

4th Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2026



First Lutheran Church
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UNITED by Christ, God calls us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING REFLECTION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

Let the Whole Creation Cry ELW #876
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)
One License #97168

GREETING

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.

KYRIE (spoken)

ELW page 138

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Holy God, We Praise Your Name ELW #414
(Vs. 4)
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

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.

⁷ 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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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."

¹¹ 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.

¹² 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.

¹³ 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!

PSALM—Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

⁸ **I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰ **I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

[¹¹ I put on sackcloth also,
and became a byword among them.

¹² **Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD:
“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴ **Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up;
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.]

¹⁶ **Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

**¹⁸ Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

SECOND 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.

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

⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ 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—*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

ELW page 172

The Holy Gospel according to the tenth chapter of Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL—Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ 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!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ 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. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

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

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

³⁵ 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,

³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “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, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ 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

MESSAGE

Rev. Sam Mailleue

HYMN OF THE DAY

***How Firm a Foundation* ELW #796**

(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)

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APOSTLES' CREED

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

THE PRAYERS

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 especially those on our prayer list and in our hearts.

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.

OFFERING

Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY HYMN

We Come to the Hungry Feast ELW #479

(Vs. 1)

One License #85920

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW page 144

The Lord be with you.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy, holy, holy **ELW page 144**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

Lamb of God **ELW page 146**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

SENDING

The God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

If You But Trust in God to Guide You ELW #769
(Vs. 1 & 2)

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DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

*Whether you are looking for a place of worship
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.*



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Sharefaith—Membership

Expires 6/2026

Church ArtPro—Account #74057560

Expires 12/15/2027

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

June Ministry Focus: Inclusivity Awareness

In the life and ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are reminded that God's love is wide enough to embrace every person and every story. As followers of Christ, we are called to build communities rooted in grace, compassion, justice, and welcome. In a world that can often feel divided, the church is invited to be a place where all people are seen, valued, and loved as children of God. Together, we continue the work of listening deeply, serving faithfully, and walking alongside one another with humility and hope.

Our congregation is strongest when we reflect the love of Jesus in both word and action — opening our hearts to neighbors near and far, caring for creation, seeking peace, and honoring the dignity of every person. The Spirit continues to guide us into deeper understanding, greater kindness, and renewed purpose as we live out Christ's call to love one another. May we be a community where grace overcomes fear, where differences are met with curiosity and respect, and where all people can find belonging in God's abundant love.

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH

THE SECOND ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Worship, donuts and coffee, games, visiting, indoor picnic lunch

Back by popular demand the First Lutheran Baking Contest

Four categories:

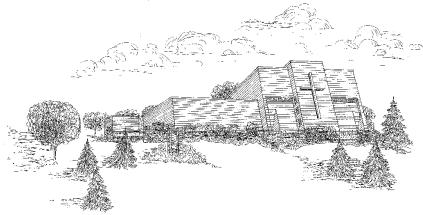
Cookies and bars

Cakes

Pies

Other desserts

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Amount Needed
6-14-26	\$15,447	\$4,523
YTD	\$122,393	\$113,073



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, June 21	9:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion
Tuesday, June 23	9a-12p	First Quilting
Wednesday, June 24	9:00a	Staff Meeting
Sunday, June 28	9:00a 10:00a	Worship Church Picnic

Worship Assistants

June 21, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Ezra Carlen
Reader:	Ian Mailleue
Usher:	LeRoy May
Greeters:	Reasoners
Communion Assts:	John Miller Joan May
Council Member:	Vic Pengilly
Fellowship:	Social Ministry Team
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Bob Patrias Joanne Graff
Altar Guild:	Bonnie Keech

June 28, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Everett Greisen
Children's Message:	Diana DeClemente
Reader:	Rachel Wagner
Usher:	Vic Pengilly
Greeters:	Edrie Barton Rachel Wagner
Council Member:	Andrew Montag
Fellowship:	PICNIC
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Bob Bartle Joan May
Altar Guild:	Bonnie Keech