

**Stewardship 2025
United in Christ**



**Yesterday,
Today and
Tomorrow**

Psalm 46:7 “The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.”

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 13, 2025
9:00 AM Traditional Worship**

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman
Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz **Lector:** Mikayla Thomas
Acolytes: Olivia Hays & Greta Hanson
Ushers: Jim Lund, Dan Matson, Myron Sime & Gary Gullickson
Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God’s mercy in responding to one’s neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the “gospel that has come to you”—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “God is Here Today” by Gracías

**God is here today; as certain as the air I breathe,
Dios está a quí, tan cierto como el aire que respiro,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you will hear my song.
tan cierto como la mañana se levanta sol,
*tan cierto como que le canto y me puede oír.***

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

P: Merciful God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Stand

HYMN: "As We Gather at Your Table" ELW #522

**Vs. 1: As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.**

**Vs. 2: Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.**

**Vs. 3: Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.**

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

LITANY

P: You are a treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart: teach them to your children

C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

P: One does not live by bread alone.

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "When Morning Gilds The Skies" ELW #853 Vs. 1 & 4

**Vs. 1: When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised! When evening shadows fall,
this rings my curfew call: may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Vs. 4: Let all of humankind in this their concord find:
may Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around
ring joyous with the sound: may Jesus Christ be praised!**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**C: O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care.
Hear the cries of everyone in need and turn our hearts to love our neighbors
with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

Sit

ANTHEM: "On Eagles Wings" by Jonas/arr by Wagner Chancel Choir

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:9-14

⁸⁻⁹ And you will make a new start, listening obediently to God, keeping all his commandments that I'm commanding you today. God, your God, will outdo himself in making things go well for you: you'll have babies, get calves, grow

crops, and enjoy an all-around good life. Yes, God will start enjoying you again, making things go well for you just as he enjoyed doing it for your ancestors.

¹⁰ But only if you listen obediently to God, your God, and keep the commandments and regulations written in this Book of Revelation. Nothing halfhearted here; you must return to God, your God, totally, heart and soul, holding nothing back. ¹¹⁻¹⁴ This commandment that I'm commanding you today isn't too much for you, it's not out of your reach. It's not on a high mountain—you don't have to get mountaineers to climb the peak and bring it down to your level and explain it before you can live it. And it's not across the ocean—you don't have to send sailors out to get it, bring it back, and then explain it before you can live it. No. The word is right here and now—as near as the tongue in your mouth, as near as the heart in your chest. Just do it!

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” ELW #172

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah. Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 10th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. “Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?” ²⁶ He answered, “What’s written in God’s Law? How do you interpret it?” ²⁷ He said, “That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself.” ²⁸ “Good answer!” said Jesus. “Do it and you’ll live.” ²⁹ Looking for a loophole, he asked, “And just how would you define ‘neighbor’?” ³⁰⁻³² Jesus answered by telling a story. “There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man. ³³⁻³⁵ “A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man’s condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and

bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.' ³⁶ "What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?" ³⁷ "The one who treated him kindly," the religion scholar responded. Jesus said, "Go and do the same."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" ELW #708

**Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.**

**Vs. 1: Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain...**

**Vs. 2: Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are nearby and far away. Refrain...**

**Vs. 3: These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. Refrain...**

APOSTLE'S 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 INTERCESSION

P: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A Brief Silence

P: Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable, especially strangers, migrants, and asylum seekers. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing. Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Go with all who travel, and protect them from harm. Put in their paths people who offer aid. We pray especially for the safety of first responders. God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Sit

OFFERTORY: "What is the World Like" Tice/Morris

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: **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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Music is played as those who wish to come forward for communion come forward and kneel at the communion rail. Others are invited to commune in your pew.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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.

C: Amen.

ANOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: 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.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN: "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" ELW #536

Vs. 1: God be with you till we meet again;

by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Refrain: Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

Vs. 2: God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. Refrain...

Vs. 3: God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. Refrain...

POSTLUDE: "El Camino" Manizano/Shields

When we help the poor, God goes with us down that Road.