

# Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026

**Welcome!**

We delight in having guests and are glad that you have joined us today.

## First Lutheran Church

6 Eddy Street  
Waltham, MA 02453-7753  
781-893-6563

firstlutheranwaltham.org

Follow us on Facebook at  
First Lutheran Church - Waltham, MA

The Rev. Thomas E. Maehl, Pastor  
tmaehl@rcn.com

Ms. Cynthia Niiler,  
Director of Music & Parish Secretary  
firstlutheranwalthamoffice@gmail.com

Vicar Trevor Boe, Intern  
firstlutheranwalthamvicar@gmail.com

## Today's Worship Participants

### Pastor

Tom Maehl

### Vicar

Trevor Boe

### Musician

Cynthia Niiler

### Assistant Minister

Rachel Nederhoff-Rivera

### Acolyte

Penelope Codner

### Lector

Catherine Sukow

### Ushers

Leslie Waters

Signe Johns

### A/V

Steve Hoff

### Altar Care

Dee Speer

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

*The congregation is invited to stand*

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.  
**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

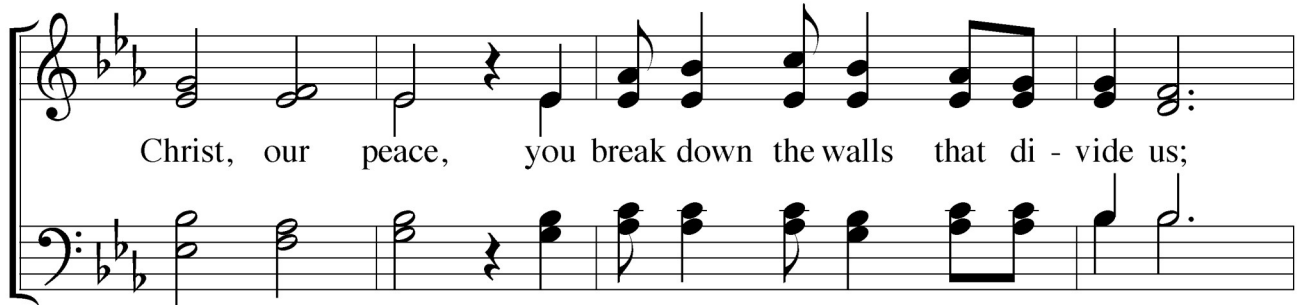
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: "Christ our Peace"**



Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;



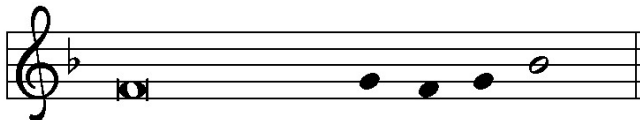
Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod - y in you.

**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.**

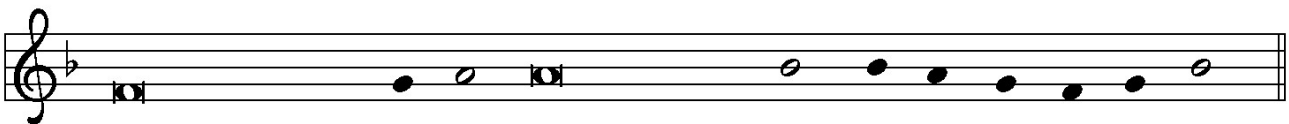
**Kyrie**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



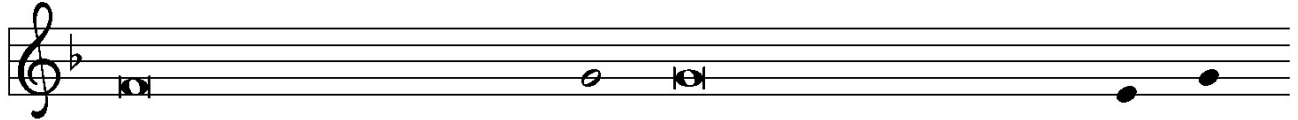
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



