

# Sunday Worship Service – June 28, 2026

Worship words from *Sundays and Seasons* marked with \*

Other material from various sources as indicated in the footnotes.

## Welcome and Announcements

## A Moment of Reflection

### Call to Worship <sup>1</sup>

This is the time when all God's friends find a welcome.

**We are so happy to be here.**

This is the time of prayer and praise, when scriptures are read,  
and the way of Christ proclaimed.

**We are here to listen and learn.**

This is the time when we can consider our life's pattern and direction.

**We wait for words that inspire and guide.**

This is the time we are aware of our call to work in faith community.

**We rejoice in all we can do to bring change for good.**

## Gathering Hymn "All Are Welcome" #641

1. **Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

*Refrain:* **All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

2. **Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: (Refrain)**
3. **Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: (Refrain)**

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<sup>1</sup> *Call to Worship* from **Responsive Prayers for Every Week of the Church Year A** © 2019 David Sparks, published by Wood Lake Books, Kelowna, BC

4. **Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)**
5. **Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured,  
taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)**

### **Confession and Forgiveness \***

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,  
**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.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary  
and 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.  
**Amen.**

### **Ritual of Inclusion**

Let us pray:

God, when you called each of us into being, you delighted in your works. You gifted us with differences that illuminate the breadth of beauty, wisdom, and practices of love in your creation. In whatever ways we still struggle to accept and celebrate our own unique offerings, free us from narrow thinking that confines, constrains, or condemns your good work in us.

Triune God, your divinity transcends distinctions of gender identity and sexual orientation, and through the generations you widen our awareness of human diversity. We gather here before you in our various expressions of identity and orientation, all of us one in Christ Jesus. Bring our society to peacefulness concerning a wider understanding of gender diversity and sexual orientation.

We ask that with your creative Spirit you cultivate new relationships, mend old wounds, and nurture communities of respect, for the sake of the one who embraces all persons in love, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

As we light the rainbow candles, a sign of our desire to include all people in our community of faith, we sing our song of inclusion *“Christ, Our Peace.”*

**Song of Inclusion *“Christ, Our Peace”* #1037** (All Creation Sings)

**Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that divide us;**

**Christ, our peace, come, make us one body in you.** (sing 3 times)

*During the singing of the Song of Inclusion the presider lights the candles.*

Please join me in prayer: Loving God,

**You created us in your image, in all of our differences and diversity. Inspire us to see Christ within each of your beloved children. Break down the walls that divide us – racism, transphobia, ableism, and other forms of discrimination--that we may live out your command to love you with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise *“Beautiful Savior”* #838**

1. **Beautiful Savior! King of creation!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I’d love thee, truly I’d serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**
2. **Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow’rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**
3. **Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer;  
than all the angels in the sky.**

4. **Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!**

**Prayer of the Day \***

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray:

**O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9**

*Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon. Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. A reading from the Book of Jeremiah, the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter:*

Then the prophet Jeremiah responded to Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the LORD's temple. The prophet Jeremiah said: "Indeed. May the LORD do just as you have said! May the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back from Babylon the equipment of the LORD's temple and all the exiles to this place. However, listen closely to what I have to say to you and all the people: The prophets who came before you and me long ago prophesied war, disaster, and disease against many lands and great kingdoms. So the prophet who prophesies peace is recognized as one who is actually sent by the LORD only when that prophet's message is fulfilled."

Here ends the reading.

**Inspire our understanding, Spirit of God.**

**Scripture Reading: Romans 6:12-23**

*At the very beginning of his letter to the Romans St. Paul condemns the depravity of pagan life-styles which Christian converts have abandoned. He now uses the concept of 'slavery' to encourage his readers to remain faithful by God's grace. A reading from the Letter to the Romans, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter:*

So then, don't let sin rule your body, so that you do what it wants. Don't offer parts of your body to sin, to be used as weapons to do wrong. Instead, present yourselves to God as people who have been brought back to life from the dead, and offer all the parts of your body to God to be used as weapons to do right. Sin will have no power over you, because you aren't under Law but under grace.

So what? Should we sin because we aren't under Law but under grace? Absolutely not! Don't you know that if you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, that you are slaves of the one whom you obey? That's true whether you serve as slaves of sin, which leads to death, or as slaves of the kind of obedience that leads to righteousness. But thank God that although you used to be slaves of sin, you gave wholehearted obedience to the teaching that was handed down to you, which provides a pattern. Now that you have been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. (I'm speaking with ordinary metaphors because of your limitations.) Once, you offered the parts of your body to be used as slaves to impurity and to lawless behavior that leads to still more lawless behavior. Now, you should present the parts of your body as slaves to righteousness, which makes your lives holy. When you were slaves of sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What consequences did you get from doing things that you are now ashamed of? The outcome of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and become slaves to God, you have the consequence of a holy life, and the outcome is eternal life. The wages that sin pays are death, but God's gift is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Here ends the reading.

**Inspire our understanding, Spirit of God.**

**Gospel Acclamation "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" #172**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.** *(repeat song)*

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:40-42**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

"Those who receive you are also receiving me, and those who receive me are receiving the one who sent me. Those who receive a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward. Those who receive a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. I assure you that

everybody who gives even a cup of cold water to these little ones because they are my disciples will certainly be rewarded.”

The gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon: Pastor Stewart Miller**

**Hymn of the Day “To Be Your Presence” #546**

1. **To be your presence is our mission here,  
to show compassion’s face and listening ear,  
to be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!**
2. **To be your presence is our mission bold,  
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,  
to be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!**
3. **To be your presence is our mission blest,  
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,  
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!**
4. **We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,  
to serve your people is our call and choice,  
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!**

**Apostles’ Creed**

We confess our faith together using the words of the 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 \***

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world. Each petition will conclude with the phrase “God of grace” and the congregational response “hear our prayer.”

*A brief silence.*

Faithful God, establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, bring an end to conflict and division. Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding, justice, and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We pray especially for those in hospital, care facilities or hospices (*names*). Bless caregivers as they show God’s hospitality through their generous service. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. Be with those who grieve, this week we pray for the family of friends of Lena Brandt. We give thanks for saints of all times and places. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

### **Offering / Offering Prayer \***

*(an Offering plate is placed on the altar)*

Let us pray:

**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.**

*(The Creedance Table is moved to the center)*

## The Great Thanksgiving<sup>2</sup>

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.**

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,

in the harmonious world of your creation the plants and animals,

the seas and stars

were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son

to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing

his body given up, and his victory over death,

we await that day when all the peoples of the earth

will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:

as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,

so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,

that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father,

with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

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<sup>2</sup> From **With One Voice** (Eucharistic Prayer G – Summer) © 1995 Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

*The Lord's Prayer (spoken)*

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

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Communion Invitation*

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*Communion Instructions*

*Communion Distribution (begin with communing the online congregation)*

***Hymn during Communion "As We Gather at Your Table" #522***

1. **As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.**
2. **Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you,  
bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.**
3. **Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast  
where triumphant Love will welcome  
those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.**

***Hymn during Communion "Here Is Bread" #483***

1. **Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.**

*Refrain:* **In the bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.**

2. **Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.**  
**Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here.** *(Refrain)*
3. **Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.**  
**We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified.** *(Refrain)*

### **Communion Blessing**

May the precious body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in his grace now, and unto life everlasting.

### **Prayer after Communion \***

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 of Communion Prayer**

Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our brothers and sisters who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Blessing \***

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

### **Commission**

Go in peace, inspired by Christ to love and serve!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude – Joshua Hendricksen**