

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

July 5, 2026 (9:00 a.m.)

**WE ARE ONE CHRISTIAN FAMILY LED BY GOD'S WORD AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT INTO LOVING SERVICE.**

**Our values are
Bible Based Preaching, Spiritual Growth, Great Commission (Go,
Make Disciples...)**

PRELUDE

GREETING

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN "We Praise You, O God" LW 494

**We praise you, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator,
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, We kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name, Glad praises we sing.**

**We worship you, God of our fathers,
We bless you; Through trial and tempest
Our guide you have been. When perils o'er take us,
You will not forsake us, And with your help, O Lord,
Our struggles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer,
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great redeemer, Forever be praise!**

INVOCATION

(ref. Matthew 18:20)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. *(1 John 1:8)*

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1:9)*

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. *(ref. Ps 32:5)*

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. 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: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce the grace of God to you: your sin is forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *(Ref. Matt. 18:18; John 20:22-23)*

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LW 461

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

MEDLEY OF PATRIOTIC SONGS

Psalm 19:1-4a

"America the Beautiful"

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness! America! America! God mend thine every flaw, Confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law.

**O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self
their country loved, and mercy more than life! America! America!
May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness and every gain
divine!**

1 Timothy 2:1-4

"God Bless Our Native Land"

LW # 497

**God bless our native land; firm may she ever stand through storm and
night:**

**When the wild tempest rave, Ruler of wind and wave,
O God, our country save by your great might.**

**For her our prayer shall rise to God above the skies; on him we wait;
Lord, you are ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye;
To you aloud we cry, God save the State!**

**Not for this land alone, but be God's mercies shown from shore to
shore;**

**And may the nations see that we should brothers be,
And sing one praise to thee, our gracious God.
refine, till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!**

Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11

"Our God, Our Help In Ages Past" LW 180 v 1,3,4,6

**Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:**

**Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.**

**Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!**

1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-17

"Lift High the Cross" LW311 1,4,5

***(Refrain)* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**Come Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the son of God. *(Refrain)***

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Raise us, and let your cross the magnet be. *(Refrain)***

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *(Refrain)***

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray...

C: **Amen**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 37:1-9

Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; ²for like the grass they will wither, like green plants they will die away. ³Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. ⁴Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: ⁶He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun. ⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. ⁸Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil. ⁹For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-10, 13-16; 12:1-2

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for. ... ⁸By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed, and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ... ¹³All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. ¹⁴People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. ...
^{12:1}Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ²Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 20:25-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY "Before You, Lord We Bow" LW 500 v1,3,4

**Before you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring in joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise to you, our king!**

**May ev'ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,
Shine in your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue be tuned to praise
And join to raise a grateful song.**

**Earth, hear your Maker's voice; your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.
Cast down your pride, your sin deplore,
And bow before the Crucified.**

SERMON

THE FIRST ARTICLE AND LUTHER'S EXPLANATION

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH - concluding with

P: Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, And take not your Holy Spirit From me. Restore to me The joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit.

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift your hearts and hands in praise

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and helpful... evermore praising you and singing:

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.

PRAYERS AND THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

P: Our Lord on the night he was betrayed . . .

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

C: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

**C: 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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his
promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

**P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.**

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN "Lord, While for Humankind We Pray" LW 502

**Lord, while for humankind we pray of ev'ry clime and coast,
Lord, hear us for our native land, the land we love the most!**

**Oh, guard our shores from ev'ry foe, with peace our borders bless,
With prosp'rous times our cities crown, our fields with plenteousness!**

**Unite us in the sacred love of all that's good and true;
And let our hills and valleys shout their songs, all praising you.**

**Here may your Gospel, pure and mild, renew our Sabbath hours
And let our hills and valleys shout their songs, all praising you.**

**Lord of the nations, thus to you our country we commend.
Oh, be her refuge and her trust, her everlasting friend.**

Silent prayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

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