

July 4-5, 2026  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

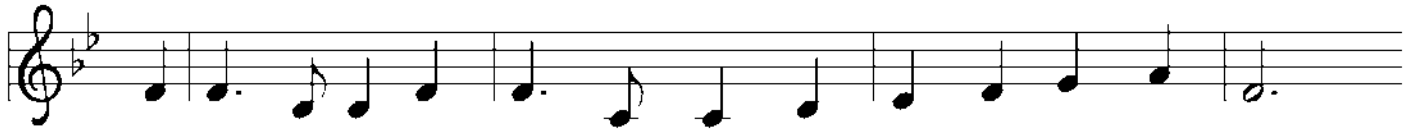
5p/9a Worship Service



**First Lutheran**

discover more : **together**

## O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,  
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,  
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:  
who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:  
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.  
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929

Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903

(9a) Prelude: “Patriotic Rhapsody” - Arr. Charles Callahan  
Organ Duet

**Welcome**

*Stand*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, source of hope in every nation,  
rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us bring every burden to God.

*(brief silence)* God of all mercy,

**All: we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation.**

**Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good  
is at war with the evil that dwells in us.**

**We lament the evil that holds us captive.**

**We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion  
and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of  
Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit’s power strengthen you in doing what is good.

**All: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn:** *ELW* #888 “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

**Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

“This is The Feast” ... pg. 149 → →

*Refrain*



A: This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C: Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*Sit*

## **Intro to the Reading:**

L: Jesus offers a freedom in the Gospel, a freedom to find purpose and meaning in his call. Finding freedom in Christ results in the peace and rest that comes from God's grace. The first reading is from Romans, chapter 7.

## **First Reading:** Romans 7:15-25a *NRSVue*

L: <sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

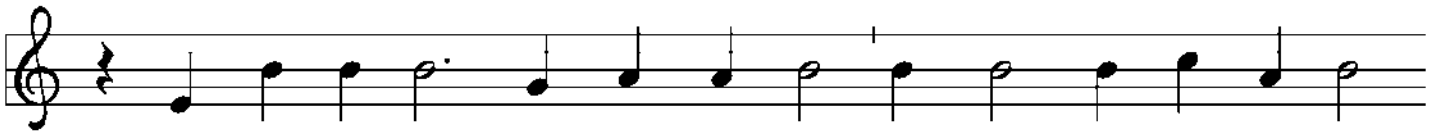
L: The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889

Music: THIRD MODE MELODY, Thomas Tallis. 1505–1585

Gospel Acclamation pg. 151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Gospel according St. Matthew, the tenth chapter...

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Gospel:** Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 *NRSVue*

P: [Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>“To what will I compare this generation?

It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup> ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup>“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup> the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’

Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

<sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon ...** Pr. Steve Knudson

*Stand*

**Hymn of the Day:** *ELW* #332

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

*Continued* →



*Lector: Go to the Ambo for the Prayers*

**The Apostles' Creed...Page 105**

**All: 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 →***

***P: God of grace,***

***All: hear our prayer.***



### **Passing of the Peace:**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**All: And also with you**

P: Let us turn to one another, offering a sign of Christ's peace.

### **Offering of Gratitude:**

*(Sit) P: You may be seated.*

We give God our thanks and praise in response to God's mercy and abundance.

We invite you to place your gratitude card along with any offering you have in the plate at this time or make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

*Lector—Go to Ambo before Prayer; remain up front for communion.*

**(9a) Special Music:** "We the People of One Nation" ... Summer Choir

*AV—Show Lyric Slides*

**(9) Offertory Hymn:** *ELW* #167 "Now the Feast and Celebration"

**All: Now the feast and celebration,**

**all of creation sings for joy**

**to the God of life and love and freedom;**

**praise and glory forevermore!**

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,**

**whose blood has freed and united us**

**to be one great people of God.**

**Now the feast and celebration,**

**all of creation sings for joy**

**to the God of life and love and freedom;**

**praise and glory forevermore!**

### **Offertory Prayer:**

L: *(5p) Please Stand and*

*(9a) Let us pray.*

Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land.

Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**All: Amen.**



The Great Thanksgiving: ... page 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.", "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.", "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.", and "It is right to give our thanks and praise."

**Ordinary Preface:**

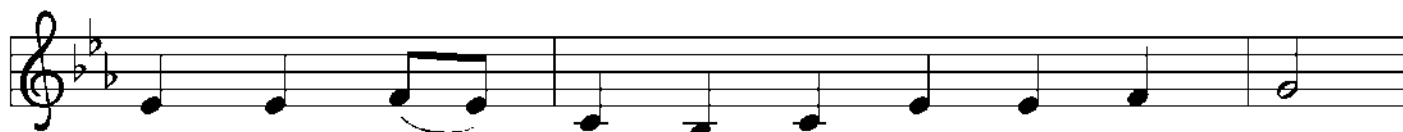
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Sanctus: "Holy, Holy, Holy"...** page 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,", "heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.", "Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes", and "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est."

# Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:  
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional  
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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## Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

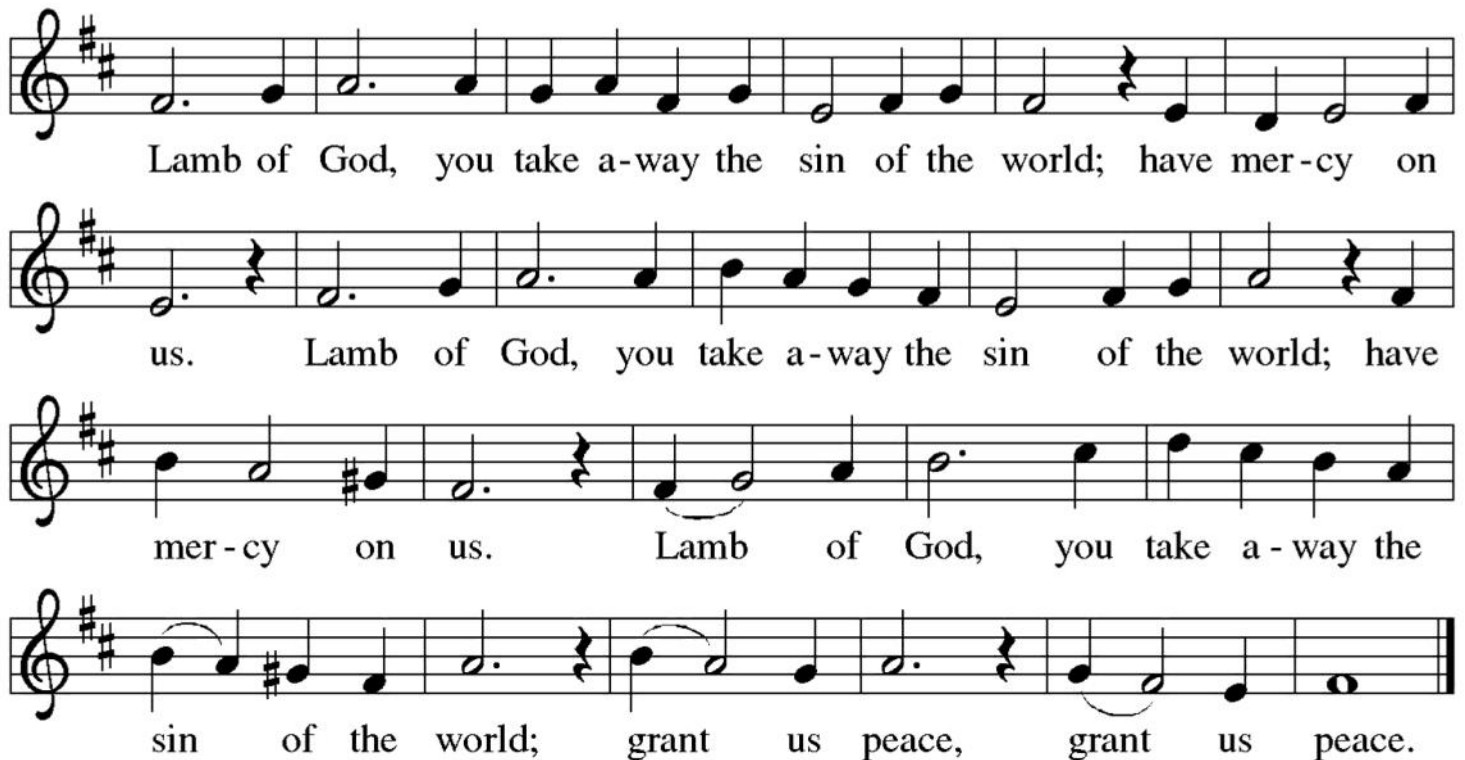
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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.**

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward. There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lamb of God ... page 154



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.

**Special Music:** "Simple Gifts" - Arr. Charles Callahan  
Piano/Organ Duet

**Communion Hymn:** *ELW* #765 "Lord of All Hopefulness"

# Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;  
2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;  
3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.  
with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!  
As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.  
Our God is march - ing on.  
while God is march - ing on.

## *Refrain*



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

*Lector—go to the ambo as Pastor covers communion elements.*

*Stand*

**The Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,  
and keep you in his grace.

**All: Amen.**

**Post-Communion Prayer**

L: Let us pray.

We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

*(Sit)*

**- Sending -**

**Benediction:**

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal,  
and hold you today and always.

**All: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:** *ELW* #890 "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"

**Dismissal:**

L: Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" - Arr. Joel Raney  
Piano/Organ Duet

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**Special Thanks to our Worship Leaders & Musicians:**

**Preaching:** Pr. Steve Knudson

**Presiding:** Pr. Katie Lowe Lancaster

**Tech Team:**

**Communications Director:** Will Mittelsteadt

**Slide Deck:** Megan Roling

**CG & Stream Operator:** Jacob Bartels

**Technical Director:** Audrey Montgomery Gardes

**Audio Engineer:** Avery Karkosh