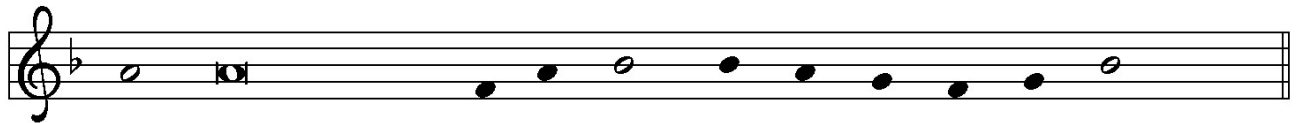
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



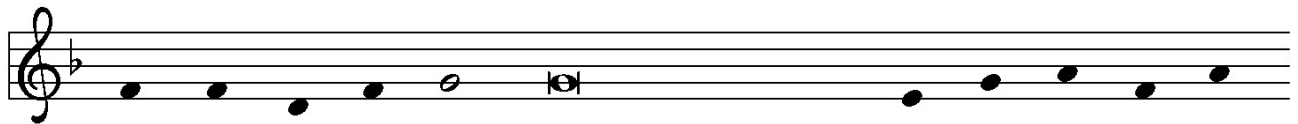
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



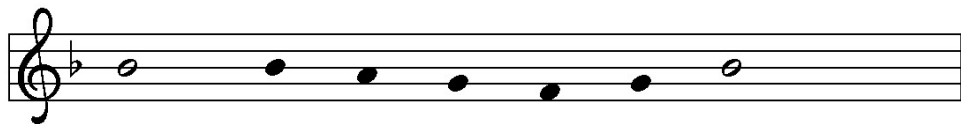
God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



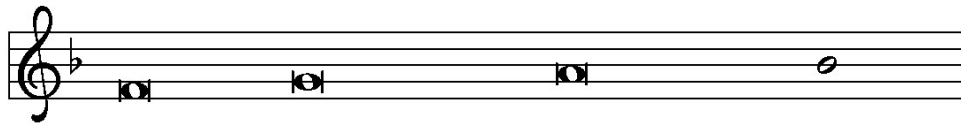
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

# Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*



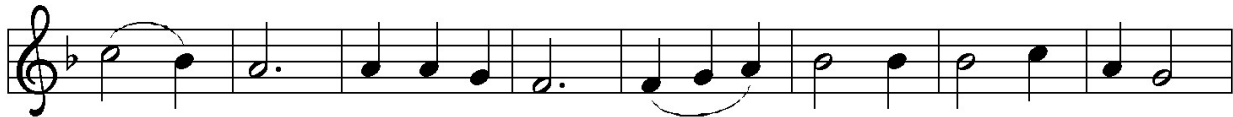
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

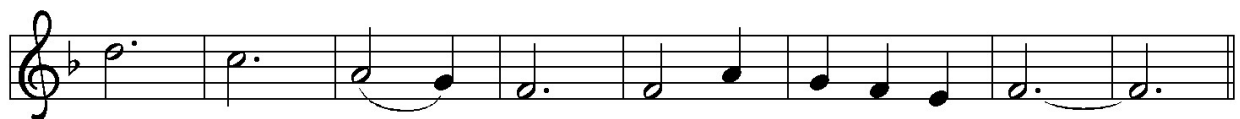
*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

*Final refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



A - men, a - men.

## The Prayer of the Day

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.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

*The congregation is seated*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Second Reading:** Romans 6:1b-11

<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.

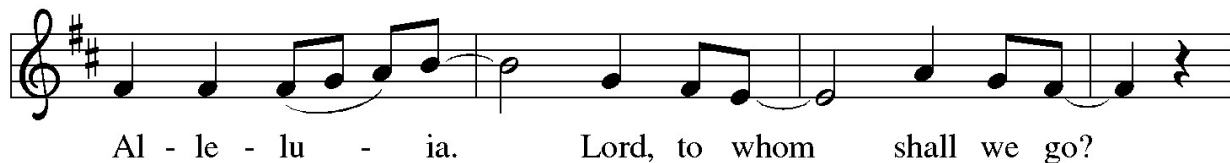
<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For whoever 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.**

*The congregation is invited to stand*

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord**

[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.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is seated*

