

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
*June 7, 2026*



*Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)*

*10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134*

*“Celebrating and sharing God’s Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others”*

*Worship 9:00 a.m.*

***Bold type*** indicates Congregational responses.

\* Congregation please stand as you are comfortable

***Introduction***

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.

***Welcome to Lord of Love! We are the body of Christ, and we are not whole without you.***

**Visitors:** We’re so glad you’re here, and we’d love the opportunity to connect with you! Text WELCOME to 402-493-2946 so we can follow up with you.

**Nursery:** The nursery (just off the Narthex) is open during worship. Please know that children are always welcome in the Sanctuary for worship. Quiet toy bags are available from the ushers.

**Offering:** An offering plate is at the back of the Sanctuary, and gifts may be placed there. Children may put their offering in the noise jar during the offering song.

**Communion:** Everyone is welcome at communion. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking a communion server. In the communion trays, the wine is red and grape juice is white.

**Prayer Requests:** If you have a prayer request, you can text PRAY to 402-493-2946.

**Fellowship:** Donuts and coffee are available in the Narthex after worship. Please join us!

**Prelude:** “Will You Come and Follow Me?” ..... arr. Kyle Haugen

**Announcements**

**Ringling of the Bell**

**\*Gathering Song:** “Morning Has Broken”..... ELW 556

**\*Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

**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.**

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”

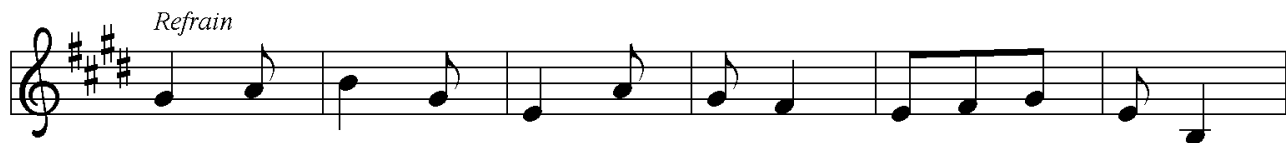
In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God’s love.

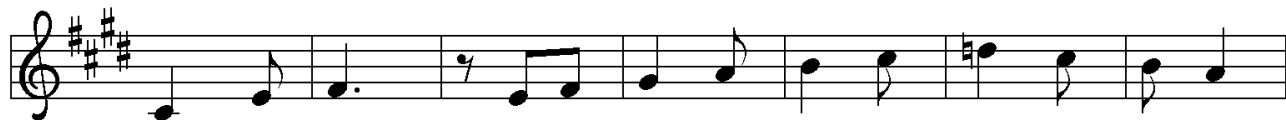
**Amen.**

# \*Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



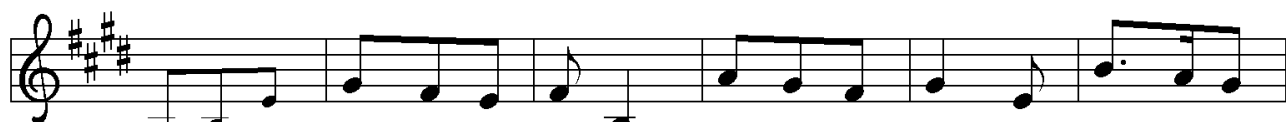
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray.

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

### **First Reading: Hosea 5:15-6:6**

L: I will return again to my place  
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.  
In their distress they will beg my favor:

“Come, let us return to the LORD,  
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;  
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

After two days he will revive us;  
on the third day he will raise us up,  
that we may live before him.

Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD;  
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;  
he will come to us like the showers,  
like the spring rains that water the earth.”

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?  
What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.

Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;  
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,  
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,  
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Word of God, word of life.

## **Thanks be to God**

### **Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25**

L: The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many

nations,” according to what was said, “So shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
 go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
 life. Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*Gospel: Matthew 9:9-26**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?” And Jesus said to them, “The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. No

one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.”

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she was saying to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that moment. When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, “Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread through all of that district.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon** ..... Rev. Becky Sells

**Sermon** ..... Rev. Becky Sells

**Hymn of the Day: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”** ..... ELW 587

**\*The Apostles’ Creed**

L: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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***

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

*A brief silence.*

God of mercy, you call us to a life filled with acts of mercy. Ground us in following Christ, that we might extend the mercy we receive. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, all you have made is yours. Revive lands in need of healing and make us wise stewards of all you have given us to tend. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you promise to deliver those who call on you. Bring an end to conflict, bigotry, and injustice in all their forms wherever they are found. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, you provide for those in need. Bring an end to addiction. Comfort people as they mourn. Provide tenderly for those in need. We especially for those on our prayer list and those whose names and needs we lift up now.... God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of blessings, you send the Holy Spirit to provide varieties of gifts in the body of Christ. Accompany those who travel this summer, make our gatherings joyous, and grant us a spirit of hospitality and togetherness. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of life, we give you thanks for saints whose lives revealed your faithfulness. May remembering their faithfulness strengthen our own. 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.**

### ***\*Peace***

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share signs of peace with one another. Please be seated.*

## Offering

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or given electronically at [www.lord-of-love.org](http://www.lord-of-love.org). Children may come forward to put their offering in the noise jar during this song.

Communion servers, please come forward during the offertory song.

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in -to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in -to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with -in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore -taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## \*Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

**Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*Words of Institution**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **\*The Lord's Prayer**

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **Communion Invitation**

P : Taste and see that the Lord is good. All are welcome at the table of the Lord.

## **Lamb of God**



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

## **Communion**

**Distribution Music:** "Pass It On" (In honor of the 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lord of Love).. Kaiser/Hayes

**\*Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Compassionate God, 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.**

**\*Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn:** *“We Come to You for Healing Lord .....* ELW 617

**\*Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Postlude:** *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” .....*arr. Livingston

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## **June Faith Partners Article**

Summer is here, and parents and their children have more free and unstructured time. Here are some parental tips regarding use of electronics from [HealthyChildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org).

Enjoy your kids and your summer!

Many parents today feel overwhelmed by the responsibility of monitoring their children's digital experiences. Parental controls can be a helpful tool for providing a gentler on-ramp to the real safety and privacy risks children face online. Here are some strategies parents can use without damaging their child's trust or interfering with opportunities to build independence and digital skills

**Set Family Media Plans:** Create a balanced media plan that includes times with and without devices, and set rules about Media use.

**Screen Time Management:** Use screen time management tools to monitor and limit device usage, ensuring children have time for other activities. Have a designated charging spot outside of their bedrooms at night. Know your children's passwords.

**Digital Literacy:** Teach children about digital literacy and the importance of content quality. Help them use critical thinking to determine if it could be AI. Sites that demand immediate action, asking for personal information, sites you did not access are sites to avoid. Talk about cyberbullying and online kindness. Ensure they know you are a safe haven if they experience cyberbullying.

**Healthy Use:** Encourage healthy use of smartphones and other devices, focusing on learning and exploration rather than mindless scrolling. If you are on your phone, explain what and why you are i.e. "I am looking for directions to the restaurant we want to go to." or "I need to answer a question for work."

**Monitor your own digital use:** Be "present." Put your phone away during family activities. "Technoference" technology interfering in relationships can affect bonding.

By following these tips, parents can help create a healthy and safe environment for their child as they navigate the digital world.