

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 Second Sunday after Pentecost June 7, 2026 9:00 AM Traditional Worship

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman
Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz
Lector: Marti Conant
Acolyte: Ben Foltz
Ushers: Todd Skavlen, Mark Wilberg, Eric Smedal and Roger Nitzsche
Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord’s day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God’s mercy for the world.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” arr. Maynard

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: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" #836 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: O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sit

ANTHEM: “Give Me Jesus” Wendy Olson soloist

FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15—6:6

^{5:15} No one can help them. I'll go back to where I came from until they come to their senses. When they finally hit rock bottom, maybe they'll come looking for me.” ^{6:1-3} “Come on, let's go back to God. He hurt us, but he'll heal us. He hit us hard, but he'll put us right again. In a couple of days we'll feel better. By the third day he'll have made us brand-new, alive and on our feet, fit to face him. We're ready to study God, eager for God-knowledge. As sure as dawn breaks, so sure is his daily arrival. He comes as rain comes, as spring rain refreshing the ground.” ⁴⁻⁶ “What am I to do with you, Ephraim? What do I make of you, Judah? Your declarations of love last no longer than morning mist and predawn dew. That's why I use prophets to shake you to attention, why my words cut you to the quick: to wake you up to my judgment blazing like light. I'm after love that lasts, not more religion. I want you to know God, not go to more prayer meetings.

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 Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

^{9:9} Passing along, Jesus saw a man at his work collecting taxes. His name was Matthew. Jesus said, “Come along with me.” Matthew stood up and followed him. ¹⁰⁻¹¹ Later when Jesus was eating supper at Matthew’s house with his close followers, a lot of disreputable characters came and joined them. When the Pharisees saw him keeping this kind of company, they had a fit, and lit into Jesus’ followers. “What kind of example is this from your Teacher, acting cozy with crooks and misfits?” ¹²⁻¹³ Jesus, overhearing, shot back, “Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? Go figure out what this scripture means: ‘I’m after mercy, not religion.’ I’m here to invite outsiders, not coddle insiders.” ^{9:18-19} As he finished saying this, a local official appeared, bowed politely, and said, “My daughter has just now died. If you come and touch her, she will live.” Jesus got up and went with him, his disciples following along. ²⁰⁻²² Just then a woman who had hemorrhaged for twelve years slipped in from behind and lightly touched his robe. She was thinking to herself, “If I can just put a finger on his robe, I’ll get well.” Jesus turned—caught her at it. Then he reassured her: “Courage, daughter. You took a risk of faith, and now you’re well.” The woman was well from then on. ²³⁻²⁶ By now they had arrived at the house of the town official and pushed their way through the gossips looking for a story and the neighbors bringing in casseroles. Jesus was abrupt: “Clear out! This girl isn’t dead. She’s sleeping.” They told him he didn’t know what he was talking about. But when Jesus had gotten rid of the crowd, he went in, took the girl’s hand, and pulled her to her feet—alive. The news was soon out and traveled throughout the region.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” #588 ELW vss. 1, 2 & 4

HOLY BAPTISM #227 ELW (*front of hymnal*)

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERTORY: "Come, Ye Disconsolate" Webbe/Miller

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.

SENDING HYMN: “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” #860 ELW

POSTLUDE: “We Are Called” Haas/Wonacott