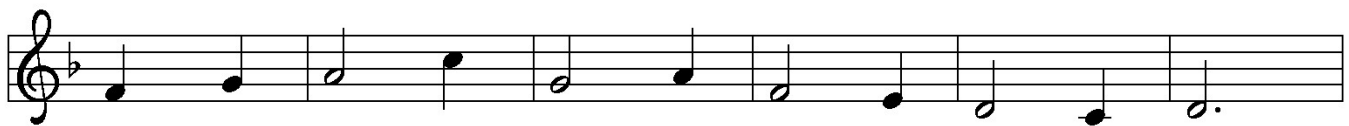
**Children’s Sermon**

**Sermon**

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

*The congregation is invited to stand*

**Hymn of the Day: “Will You Come and Follow Me”**



1	“Will	you	come	and	fol -	low	me	if	I	but	call
2	“Will	you	leave	your -	self	be -	hind	if	I	but	call
3	“Will	you	let	the	blind -	ed	see	if	I	but	call
4	“Will	you	love	the	you	you	hide	if	I	but	call
5	Lord,	your	sum -	mons	ech -	oes	true	when	you	but	call



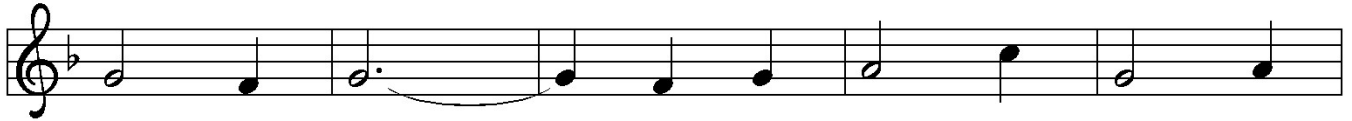
your	name?	Will	you	go	where	you	don't
your	name?	Will	you	care	for	cruel	and
your	name?	Will	you	set	the	pris -	'ners
your	name?	Will	you	quell	the	fear	in -
my	name.	Let	me	turn	and	fol -	low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

## Prayer List

**Members of our First Lutheran Community:** Glow, Bethany, and Roland Adams; Joyce Anderson; Jen Biter; Ardeith Froeberg; June Jahrling; Erika Jerram; Lovequist/Shread family; Kathryn McCowan; Don & Britta McNemar; Kerry Meaney; Cynthia Niiler; Joan Niiler, Stacey Reed; Karson Sprague; Flavio Valjejos; Valarie Waters.

**Friends and Family:** Clinton Braganza; Rhona Chen; Emily Dallman; Evan DaRos; Sheila Dumbrowik; Wendy Fournier; Lisa Fugger; Jay Higham; Josh Kalisa; Sylvia & Chris Lee-Thompson; Nathan Maehl; Pappas family; Roland Pesch; Rachel and sons; Lynn Reihart; Bill Sanderson; Brian Schmitz; Roger & Margie Schroeder; JoAnn Shade; Fay Sieving; Betsy Smith; Lynn Smith; Wilson Viertel; Chip Weinkauf; Jim Wroe; Marlys Yu.

**For those who grieve:** the family and friends of: Kit Kresge (uncle of Peter Pinch) and Tim Halle (friend of Peter Pinch)

**For our partners:** Santuario Luterano, the Spanish speaking Lutheran congregation in Waltham. For other organizations we actively support: the Waltham Family School, the Waltham Community Day Center, Chaplains on the Way, WATCH, Camp Calumet, and ELCA World Hunger.

## 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 of Intercession:

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

## The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The congregation is seated*

## Offering is Gathered

## Musical Offering



### Another way to collect the morning offering.

Our church provides both spiritual, physical and emotional nourishment for all who attend in person and online. **We invite you to consider donating** to support the mission of our church, as we work to support programs in the church, in the community, and for the online community.

You can make your morning offering through credit card by scanning the code to the right.

*The congregation is invited to stand*

### Congregational Offertory



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.



You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

### Offering 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.**

### About Communion

We believe that Jesus Christ is present in the bread and wine we share and therefore he is the host of the meal. *In his name, we welcome all who desire to commune.*

- An usher will direct you to come forward, and you may either kneel or stand at the altar rail.
- *Bread*: The pastor will place bread in your hands, which you may then consume. We have *gluten free bread available*; indicate to the pastor/vicar if that is your preference.
- *Wine/Juice*: the assistant will then offer a tray of individual glasses (juice in the center ring). The acolyte will follow with a tray for empty glasses. Also, you may skip the wine altogether trusting that Christ is fully present in the bread.
- Children and adults who do not yet commune are welcome to come to the altar for a blessing.
- If walking is difficult for you, please inform an usher, then stay in your pew and the pastor will come to you.

## SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

*The congregation is invited to stand*

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

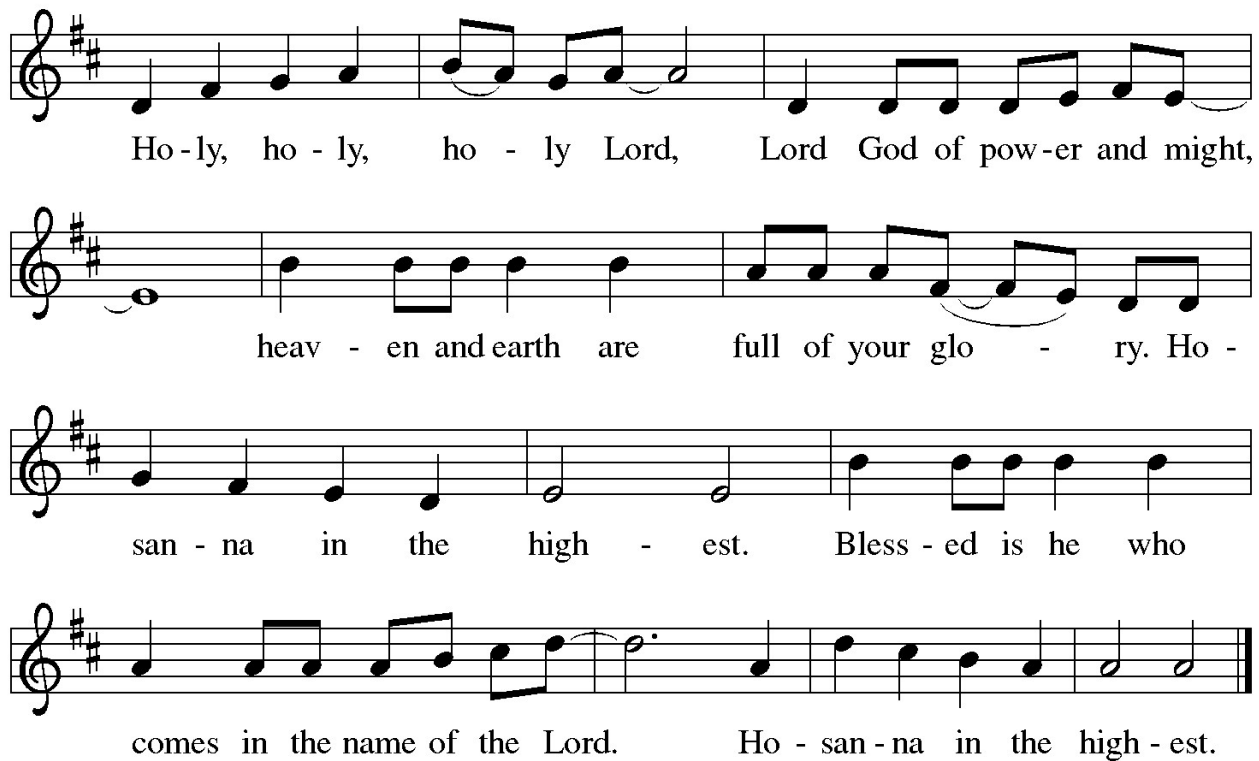
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer

