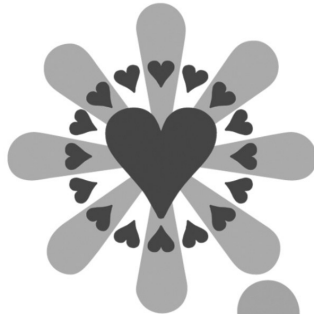


8th Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026



...we are
children of
God...



heirs of
God



and joint
heirs with
Christ...

ROMANS 8:17, NRSV

First Lutheran Church
116 Inner Drive
Le Sueur, MN 56058
507-665-2615

Rev. Samuel Mailleue
office@firstlutheranlesueur.org
www.firstlutheranlesueur.org

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP WITH SonRise

9:00 am

GATHERING MUSIC

"Wayfaring Stranger"

SonRise
Public Domain

(Congregation join in as you feel comfortable.)

Verse 1

I am a poor wayfarin' stranger
while travelin' through this world below.
There is no sickness, toil, no danger
in that bright world to which I go.

Chorus 1

I'm goin' there to see my Father;
I'm goin' there no more to roam. *(cut off)*
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan;
I'm just a-goin' over home.

Verse 2

I know dark clouds will gather o'er me,
I know my path is rough and steep.
But golden fields lie out before me,
where weary eyes no more shall weep.

Chorus 1

Instrumental (1 verse)

Chorus 1

Verse 3

I'll soon be free from every trial,
this form will rest beneath the sod.
I'll drop the cross of self-denial,
and enter in my home with God.

Chorus 2:

I'm goin' there to see my Savior,
who shed for me his precious blood. (*cut off*)
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan;
I'm just a-goin' over home.

Instrumental (1 verse)

Chorus 1:

I'm goin' there to see my Father;
I'm goin' there no more to roam. (*cut off*)
I'm just a-goin' over Jordan;
I'm just a-goin' over home.

Solo Line:

I'm just a-go - in'
Goin' over home.....

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK, *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*

Melissa Hudson

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: To know the warmth of love,

C: To have the assurance that someone cares,

L: To be confident of our worth,

C: To be bold to love in return,

L: To be washed over with grace,

C: To be accepted as we are:

L: This is to know a bit of God!

ALL: Then let us worship our God!

OPENING SONG

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone"

(Chris Tomlin)

One License #241958

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbid to shine
But, God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine**

GREETING

L: 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.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING—Isaiah 44:6-8

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the LORD does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE READING— Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil ELW #512

One License #58290 & #54797

**Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your Word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is
understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.....
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil. (repeat)**

***GOSPEL**

L:The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the

field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SPECIAL MUSIC (CD) "Are You Thistle or Wheat?" Pr. Nancy Dreier

© Nancy Dreier. Used with permission

(Follow along with the lyrics as they are sung.)

*Chorus: Are you thistle or wheat? Are you thistle or wheat?
 Do you let temptation be your guide in life,
 Or do you choose to follow His command?
Are you thistle or wheat? Are you thistle or wheat?
 When the angels come to reap the harvest,
 Will you burn, or will you live in holy land?*

*1. The field is the world around you; God's Word the seed.
 Evil surrounds you.....like a choking weed.
 Sin is the thistle, love is the wheat.
Where are you in the struggle? Do you dare compete? (Chorus)*

*2. The wheat is the choice selection.....sown by Christ's hand,
 To stay deeply rooted.....in the fertile land.
 Beware the thistle, its deadly sting;
 Death and destruction.....it can only bring.*

*Chorus: Are you thistle or wheat? Are you thistle or wheat?
 Do you let temptation be your guide in life,
 Or do you choose to follow His command?
Are you thistle or wheat? Are you thistle or wheat?
 When the angels come to reap the harvest,
 Will you burn, or will you live in holy land?
 Thistle.....or wheat.....?*

MESSAGE

Pastor Nancy Dreier

SERMON SONG

"We Are Called"

One License #00174

Verse 1

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called..... to be light for the kingdom,
To live in the freedom of the city of God.

Chorus

We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another.....to walk humbly with God.

Verse 2

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called..... to be hope for the hopeless,
So hatred and blindness will be no more. (*chorus*)

Verse 3

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing...of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign.....and we'll walk with each other,
As sisters and brothers united in love. (*chorus*)

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

PRAYERS

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 source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us.

