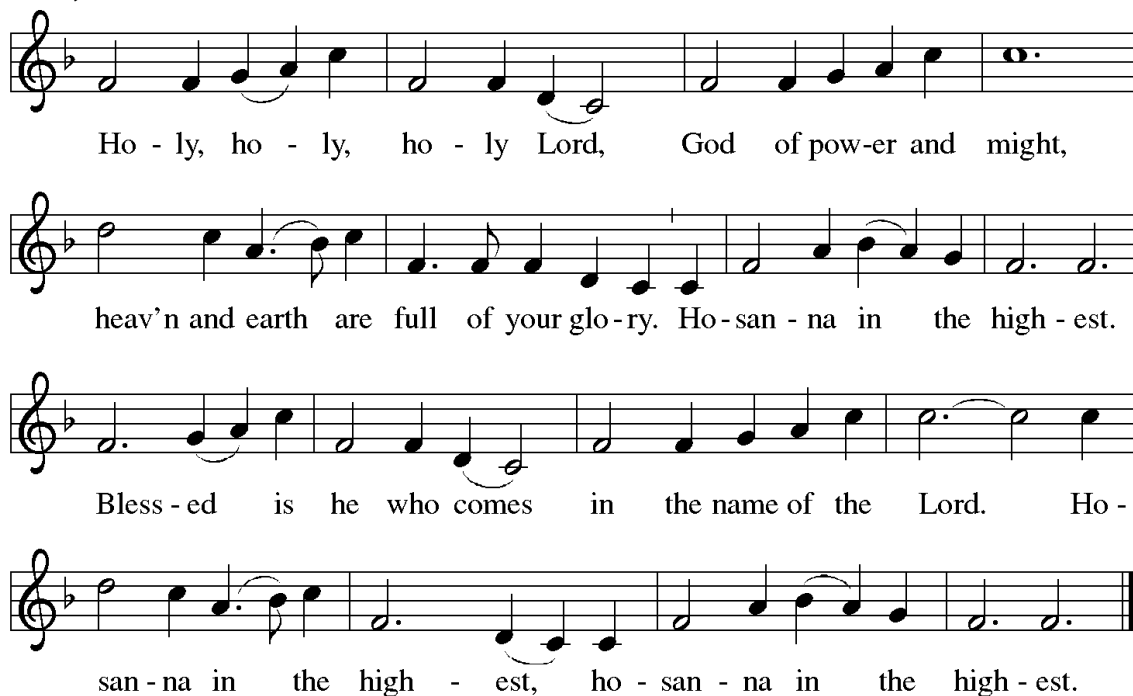
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.**

## PREFACE

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

...until He comes.

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

...now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

## WORDS ON SCREEN

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**Please be seated.**

## COMMUNION HYMN



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## COMMUNION

*As Christians in the Lutheran tradition we believe, teach, and confess that in the bread and the wine we do truly and really receive the body and blood of Christ. All Christians baptized in the name of the Triune God are warmly welcome and invited to come forward to receive communion. If you would like to stay in your place you are welcome to do so. You may also come forward for a baptismal blessing, in which case you may fold your hands in front of you. Come, for all things are now ready.*

**Please rise.**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in His grace.  
**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

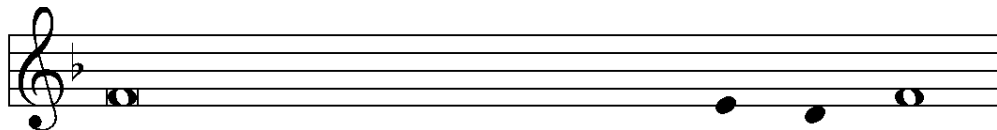
Let us pray together:

**Pour out upon us the spirit of Your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom You have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

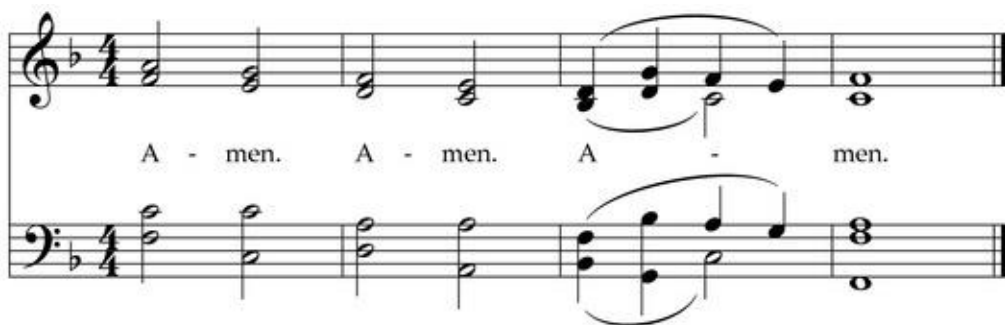
## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## BLESSING



Almighty God, Father, † Son,  
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever.



## SENDING HYMN:

*Come, Join the Dance of Trinity #412*

## DISMISSAL

Go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## UPCOMING EVENT:

**The annual summer outdoor worship service & church picnic will be on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow. Please stay tuned!**

## Serving in Worship Today

Presiding Minister – The Reverend Dr. Scott Dennis, Ph. D.

Assisting Minister – Carole Bauer

AV Operator – Cheri McKee

Counter – Lori Zale

Greeter/Usher – Sharon Matty

Lector – Walt Durand

Organist – Nancy Sweetland



## **Prayer List**

### **Special Prayers:**

Victims of Worldwide Conflicts & Natural Disasters

### **Members:**

Alice Puhlman, Dana Lehman, Eleanor Kakuk, Jan Matthews, Cheryl Ferrier, Nancy Randolph, Gary Bauer, Pam Lehman, Shirley Ross, Mae Calhoun, Art Sweetland, Shirley Seben, Dylan Eckman, Barb Jones

### **Friends of Bethesda:**

Cody, Linda, Dave, Melanie, John, Bill, Ed, Andrew, Heidi, Mason, Kali, Joe, Virginia, Andrea, Joyce, Kelli, Ruth, Ita, Sarah, Louise, Kathleen, Ford, Scott, Linda, Marian, Barry, Mark, Skippy, Kamdyn, Mark, Darlene, Cliff, Dennis, Nick, Cora, Claudia, Kavan, Rachel, Randy, Maggi, Lindsay

### **Grieving Family and Friends of:**

<https://www.bethesdaelc3084.org/home> From sundaysandseasons.com.

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