

# **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

June 21, 2026

***Please respect the sanctity of worship and turn off all cell phones.  
Thank you.***

## **For the Gathered**

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.

## **Greeting – ELW 147**

(Pastor) - 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.**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Gathering Song – Faith of Our Fathers – ELW 812**

Faith of our fathers, living still  
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.  
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
whene'er we hear that glorious word.

*Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith,  
we will be true to thee till death.

The martyrs, chained in prisons dark,  
were still in heart and conscience free;  
and blest would be their children's fate  
if they, like them, should die for thee. *Refrain*

Faith of our fathers! We will love  
both friend and foe in all our strife;  
proclaim thee too, as love knows how,  
by saving word and faithful life. *Refrain*

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

## **Confession and Forgiveness – ELW 94**

(Pastor)

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

## **Kyrie - ELW 147**

(Liturgist) In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Canticle of Praise – ELW 149**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

**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.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.**

## **First Reading – Jeremiah 20: 7-13**

*Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.*

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> 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."

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> Sing to the LORD;  
praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 69: 7- 10, 16-18**

<sup>7</sup> Surely, for your sake I have suf- | fered reproach,  
**and shame has cov- | ered my face.**

<sup>8</sup> I have become a stranger to | my own kindred,  
**an alien to my | mother's children.**

<sup>9</sup> Zeal for your house has eat- | en me up;  
**the scorn of those who scorn you has fall- | en upon me.**

<sup>10</sup> I humbled my- | self with fasting,  
**but that was turned to | my reproach.**

<sup>16</sup> Answer me, O LORD, for your | love is kind;  
**in your great compassion, | turn to me.**

<sup>17</sup> Hide not your face | from your servant;  
**be swift and answer me, for I am | in distress.**

<sup>18</sup> Draw near to me | and redeem me;  
**because of my enemies de- | liver me.**

## **Epistle Reading – Romans 6: 1b-11**

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

<sup>1b</sup> Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for

all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Message for the Young at Heart**

### **Passing of the Peace**

### **Special Music**

## **Gospel Announcement – Matthew 10: 24-39**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

### **Acclamation – ELW 151**

**(ALL SING) - Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup> 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!

<sup>26</sup>“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup> What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup> 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.

<sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup> So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup>“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

<sup>35</sup> 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,

<sup>36</sup> and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

<sup>37</sup>“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, <sup>38</sup> and

whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.  
<sup>39</sup> 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.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Message**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Hymn of the Day - This Is My Father's World – ELW 824**

This is my Father's world,  
and to my list'ning ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world;  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world;  
the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world;  
he shines in all that's fair.  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;  
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

This is my Father's world;  
oh, let me not forget  
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world;  
why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;  
God reigns, let earth be glad!

## **Apostles' Creed – ELW 105**

**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.**

*(Assembly may be seated.)*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Response*

(Liturgist) – God of grace,

**(All) – Hear our prayer.**

## **Offering**

### **Offertory - We Are An Offering – W&P 146**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.  
We are an offering.

## **Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Great Thanksgiving – ELW 152**

**(PASTOR)** - The Lord be with you.

**(ALL)** - **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## **Pastor's Preface**

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:

## **Our Response – ELW 153**

**(ALL SING)** - **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,  
heaven 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.**

## **Lord's Prayer – ELW 154**

**(ALL)** - **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.**

## **Words of Institution**

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.

## **Confession Song – Lamb of God – ELW 154**

**(ALL SING) –**

**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**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Sending Song – How Great Thou Art – ELW 856** **(vs. 1, 3, & 4)**

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

### *Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain*

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989.

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*(Assembly may be seated.)*

## **Announcements**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**(ALL) - Thanks be to God.**

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**Fourth Sunday After Pentecost – June 21**

PASTOR	John Russell-Curry
GREETER	Chris Boyenga
READER/ASSISTING MINISTER	Bronwen Maxson
USHERS	Alan Arnold
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Martin Hansen

**This Week**

TODAY	<b>10 AM</b> Worship
FRIDAY	<b>2 PM</b> Knitting Club

***Readings for Sunday, June 28***

Jeremiah 25:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-33; Matthew 10:40-42

***Attendance for last week 31 and via Zoom 7***

**Upcoming Events – Mark your Calendar**

**June 28 Worship Service**  
**July 3 Knitting Club**  
**July 5 Worship Service**

**Prayers for healing:**

David Bettis, Brad Branstad; Gleneda Muralt; Dorothy Woody; Rosie Sullivan; Eric Smith; Gleneda Muralt's niece, Shereida; Nan Dailey; Kimberly Castillo's daughter Jillian and mother-in-law Lupe; Pam Andersen; Pastor John Russell-Curry and his family; Warren Westerberg; Sylvia Poupard; Jeane & David Hetland; Annie Sofranek; David Cherf; and people who are ill around the world.

We lift prayers for our Benevolence of the Month, **Restore Merced** and for our Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop, **Jeff Johnson**.