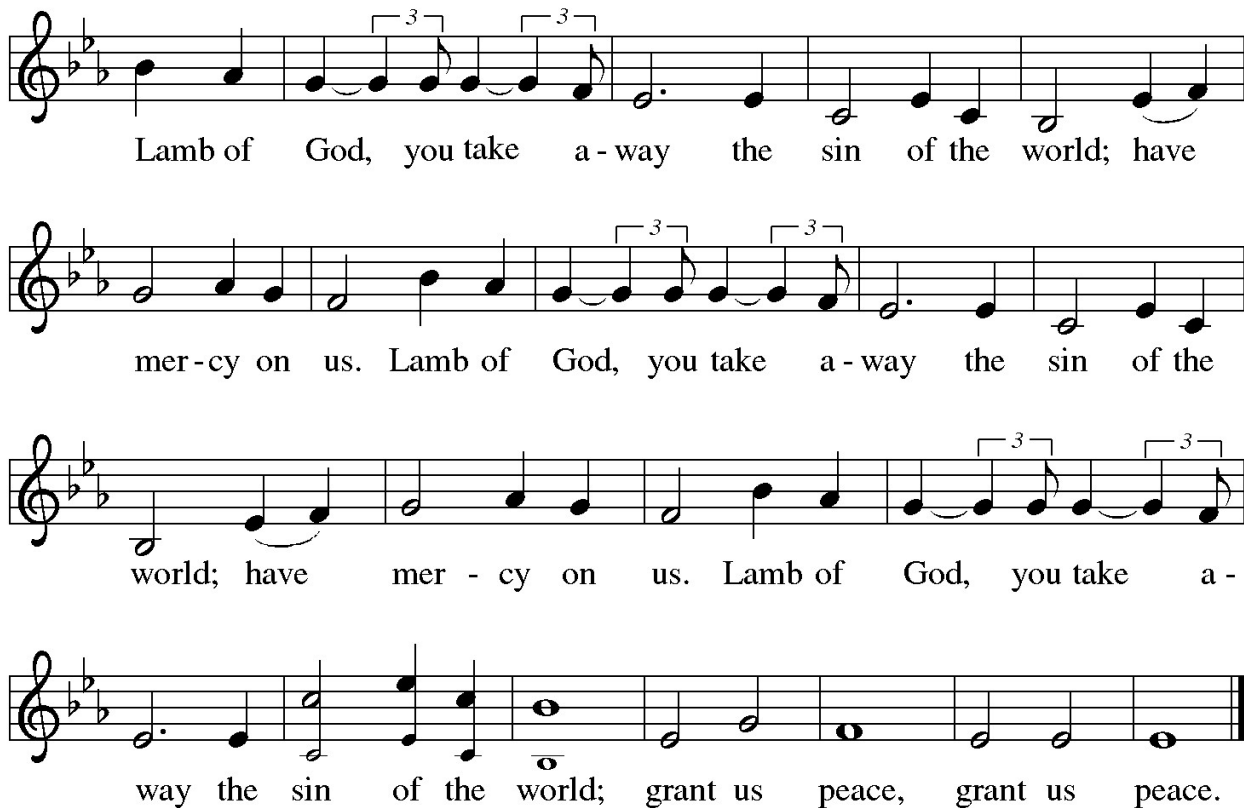
## Lord's Prayer

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

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to God.

*The congregation is seated*

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Distribution of Communion

Communion Hymns:

"They Holy Wings"



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,  
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast  
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

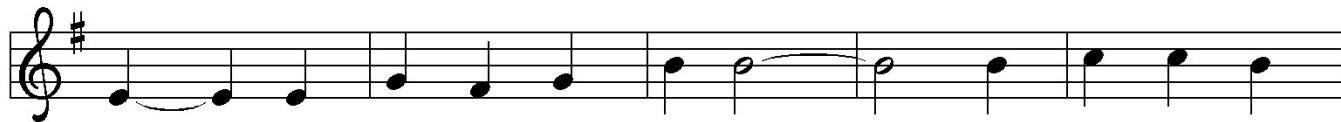


and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.  
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

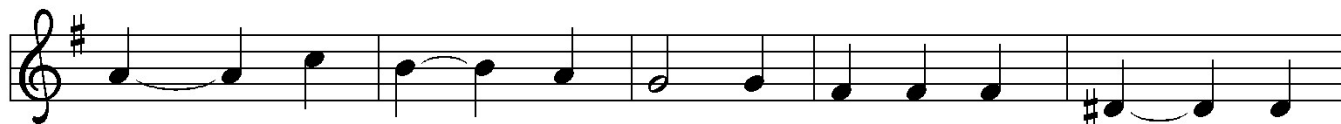
“The Peace of the Lord”



1 *La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la*  
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the  
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the  
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



*paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -*  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the  
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



*ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -*  
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's  
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -  
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



*rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya*  
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for  
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right  
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



*mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.*  
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.  
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.  
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

