



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 5th Sunday After Pentecost

June 28, 2026 10:30 Service of the Word

We read into chapters 2 and 3 of Hebrews during worship today. We'll see what it means that Jesus was a pioneer. We'll also understand the importance of Jesus' suffering. And surprisingly, we'll see what is fitting and appropriate for God to do.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting St. John's we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is shown in the nursery.

✠ GATHERING ✠

Prelude and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all who are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn My Lord of Light

(For music see Hymn 832 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **My Lord of light who made the worlds,
in wisdom you have spoken;
but those who heard your wise commands
your holy law have broken.**
2. **My Lord of love who knew no sin,
a sinner's death enduring:
for us you wore a crown of thorns,
a crown of life securing.**
3. **My Lord of life who came in fire**

**when Christ was high ascended:
your burning love is now released,
our days of fear are ended.**

**4. My Lord of lords, one Trinity
to your pure name be given
all glory now and evermore,
all praise in earth and heaven.**

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938. Copyright 1980 by Jubilee Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Music: English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925, arr. Copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

P: 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.

Gathering Dialog (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected your people in the past, so also defend us and all needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 63:7-9

B: ⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel

that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸ For he said, ‘Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely’;

and he became their savior

⁹ in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 148 (*read responsively*)

D: Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord!

Across the heavens,

from the heights,

all you angels, heavenly beings,

sing praise, sing praise!

**C: Sun and moon, glittering stars,
sing praise, sing praise.**

**Highest heavens, rain clouds,
sing praise, sing praise.**

D: Praise God’s name,

whose word called you forth

and fixed you in place for ever

by eternal decree.

**C: Let there be praise:
from the depths of the earth,
from creatures of the deep.**

D: Fire and hail, snow and mist,

storms, winds,

mountains, hills,

fruit trees and cedars,

wild beasts and tame,

snakes and birds,

C: princes, judges,

rulers, subjects,

**men, women,
old and young,
praise, praise the holy name,
this name beyond all names.**

D: God's splendor above the earth,
above the heavens,
gives strength to the nation,

**C: glory to the faithful,
a people close to the Lord.
Israel, let there be praise!**

Second Reading Isaiah 63:7-9

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere, 'What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷ You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸ subjecting all things under their feet.'

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus* is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters,*¹²saying,

'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

¹³And again,

'I will put my trust in him.'

And again,

'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.'

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of

Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters* in

every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, holy partners in a heavenly calling, consider that Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses also ‘was faithful in all God’s house.’ ³Yet Jesus is worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that would be spoken later. ⁶Christ, however, was faithful over God’s house as a son, and we are his house if we hold firm* the confidence and the pride that belong to hope.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day You Servants of God

(For music see Hymn 825 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!**
- 2. Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King!**
- 3. Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**
- 4. Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow’r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

Response to the Word

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C: 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.**

A: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *(Jude 20)*

A: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(Jude 21)*

A: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!** *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

✠ THANKSGIVING ✠

Offertory and Gathering of Prayers and Offerings

You are invited to write a prayer concern on the small blank slip of paper in your worship bulletin. This slip will be collected by the ushers in the offering plates. The concerns raised will be prayed for later in the service.

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

**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.

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God,

C: ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Issues raised by the congregation are lifted in prayer.

The prayer concludes:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Oh, Worship the King
(For music see Hymn 842 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Oh, worship the King, all glorious above.
Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.**
2. **The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.**
3. **Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

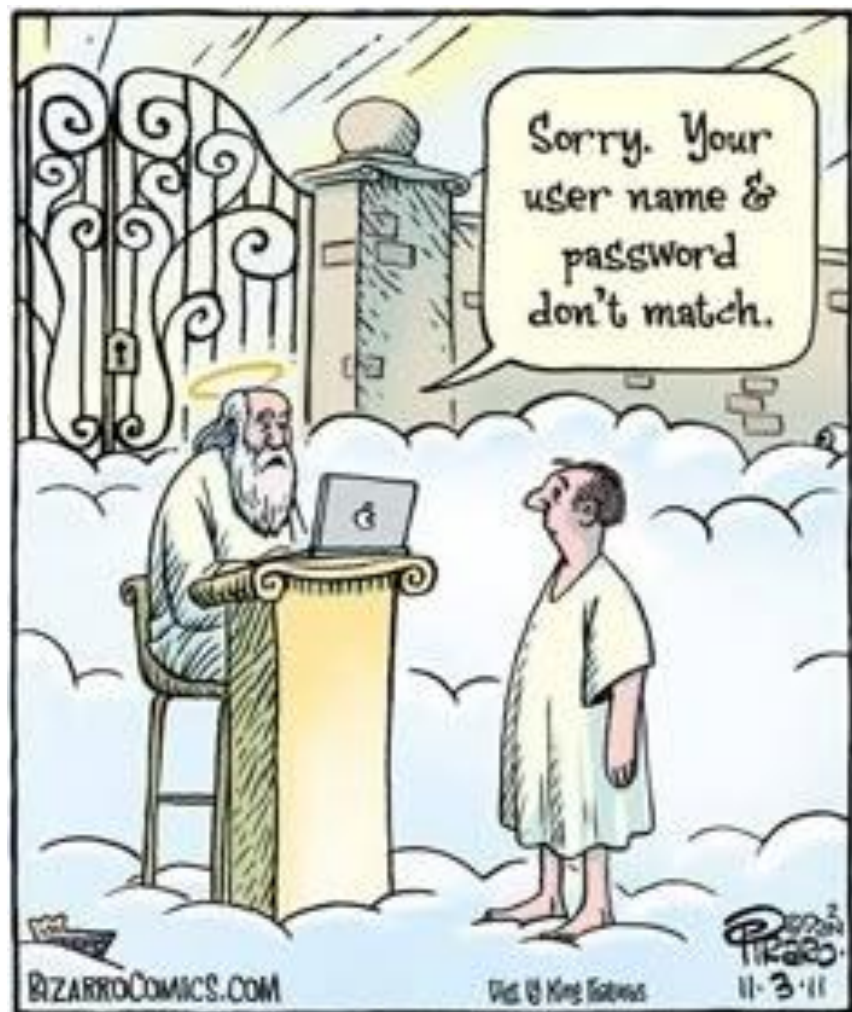
4. **Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.**
5. **O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn you above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to your praise.**

Text: Robert Grant, 1779, 1838, alt. Music: William Crost, 1678-1727

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.



Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte	Elijah Young
Counters	Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, July 5

Greeters and Ushers	Greg and Mary Zuege
Acolyte	Alyssa Young
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistant	Emma Deibler
Counters	
Coffee Hour	Apple Pie and Homemade Ice Cream

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications.

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