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

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see.

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

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all.

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

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. We pray especially for those on our prayer list and in our hearts.

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

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters.

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

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence.

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

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.

SHARING THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION SONG

"The Angels and God Danced"

Mark Friday

© Myron Sandstrum. Used with permission

COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

Amen

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace – in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

CLOSING SONG

When The Saints Go Marching In

(Public Domain)

Verse 1

Oh, when the saints go marching in;
Oh, when the saints go marching in;
O Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the saints go marching in.

Verse 2

Oh, when the sun begins to shine;
Oh, when the sun begins to shine;
O Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the sun begins to shine. *(key change)*

Verse 3

Oh, when the trumpet sounds a call;
Oh, when the trumpet sounds a call;
O Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the trumpet sounds a call.

Verse 4

Oh, when the new world is revealed;
Oh, new world is revealed;
O Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the new world is revealed.

Verse 5

Oh, when the saints go marching in;
Oh, when the saints go marching in;
O Lord, I want to be in that number,
when the saints go marching in.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

*Thank you for attending today's service.
Hopefully it was a meaningful worship experience!*

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.



Acknowledgements:

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103321—5/31/2027

One License—#A-716694—2/12/2027

Annual License with Podcast/Streaming

All rights reserved

CCLI—ccli.com

Copyright License #2540397—Expires 6/30/2027

Streaming License #20643840—Expires 6/30/2027

Songselect Advanced—Expires 6/30/2027

Shift Worship—Membership

Expires 12/25/2026

Sharefaith—Membership

Expires 6/2027

Church ArtPro—Account #74057560

Expires 12/15/2026

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

July Ministry Focus: Mindfulness

In the busyness of daily life, it can be easy to move from one task to the next without noticing what is happening within us. Mindfulness invites us to slow down, pay attention, and become aware of God's presence in the midst of ordinary moments. Rooted in faith, mindfulness is not about emptying our minds, but about creating space to notice our thoughts, emotions, bodies, and surroundings with curiosity and grace. The following weekly pauses offer simple practices to help you reconnect with yourself, your neighbors, and the God who walks with you through every season.

Week 1—Pause of the Week: Move Your Body

Week 2—Pause of the Week: Follow the Monkey

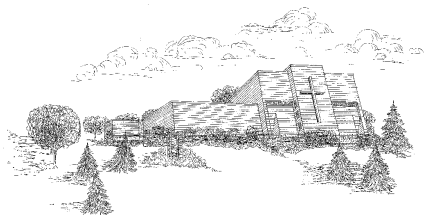
Week 3—Pause of the Week: Be Grateful in the Midst of Chaos

Week 4—Pause of the Week: Learn Your Emotion

Thank you to Pr. Nancy Dreier and the SonRise Band for being with us this morning. SonRise Band members: Clyde Thompson-bass; Mark Friday-guitar and vocals; Mike Thompson-guitar and vocals; Pastor Nancy Dreier-guitar and vocals.

Giant Days Parade walking volunteers are needed. Please contact Megan Schwarz or Melissa Hudson.

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Amount Needed
7-12-26	\$1,355	\$4,523
YTD	\$130,078	\$131,165



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, July 19	9:00a	Contemporary Worship w/Communion
Monday, July 20	6:00p	Church Council August Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, July 21	10:00a 10:15a	Coffee/Mary Unit Bible Study/Mary Unit
Wednesday, July 22	9:00a	Staff Meeting
Sunday, July 26	9:00a	Worship

Worship Assistants

July 19, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Vance Vanden Einde
Reader:	Bonnie Keech
Usher:	John Miller
Greeters:	Bonnie Keech
Council Member:	Joan May
Communion Asst.:	Bonnie Keech
	Sue Michaelis
Fellowship:	Jim & Edrie Barton
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Bob Patrias
	Dave Johnson
Altar Guild:	Rachel Wagner
	Edrie Barton

July 26, 2025

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Emmalee Flores
Reader:	Alison Montag
Usher:	LeRoy May
Greeters:	Stefanie Eischens
Council Member:	
Fellowship:	
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	John Miller
	Joan May
Altar Guild:	Rachel Wagner
	Edrie Barton