

Outdoor Worship

June 28, 2026

Opening

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

C: Amen.

P: Praise the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

C: Those who keep the Sabbath and call it a delight shall rejoice in God's kingdom.

P: All who hallow the seventh day shall be gladdened by God's goodness.

C: This day is the festival of the spirit, sanctified and blessed by God, the most precious of days, a symbol of the joy of creation.

Gathering Hymn



Lord pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - a - ry
I will live Lord, as you ask me,
With your Spir - it, Fath-er, fill me;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



pure and ho - ly tried and true - -
find - ing truth in your com - man - -
let me know your pres-ence he - - -
Al - le - lu - ia, A - men. _____



- With thanks - giv - ing I'll be a li - ving
ds 'Gainst all e - vils and temp - ta - tions,
re. I am long - ing for your sal - va - tion.
— Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



sanc - tu - a - ry fo - r you.
as your faith - ful, I will stand.
Come, I want you to be near.
Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you

Dialog & Prayer of the Day

P: For the beauty of the earth, Creator God,

C: We give you thanks.

P: For the rich abundance of the natural order, Lord,

C: We give you thanks.

P: For the many ways that you provide for all creation, Sustainer,

C: We give you thanks.

P: For the material things that enable our survival and provide for our comfort, gracious God,

C: We give you thanks.

P: As we strive first for the Kingdom of God and its righteousness,

C: Teach us to pursue the work of justice.

P: We live in a world that has the resources to satisfy everyone's hunger, if only we will share our food.

C: Teach us to love kindness.

P: We long to live lives characterized by reckless generosity and hospitality.

C: Teach us to walk humbly with you.

P: We commit to sharing all that you have entrusted to us with all people,

C: That in so doing, we might be transformed into more faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

P: Let us pray:

C: With eager ears, willing hearts and open minds we listen for Your word, Lord God. Through the inspiration of Spirit, let it take root, blossom and bear the fruits of wisdom, understanding and action. For the sake of Jesus and a world hungry for your Kingdom, do not leave us barren and wilting. Amen.

And Yahweh, Elohim (that is, "The Lord, God") planted a garden in Eden, to the east; and there the Yahweh, Elohim put the human the Yahweh, Elohim had formed. Out of the ground Yahweh, Elohim made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, and "The Tree of Life" was in the middle of the garden along with "The Tree of Knowledge," that is, the source of discerning Good and Evil. . . . Yahweh, Elohim, took the human the Yahweh, Elohim had made from the dust and breathed the breath of life into, and put him in the garden of Eden to serve and keep watch. Then Yahweh, Elohim, came above the human to say; "From all trees of the garden you will eat, but from "The Tree of Knowledge," that is, the source of discerning Good and Evil, you are not to eat from, for, in that day you will die, yes, you will die. . . ." *After the woman was formed from half of the human as companions to each other, the two of them were naked - the Man and the Women - and they were not ashamed.*

Now the snake was more shrewd than all the living-things of the field that Yahweh, Elohim, had made.

The snake said to the woman, "Even though God said; 'You are not to eat from all the trees of the garden . . .'"

But the woman interrupted the snake, saying, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we do eat. But the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden God said, "You are not to eat from it and you are not to touch it, so that you do not die."

But the snake then said to the woman, "Die? You will not die! God only said this because God knows that on the day that you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." And the woman saw that the tree was good as food and that it was desirable to the eyes and that the tree was desirable for understanding and she took from its fruit and she ate and she also gave to the man with her, and he ate and the eyes of the two opened, and they knew that they were naked and they sewed fig leaves together and made underwear for themselves.

Later, they heard the sound of Yahweh, Elohim walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and the woman hid themselves from the presence of Yahweh, Elohim among the trees of the garden.

But Yahweh, Elohim called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

The man said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid,

because I was naked and so I hid myself."

Yahweh, Elohim said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate."

