

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, E.L.C.A.
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6th Sunday after Pentecost/US Semiquincentennial

July 5, 2026

* Stand as you are able

GATHERING

INVOCATION, CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

Amen.

Let us bring every burden to God.

God of all mercy,

we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation.

Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us.

We lament the evil that holds us captive.

We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God

forgive you all your sins

through the grace of ☩ Jesus Christ,

and by the Spirit's power

strengthen you in doing what is good.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN*

ELW # 888 "O Beautiful For Spacious Skies"

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* (pages 138-139 in front of hymnal)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the lord.

Lord have mercy.

For his holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

Hymn of Praise*- Pages 140-141 in front of hymnal

Prayer of the Day .

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

P: The Word of the Lord:

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 145:8-14

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰ All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

- ¹¹ **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**
¹² that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
¹³ **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- out all ages.**
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.
¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Gospel Acclamation*

ELW #172 “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

P: THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30

C: Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶ “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

Sermon

“Celebrating with Gratitude, and with Humility.”

Hymn of the Day *

ELW #650 “In Christ There is No East or West”

The Nicene Creed * (Printed inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

Welcome to our WTKM radio and online worshipers, Good News and Prayer Petitions

Prayers of the Church

Response P: God of Grace. **C: Hear Our Prayer**

Sharing the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

(you are encouraged to turn to one another and share the peace of the Lord.)

Offering Hymn *

ELW # 686 (vs. 1 & 2) “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Offering Prayer *

**Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

MEAL

Thanksgiving *

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.**

The Preface *

P: Lord, it is indeed right and our joy that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise to you. And so with the angels and archangels and with the church on earth and in heaven, we give glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, as we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest** (pg. 144 ELW)

The Words of Institution*

The Lord's Prayer *

Invitation to Communion

P: Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven: Taste and know that God is good to all.

Hymn

Page 146 of hymnal

Distribution

Communion Hymn

ELW # 856 "How Great Thou Art"

SENDING

Communion Blessing *

The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, ✝ one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day.

Amen.

Prayer After Communion *

We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.

Amen.

Benediction *

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn *

ELW # 891 "God Bless Our Native Land"

Dismissal *

P: Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redeemer Announcements

- Today's Lector is Tom Hostad, and our usher is Don Horen.
- Next week's Lector is Scott Lopas and our ushers are Bruce and Laurie Horst.
- Pastor will be **in the office on Thursday July 9th** from 9:00am - 12:00pm. Appointments are appreciated, but not necessary. If you wish to meet with Pastor at other times, please contact him directly. Looking ahead, he will be in the office **July 23rd** from **9am-12pm**.
- Our next monthly Fish Fry will be **July 10** at Waller's on the Lake at 2472 Wallace Lake Rd., West Bend. Please let us know by **July 6th** if you are able to make it.
- Our next Women's Ministry will be meeting Monday **July 13th** at 12pm
- A church council meeting will be held **July 13th** at 4pm.
- The next Foundation Board meeting will be **July 21st** at 3:30pm.

Ministry Partners

- Special Giving for July is **Lutheran Disaster Response**.
- Community Lunch will be served on **Saturday, July 25th**, 11:30am, at First United Methodist Church. Fellowship prior to lunch.
- Lincoln Elementary School

In the Nest:

- Casa Guadalupe English Language Learners "ELL" meets Monday & Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM.
- Al-Anon Meetings are held Thursdays at 7:00PM.
- Girl Scouts meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

The Needs of Our Partners:

Casa Guadalupe

Snacks Kid snacks – **NO NUTS**, Fruit cups, cereal, canned goods.

Other Items: Books (gently used is okay), new toys.

See The Herald and the giving tree in the coffee area for these and other needs.

**PLEASE JOIN US AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE FOR COFFEE AND SNACKS
IN THE GATHERING ROOM**