

4th Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 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

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God’s grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in 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: "How Firm a Foundation" arr. Maynard

Announcements

Ring of the Bell

Ministry Minute on Synod Assembly

***Gathering Song:** "Ten Thousand Reasons" ACS 1097

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,

O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

. . . it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name . . is . . . great, and your heart is kind. For all . . your
end . . draws near, and my time has come; . . . still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
 good-ness, I will keep . . on . . sing - ing— ten thou-sand
 soul will sing your praise un - end - ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain
 sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
 rea - sons for my heart to find.
 years and then for - ev - er - more!

***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.

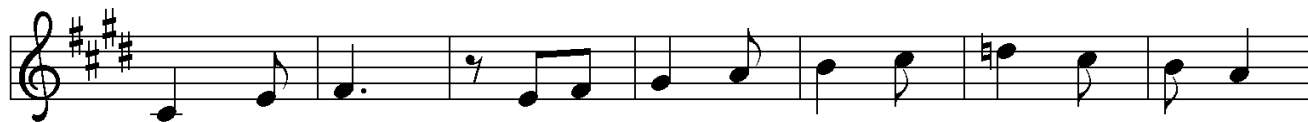
Amen.

*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.

Refrain



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



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain



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



God; to make all things new.

Refrain

****Prayer of the Day***

L: Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13

L: O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, "I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him."
But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

L: Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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 9:35—10:24-39**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,
and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon Rev. Becky Sells

Sermon Rev. Becky Sells

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.

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering. We especially pray for those on our prayer list and those whose names and needs we lift up now.... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. 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. 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, everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. 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:

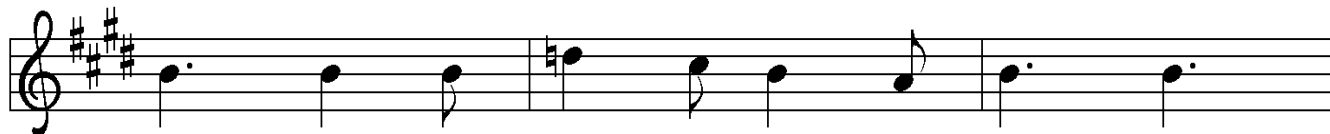
***Holy, Holy, Holy**



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: *"If You But Trust God to Guide You" I & II*arr. Neumark/Organ

***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: "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"..... LBW 453

1 If you but trust in God to guide you And place your
 2 What gain is there in fu - tile weep - ing, In help - less
 3 In pa - tient trust a - wait his lei - sure In cheer - ful
 4 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing, Of - fer your

con - fi - dence in him, You'll find him al - ways there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in his care and
 hope, with heart con - tent To take what - e'er your Fa - ther's
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly, And trust his word; though un - de -

side you, To give you hope and strength with - in. For those who
 keep - ing, In sor - row will he love you less? For he who
 plea - sure And all - dis - cern - ing love have sent; Doubt not your
 serv - ing, You'll find his prom - ise true to be. God nev - er

trust God's change-less love Build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross Will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 in - most wants are known To him who chose you for his own.
 will for - sake in need The soul that trusts in him in - deed.

****Dismissal***

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude: "The Foundation" arr. Barrett

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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.