Then Yahweh, Elohim said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate. . . "

And Yahweh, Elohim made for man and for woman, clothes of animal skins and they wore them.

Then Yahweh, Elohim said, "Now that humans have become like one of us, knowing good and evil, they might reach out their hand and take also from the 'Tree of Life', and eat, and live forever"-- so Yahweh, Elohim sent them out of the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which they were taken.

R: The word of the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm

Psalm 107

*Hear, O my people, while I admonish you;
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!*

**There shall be no strange god among you;
you shall not bow down to a foreign god.**

*I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.*

**"But my people did not listen to my voice;
Israel would not submit to me.**

*So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,
to follow their own counsels.*

**O that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!**

*Then I would quickly subdue their enemies,
and turn my hand against their foes.*

**Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him,
and their doom would last forever.**

*I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."*

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Matthew 13

The Parable of the Weeds of the Field

While Jesus was still on the boat and the crowd was gathered on the beach he told them a second parable. . .

The "Kingdom of the Heavens" can be compared to a farmer who planted good seeds in his field. But then, while everyone on the farm was sleeping, an enemy snuck onto the fields and planted weeds among the wheat and then left without a trace. Weeks later when the wheat came up and the heads of grain were developing, the weeds came up, too.

Baffled by this, the farmworkers went to the owner of the farm and asked, 'Hey Boss, didn't you plant good seed in your field? Then what happened? Where did these weeds come from?' The Farmer replied, 'My enemy has done this.'

So, the farmworkers said to the farmer, 'Ok. Well, do want us to go out into the fields and pull out the weeds?'

The farmer answered, 'Absolutely not! If you try to pull out the weeds you will also pull up the wheat! Instead, we will let both the weeds and the wheat grow until the harvest. Then, at that critical moment I will tell the harvesters, 'Now collect the weeds and bind them into bundles to be burned. Then go and gather the wheat and put it into my barn.'"

Later in the day when the crowds had left the beach Jesus went back into the house where he was staying.

There, his disciples came over and said, "We want you to explain the parable of "The Weeds of the Field" to us."

So Jesus replied, "The farmer who planted the good seed is the Son of Man and the field is the world. The "good seed" are the children of the "Kingdom of the Heavens." The "weeds" are the children of the "Evil One." The enemy who planted them is the devil. The "harvest" is the ingathering at the culmination of this age. The "harvesters" are angels. Therefore, just as the weeds were collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the ingathering at the end of this age: the Son of Man will send out his angels and

they will collect out of his kingdom all those who work against the Gospel and all those who work against God and throw them into the furnace of fire where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Afterward, the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears be listening!

P: The Gospel of the Lord! C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

tune: 825

1. The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.
2. The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
and hope is awakened in place of despair.
3. The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.
4. God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Prayers & Passing of the Peace

Words of Institution

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

It is indeed right and responsible that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. We recall and proclaim that in your great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who came as the Messiah,

reaching out to heal the sick and suffering, preaching good news to the poor, and inviting all to your table through his sacrifice on the cross.

In that night in which he was handed over . . .

P: Lord, 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.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: We rejoice that you use the harvests of the field, the fruit of the vineyard and the fellowship of the table to fulfill your promise of an abiding presence in our lives. As we leave this sacred time lead us out to faithful lives that manifest that presence through all that we say and do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Benediction

Final Hymn

Lord Let My Heart

512





Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Dismissal A: Go in peace, serve the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!



Sunday, June 28

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Outdoor worship

11:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, July 1

9:00 a.m. Piccemakers Quilting Club

Sunday, July 5 250th Independence Commemoration & Worship

Name Tag Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Outdoor worship

11:00 a.m. Worship

Grace Lutheran Church

Christopher Chantelau, *Pastor* • Becki Advocate, *Music Director*

Kristen Halderman, *Parish Administrator* • Samantha Calamera, *Sexton*

Doug Jenkins, *Dig. Ministry* • Rev. Dr. Timothy Kennedy, *Pastor Emeritus*

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