



JUNE 7, 2026 | 9:00 AM | SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON
LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU'RE WELCOME HERE!

Technical Directors: Jody Meyer, Corey Dornbrack
Organist: Darlene Johnson
Music Director: Tiffany Bucheger
Faith Formation Director: Kari Weiland

Sunday School is on break for the summer. Children are welcome and valued in worship with all of us.

To encourage children to participate in worship, please use the bookmarks available to mark the pages for today's hymns. Go through the bulletin with your children and circle the things in which they might be interested (Children's time, hymns, helping with the offering). Mark the bulletin with symbols for when it is time to be quiet and listen, join in the hymn, read a prayer aloud, etc.

Busy Bags are available in the church entryway. Quite often, children can absorb what is going on in church if their hands are occupied and their minds do not have to focus so much on "behaving." It takes a great deal of energy and concentration for a child to stay quiet and still. Please use the busy bags to occupy their hands so they are free to listen. Nudge them when it is time for a hymn and ask them to sing along with you. Encourage them to come forward for the *Time for All Ages* and to participate in other ways during the service.

POINTS TO PONDER PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Clarence Jordan, 20th century

"The proof of Easter is not a rolled-away stone but a carried-away church."

*** Invites those comfortably able to do so to stand.**

Quick and Easy Electronic Giving!!

To give an offering to the church, text **"SAINTSTEPHENS"** to **73256** to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply. **OR Scan the QR Code** to be connected to our website.



SOMETHING TO INSPIRE

WELCOME

PRELUDE

* 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.

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful.

Kindle us with the fire of your love.

* CELEBRATION HYMN *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"* #25

PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

LESSON FROM THE TORAH

Genesis 12:1-9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

RESPONSE

Psalms 33: 1-12

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Praise befits the upright.

²Praise the Lord with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

³**Sing to God a new song;
Let the string players lead us joyfully,
and we will respond with loud shouts.**

⁴ For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.
⁵ He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.
**Sing to God a new song;
Let the string players lead us joyfully,
and we will respond with loud shouts.**

⁶ By the word of the Lord the heavens were made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
⁷ He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.
**Sing to God a new song;
Let the string players lead us joyfully,
and we will respond with loud shouts.**

⁸ Let all the earth fear the Lord;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him,
⁹ for he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.
**Sing to God a new song;
Let the string players lead us joyfully,
and we will respond with loud shouts.**

¹⁰ The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
¹¹ The counsel of the Lord stands forever,
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
¹² **Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.**

A LESSON FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

Romans 4:13-25

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as 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. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced

that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³ Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This ends the readings. May the Spirit open our hearts to hear these words and live ever more faithfully.

THE GOOD NEWS

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

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

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” ¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹ for she was saying to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” ²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that moment. ²³ When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴ he said, “Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶ And the report of this spread through all of that district.

This is the good news. In this truth we find eternal life.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

ORDER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION

QUESTIONS FOR THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Brooklyn as she lives and grows in Christ?

We promise our love, support, and care.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

ACT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION HYMN *"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"* #75

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES, CANDLE & SHELL

BENEDICTION

MISSION FOCUS Merrill Summer Lunch Program

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

* PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS *"Take My Gifts"* #381

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1988
Music: Colin Gibson, 1988
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***Take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter,
Gave me life and set me free.
Now, because your love has touched me,
I have love to give away;
Now the bread of love is rising,
Loaves of love to multiply!***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, we offer our gifts as an act of extravagant faith.
Bless this offering, that it might be a witness
to your love for us and the healing you promise.
May this act of sharing embolden us to show great generosity
throughout the coming week.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

* INVITATION

* DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give God our thanks and praise.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

INTERCESSORY AND COMMUNION 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

CONSECRATION

PREPARING THE SERVERS

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

(Please come forward and commune. The outer rings of the cup tray contain red wine; inner rings contain white grape juice. Please place used cups in the bowls provided. Gluten free wafers are available.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bread of life, cup of blessing. Renewal, grace, strength.

We give you thanks for this blessed sacrament, O Lord.

**With all your disciples, we go forth, nourished and blessed,
to serve you as you have so graciously served us.**

Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN

"We Are Called"

See Pg 9

* BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

God has spoken. Now let our living reflect that Word.

We go forth to be God's people in the world.

Wherever God's Word takes you,

"The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

May the God of Hope Go with Us

Dios de la esperanza



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fe - les a ti, Se - ñor.
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Words: Alvin Schutmaat, 1921-1988, alt.

Music: Argentine folk melody

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POSTLUDE

We are called

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1 Come! Live in the light!
 2 Come! O - pen your heart!
 3 Sing! Sing a new song!



Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are
 Show your . . . mer - cy to all those in fear! We are
 Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will



called to be light for the king - dom, to
 called to be hope for the hope - less so all
 reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
 sis - ters and broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.



Refrain
 We are called to act with jus-tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Text: David Haas
 Music: David Haas
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THANK YOU!

Musicians today are Darlene Johnson and Tiffany Bucheger.

Livestream is sponsored in memory of parents Arthur & Ramona Burrows from Mike & Penny Hommerding.

Technical Directors: Jody Meyer, Corey Dornbrack

We joyfully celebrate the baptism of Brooklyn Reinhardt as she begins her Christian journey among us. On this special day and always may God look down on you, cherish you and keep you safely in his care, Brooklyn! Blessings to you!



****Reminder: The church office will be closed June 18 and June 19 due to staff being on the mission trip.**

Adult Night Out is Back for Summer!

Join us on Wednesday, June 10 @ 6 PM, for dinner at Charlie's Texas Smokehouse Bar and Grill in Wausau.

The cost of the meal will be at your own expense. If you're interested in attending, please call the church office as numbers need to be in by tomorrow.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Reminder: Only in-person service next week, June 14, is at Hillview Barn at 10 AM with potluck to follow. No one will be here at Saint Stephens. This will be a refreshing change! Please join us!



TAKING THE LESSONS HOME

Abram and Sarai are starting out on a wondrous adventure in today's Genesis reading. They will encounter many challenges on their journey. The journey will be so rewarding, however, they will end up with new names by the end of it.

Talk with your children about what they would pack on a long journey. What sort of directions would they want? Would they even go on a trip if they didn't know where they would end up.

Years ago, we plotted out family trips on a road map, sometimes more than one map. Today, we let an app tell us how to get places. Would you go on a trip where the app decided the destination?

Talk about how much faith Abram and Sarai must have had to go on such a journey.

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