



June 7, 2026

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

- ♪ Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin. However great our trespass,
Whatever we have been, However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- ♪ Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in Shall find a Father’s welcome
And pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.
- ♪ Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits; His blessed angels gather
Around the heav’nly gates. No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.
- ♪ O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door, What should we do without You
When heart and eye run o’er? When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 915–Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.; Text: Public domain

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In the last chapter of Mark, our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

Yes, I believe.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

Yes, I believe.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

Yes, I believe.

Confession and Absolution

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“The Strife Is O'er”

~Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

♪ The strife is o'er, the battle done; Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

♪ The pow'rs of death have done their worst, But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

♪ The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

♪ He broke the age-bound chains of hell; The bars from heav'ns high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!

♪ Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

~Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 464—Text: *Symphonia Sirenium Selectarum*, 1695, Köln;
tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt.; Text: Public domain

Old Testament Reading

Hosea 5:15–6:6

¹⁵ I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

¹“Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;

I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Romans 4:13–25

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

♪ My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

♪ May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

♪ While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

♪ When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 702—Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87; Text: Public domain

The Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Matthew 9:9–13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹²But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

♪ Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I?

♪ Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!

♪ Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died For His own creatures' sin.

♪ Thus might I hide my blushing face While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt mine eyes to tears.

♪ But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 437 -Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748; Public domain

Proclamation of the Word

“God's Killing Word”

Hosea 5:15–6:6

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Let us give thanks to Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Psalm 136

Admonition

I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to His Testament in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which He presents to us His body and blood for our forgiveness; that you take note of and give thanks for the boundless love that he showed us when he saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and the wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own words administer and receive the Testament.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Our Lord

The Peace of the Lord

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Distribution Hymns *Please Be Seated*

“Draw Near and Take”

♪ Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

♪ He who His saints in this world rules and shields, To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole, Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

♪ Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 637-Text: Latin, 7th cent, tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva 1551; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

♪ Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

♪ Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee, Swift and beautiful for Thee.

- ♪ Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King; Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.
- ♪ Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold; Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose, Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
- ♪ Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.
- ♪ Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 784—Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79; Text: Public domain

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

- ♪ Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.
- ♪ All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.
- ♪ Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountain-head of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 803 -Text: Henry Van Dyke 1852-1933; Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven 1770-1827;
adapt: Edward Hodges 1796-1867; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Postlude