2 *La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,  
 la paz del Resucitado:  
 se hace presente ahora y aquí  
 apréstate a recibirla;  
 se hace presente ahora y aquí  
 apréstate a recibirla.*

3 *La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,  
 la paz del Resucitado:  
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,  
 apréstate a compartirla;  
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,  
 apréstate a compartirla.*

*The congregation is invited to stand*

### Post-Communion 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.**

### SENDING

### Benediction

**Sending Hymn: "Here On Jesus Christ I Will Stand"**

*Refrain*

*Kwa - ke*    *Ye - su na - si - ma - ma,*    *ndi - ye*  
Here on    Je - sus Christ I will stand.    He's the

*mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma.*    *Ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la -*  
sol - id rock of my life.    He's the sol - id rock of my

*ma,*    *ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma.*  
life.    He's the sol - id rock of my life.

1 There's no oth - er place I can hide till the  
 2 It is not the work of my hands that has  
 3 When my days on this earth are done, and I

storm that rag - es sub - sides. My voice cries to God from the  
 washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all of my  
 stand at God's ho - ly throne, my heart will not have an - y

*Refrain*

flood, and I'm saved be - cause of his blood.  
 days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.  
 fear; in Christ's righ - teous - ness I am here.

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

## Announcements

**WFCF Farm shares—Pick up help needed!** This summer Waltham Fields Community Farm is generously donating produce for our Blessing Box. We need YOUR help picking up our shares and bringing them to church. *Picks ups are between 4:30-6:00 PM on Tuesdays at the Mobile Outreach Market located at First Parish in Waltham starting July 14.* If you can help, can sign up online at [signup.com/group/94306712045](https://signup.com/group/94306712045) or with the link in our weekly email

**Lawn Care help needed:** Can you help mow the church lawn this summer? Sign up in the Pearson Room. We provide the lawn mower and gas, and someone from the Property Team would be happy to show you what is needed. All help is welcome—just once—or repeatedly through the summer!

**Art Kit Donations:** We will again be assembling art kits to share with The Waltham Family School. Each kit costs about \$30. *Through July 5, we welcome contributions of cash (marked "Art Kits") or any of the items listed below* which may be placed in the marked box in the Pearson Room.

- White Glue -- individual 4 oz. bottles
- Colored pencils (set of 8)
- Extra paint brushes for watercolors
- Children's scissors -- **blunt** tips
- Watercolor sets--sets of 8 colors
- Pencil sharpeners
- Colored tissue paper (for crafts)

**Coffee Hosts Needed!** Can you help foster community by hosting coffee? Sign up in the Pearson Room or by using the link in the This Week email. First time hosting? We're happy to provide instruction.

**Can you help take care of our Blessing Box?** We could use help checking the sidewalk box—refilling it with items from the Pearson Room and occasionally emptying out some items. You can find a sign up in our This Week email. Thank you!

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“We Come Now to Your Table, Lord”

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop

Music: St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932-2013

Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

“Christ, Our Peace”

Text and music: Marty Haugen © 2007 GIA Publications, Inc.

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications Inc., agent

Music: Scottish traditional

“Thy Holy Wings”

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1,3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st 2; tr. composite

Music: Swedish folk tune

Text: © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selag Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

“The Peace of the Lord”

Text: Anders Ruuth; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923

Music: Anders Ruuth

Spanish text and tune © Anders Ruuth, admin. Augsburg Fortress, English text © Lutheran World Federation

“Here On Jesus Christ Will I Stand”

Text: Kenyan hymn; adapt. Greg Scheer, b. 1966

Music: Kenyan melody; adapt. Greg Scheer

Text © 2007 East African Annual Conference, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik

English adapt. and arr. © 2007 Greg Scheer, admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik



### **First Lutheran's Welcome Statement:**

*Walking together in God's love, we rejoice in the diversity of God's wonderfully made children. We celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and non-binary people and all members of our human family regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, ethnicity, age, marital status, physical and mental ability, faith history, economic status, education, family configuration, or immigration status. We renounce the sin of racism and all forms of discrimination. We welcome all to join us in worship, leadership, participation in rites and sacraments of the church, and fellowship on our journey of nurturing faith, doing justice, and serving all.*