

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

July 5th, 2026 – 9:30 AM

WELCOME



The King of Glory comes victorious and humble, strong and in peace. His kingdom is everlasting and established with His Compassion. Today we remember and celebrate the 250th anniversary of this country's Independence. Even more importantly we gather to remember and celebrate the freedom Christ died to give us over 2000 years ago. Let us walk in that freedom.

✝ Preacher – Liz Griswold

✝ Officiant – Pr. Rudy Schneider

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.
Amen.

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, **we confess that sin has taken hold of us, and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit, and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.**

These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are ✝ forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again and rejoice in your salvation. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: ELW# 533 – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Prayer of the Day - You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. **Amen.**

GOD'S HOLY WORD

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. The Word of the Lord... **Thanks be to God!**



Psalm 145: 8 - 14

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.**

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

¹⁴**The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John 8: 31 - 36; **Glory to You, O Lord!**

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" ³⁴Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON – Liz Griswold

HYMN: Shine on Us

Lord, let Your light, light of your face shine on us.
Lord, let Your light, light of your face shine on us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life;
To find our way in the darkest night,
Let Your light shine on us.

Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand fall on us.
Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand fall on us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life;
To find our way in the darkest night,
Let Your grace fall on us.

Lord, let Your love, love with no end come over us.
Lord, let Your love, love with no end come over us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life;
To find our way in the darkest night,
Let Your love come over us,
Let Your light shine on us.

By Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith, c. 1996 Milene Music/Deer Valley Music., Used by permission CCLI License #22085334

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

† *We recognize all joining us virtually and give voice to any greetings or prayer requests.*

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

God our unity, your church flourishes in different languages, cultures, and movements. Grant us wisdom to discern when our yokes are too heavy, that we may live and serve in the freedom of your rest. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our life-giver, we grieve the pains placed upon our common home through war and neglect. What you have lovingly crafted, guide us to lovingly tend.

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

God our freedom, you are no tyrant but bring peace. As this nation marks its declaration of independence, teach us our part in announcing peace for future generations.

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

God our comfort, liberate all in our community who are captive to fear, who have become isolated or ill, or who are in any need. Grace those from our families and community that we now name silently in our hearts, or out loud, with our prayers and your blessings. *(Please name silently or out loud).* God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our guide, we do not always have the strength to do the good we wish to do. Free us from the cycles of violence that bind us, that all know your liberation.

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

God our home, you model freedom through the love shared across communities of trust and goodwill. As we remember those now gone to eternal rest, we thank you for the gifts of life together. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our teacher, we seek Your divine wisdom and guidance in our search for a shepherd to lead us with humility, love, and grace. Lord, bless our search process, our call committee and open doors to reveal the right candidate to us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

(Additional Petitions may be offered.)

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

God, we give thanks for your presence in our lives. Bless these offerings, that they may be used to advance your kingdom and glorify your name. And may our faith continue to grow stronger each day, bringing us closer to you. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross opened his arms to all.

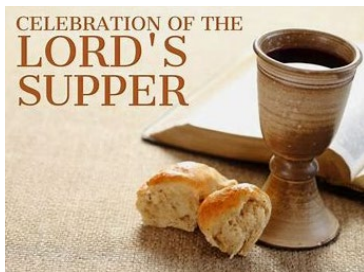
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion – Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.



OUR TIME OF COMMUNION WITH THE LORD!

COMMUNION HYMNS:

1 – Change My Heart O God	2 - Stir My Spirit
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you. You are the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.	Stir my spirit, O Lord, I pray Tune my ear that I might hear Your word. Take pleasure in, be glorified by every step I take, Build my life a temple for You, Lord. By Darrell Dement c. 1986 ZionSong Music, CCLI license #22085334

COMMUNION HYMN 3: When the Father sent his son

When the Father sent His Son to live with us, our lives to mend;
 Placed His love upon the altar that with Him we might ascend.

Chorus

Lord the blessed life You give me, and the holy road You choose;
 Lead me all the way to Calv'ry, and I'll only follow You.

Chorus

Lord, I only want Your blessing, as I'm sitting at Your feet.
 Nothing in this world can woo me from Your holy seat.

Chorus

Chorus:

All that I can do is thank Him,
 All that I can do is pray.
 All that I can do is lift my hands to sing His praise.

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Closing Prayer - 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.

Blessing - Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: ELW#888- O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

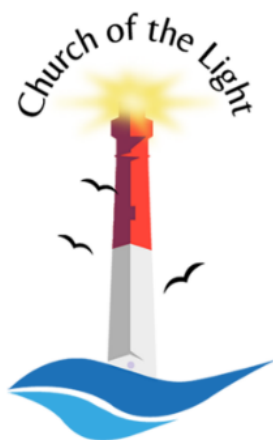
Song of Blessing

May God's blessing surround you each day,
As you trust God and walk in God's way.
May God's presence within guard and keep you from sin,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

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Dismissal: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

Notes:



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