

Stewardship 2026 Join the Journey

*"Trust in God from the bottom of your heart;
don't try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for God's voice in everything you do,
everywhere you go." Proverbs 3:4-6*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP Third Sunday after Pentecost June 14, 2026 9:00 AM Traditional Worship

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman
Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz
Lector: Kris Adams
Acolyte: Caitlyn Helm
Ushers: Jim Lunde, Dan Matson, Myron Sime & Gary Gullickson
Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "To Be Your Presence Is Our Mission Here" Stanford/Albrecht

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Stand

HYMN: "I Love to Tell the Story" #661 ELW

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 the 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: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #858 ELW vss. 1 & 4

Vs. 1: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!

**Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!**

Vs. 4: Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again.

Gladly forever adore him!

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sit

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Bringing in the Sheaves”

Congregation sing refrain:

**Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a

^{19:2} Three months after leaving Egypt the Israelites entered the Wilderness of Sinai. They followed the route from Rephidim, arrived at the Wilderness of Sinai, and set up camp. Israel camped there facing the mountain. ³⁻⁶ As Moses went up to meet God, God called down to him from the mountain: “Speak to the House of Jacob, tell the People of Israel: ‘You have seen what I did to Egypt and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to me. If you will listen obediently to what I say and keep my covenant, out of all peoples you’ll be my special treasure. The whole Earth is mine to choose from, but you’re special: a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.’” ⁷ Moses came back and called the elders of Israel together and set before them all these words which God had commanded him. ⁸ The people were unanimous in their response: “Everything God says, we will do.” Moses took the people’s answer back to God.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

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

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 9th & 10th Chapters.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Sit

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

P: Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their bruised and hurt lives. When he looked out over the crowds, his heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd.

C: “What a huge harvest!” he said to his disciples. “How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!”

P: The prayer was no sooner prayed than it was answered. Jesus called twelve of his followers and sent them into the ripe fields. He gave them power to kick out the evil spirits and to tenderly care for the bruised and hurt lives. This is the list of the twelve he sent: Simon (they called him Peter, or “Rock”), Andrew, his brother, James, Zebedee’s son, John, his brother, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, the tax man, James, son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon, the Canaanite, Judas Iscariot (who later turned on him).

⁵⁻⁸ Jesus sent his twelve harvest hands out with this charge:

C: “Don’t begin by traveling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers. And don’t try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy.

P: Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood. Tell them that the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick.

C: Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables.

P: Kick out the demons.

C: You have been treated generously, so live generously.

P: “Don’t think you have to put on a fund-raising campaign before you start. You don’t need a lot of equipment. *You* are the equipment, and all you need to keep that going is three meals a day. Travel light.

C: “When you enter a town or village, don’t insist on staying in a luxury inn. Get a modest place with some modest people and be content there until you leave.

P: “When you knock on a door, be courteous in your greeting. If they welcome you, be gentle in your conversation. If they don’t welcome you, quietly withdraw.

C: Don’t make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way.

P: You can be sure that on Judgment Day they’ll be mighty sorry—but it’s no concern of yours now.

C: “Stay alert. This is hazardous work I’m assigning you. You’re going to be like sheep running through a wolf pack, so don’t call attention to yourselves. Be as shrewd as a snake, inoffensive as a dove.

P: “Don’t be naive. Some people will question your motives, others will smear your reputation—just because you believe in me.

C: Don’t be upset when they haul you before the civil authorities. Without knowing it, they’ve done you—and me—a favor, given you a platform for preaching the kingdom news!

P: And don’t worry about what you’ll say or how you’ll say it. The right words will be there; the Spirit of your Father will supply the words.

C: “When people realize it is the living God you are presenting and not some idol that makes them feel good, they are going to turn on you, even people in your own family.

P: There is a great irony here: proclaiming so much love, experiencing so much hate! But don't quit. Don't cave in. It is all well worth it in the end. It is not success you are after in such times but survival. Be survivors! Before you've run out of options, the Son of Man will have arrived.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" #579 ELW vss. 1& 2

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: Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence

P: God of freedom, you ransomed Israel from slavery to be a holy people. As we observe Juneteenth this coming week, free us also to be a people who

proclaim your liberating love. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of creation, you call all the earth to make a joyful noise to you. Let us join the chorus of the natural world in proclaiming your glory. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction, and sustain those who advocate for peace. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of grace, you pour hope and love into our hearts in times of shame and doubt. Protect those experiencing housing insecurity. Uplift anyone struggling with hopelessness, illness, or other worries. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of all, you call your children to serve in a plentiful harvest. Give us the wisdom to know how best to serve our local community and our neighbors. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God of faith, we give thanks for the saints who earnestly seek you. Guide us as we seek to follow those who have led your church. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERTORY: “Let Us Go Now to the Banquet” Cuéllar/Organ

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God,

C: 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.

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: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast! 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: Compassionate God,

C: 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

SENDING HYMN: “To Be Your Presence ” #546 ELW

POSTLUDE: “Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing” set by Maynard