

# St. John Lutheran Church

# WHOEVER WELCOMES YOU WELCOMES ME

MATTHEW 10:40



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# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • JUNE 28, 2026

## Reverent Reflection

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Church Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **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.**
- P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. 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, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:** All Are Welcome (#641)

## Apostolic 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.**

## Kyrie p. 147

- P. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. 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.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**

- P. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C. **Amen.**

### **Canticle p. 149**

- P. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
- C. **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**
- Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

*O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

### **Word**

#### **First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9**

<sup>5</sup>The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord,<sup>6</sup> and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles."<sup>7</sup> But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18**

**Response: "Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing."**

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup>**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>**"I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations." R**

<sup>15</sup>Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

<sup>16</sup>**They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

<sup>17</sup>For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

<sup>18</sup>**Truly, our shield belongs to the Lord; our king to the Holy One of Israel. R**

#### **Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23**

<sup>12</sup>Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been

brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup> What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted <sup>18</sup> and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. <sup>19</sup> I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

<sup>20</sup> When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation p. 151**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the twelve <sup>40</sup> "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Children's Sermon**

### **Anthem**

### **Apostles' 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**

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

*A brief silence.*

Faithful God, establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, bring an end to conflict and division (places experiencing division may be named). Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding, justice, and peace.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. (We pray especially for . . .) Bless caregivers as they show God's hospitality through their generous service.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. We give thanks for saints of all times and places (like Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons whom the church remembers today).

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

## **Sharing of the Peace**

### **Offering**

#### **Great Thanksgiving p. 152**

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.**

#### **Preface p. 153**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **Words of Institution**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray:

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **Communion p. 154**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

**Communion Hymns:** God Is Here (#526)  
As We Gather At The Table (#522)  
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471))

## **Prayer after Communion**

### **Blessing**

**Sending Hymn:** We Are Baptized In Christ Jesus (#451)

### **Dismissal**

### **Postlude**

**ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Dedicated by Pat Reed in memory of Bob on their Anniversary.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	10:00 am After Worship Service 11:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service (Summer) Summer Sundays (casual youth activities) thru Sept. 13th Band Rehearsal
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Tuesday, July 7th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Saturday, July 11th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Wednesday, July 15th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room

*Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.*

## PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:*

Jen Bailey	Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Bill Murray	Eric Sprengel
Krystal Booras	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Renate Murray	Bill Steel
Michael Botti	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Erica Polito	Carol Taylor
Brian Byrnes	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Samantha Reed	Henry Tesone
Meadow Cantoral	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Kimberly Rickert	Bill Todt
Randy Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Vaneman, Sr.
Debbie Capasso	Bob Garner	Doug Levandowski	Dorcas Schellhas	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Gladys Sheppard	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Meilani Showell	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III	

*Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.*

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

## WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.

## SAVE TIME . . . no need for checks or envelopes

ELCA-Endorsed Tithe.ly giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

- From your checking account or using your debit/credit card
- One-time donation or set up for recurring giving
- Designate specific ministry for your donation
- Scan the QR code to get started
- For assistance or questions, contact Tom Schofield or Henry Fickenscher





Every Sunday from May 17<sup>th</sup> to September 13<sup>th</sup> after the Worship Service in the Ed. Building.

Bible verse theme every Sunday with crafts and outdoor games.

Please come and join the fun!

Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm in the  
Parish House

Bible  
Study

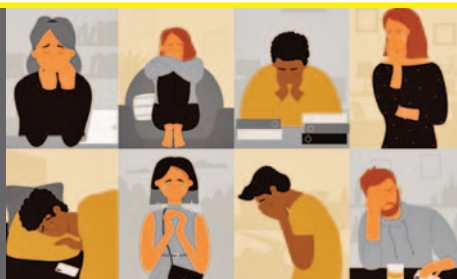
COMMUNITY  
LUNCHEON

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 11:30 in the Ed. Building.



GRIEF  
GATHERING



Wednesday,  
July 15<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm

Parish House Tea Room

All Are Welcome!



Please help us . . .

Donate Shelf Stable Milk for  
Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.

Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.

Holy Communion Lutheran Church of Berlin Baby Pantry need:



BABY DIAPERS  
(especially larger sizes)

Collection is in the Narthex.

# All Are Welcome

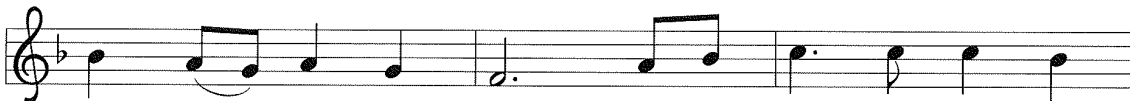
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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are strong and  
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



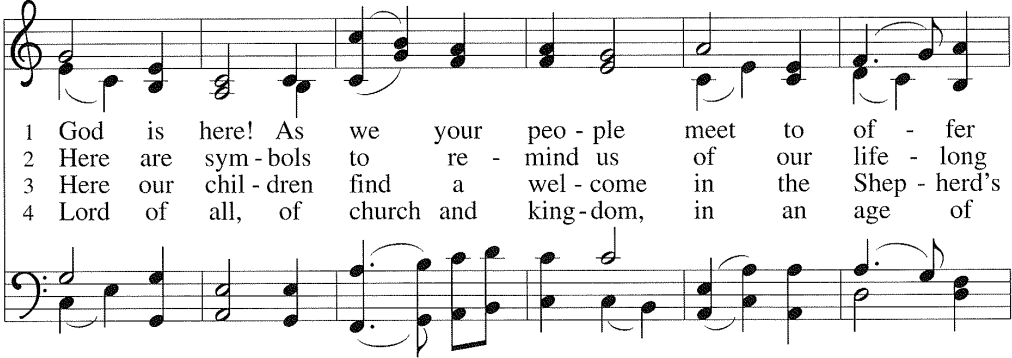
vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
claim the faith of Je - sus:  
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
end to fear and dan - ger:  
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.



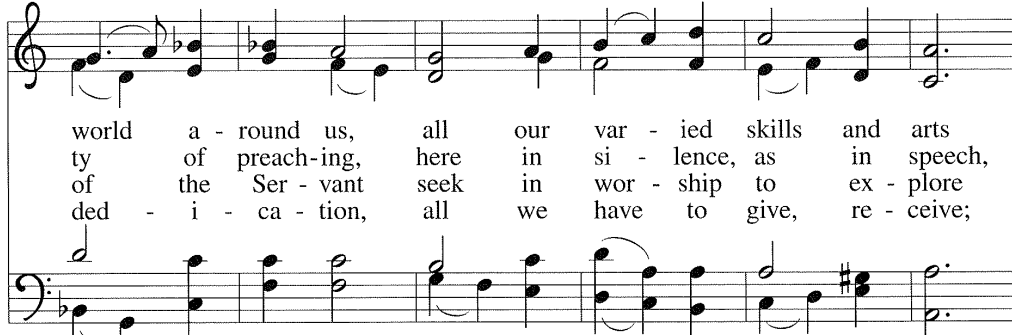
1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

## As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

# Let Us Break Bread Together

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1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

## We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;  
 2 In the wa - ter and the wit-ness, in the break-ing of the bread,  
 3 Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.  
 in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,  
 glo-ry to the Ho - ly Spir-it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,  
 God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.  
 in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.  
 in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.