

# FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado  
(303) 776-2800 | [www.firstluth.org](http://www.firstluth.org)  
Deacon Korra Looschen

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost  
July 5, 2026 — 9:30 a.m.  
*Welcome to worship, we are glad you are with us!*

## GATHERING



Ordinary Time

### PRELUDE

### INTRODUCTION

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.

### WELCOME

We welcome Pastor Ann Hultquist for presiding and preaching at First Lutheran this month."

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.

**Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of all mercy,

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

*"This is My Song"*

ELW 887

1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 2. My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
 3. This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.  
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st 3

Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

Text sts. 1-2 © 1934, 1962, Lorenz Publishing Company, st 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company

Music © Breitkopf & Härtel

FINLANDIA  
 11 10 11 10 11 10

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**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.**

**Amen.**

## ANTHEM

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” by Bates/Ward

Connie Melvin, Flute

Accompanied by Gary Elmquist

## READINGS

### Zechariah 9:9-12

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as “prisoners of hope.”*

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup> He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Romans 7:15-25a

*Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

<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!

Word of God, word of life

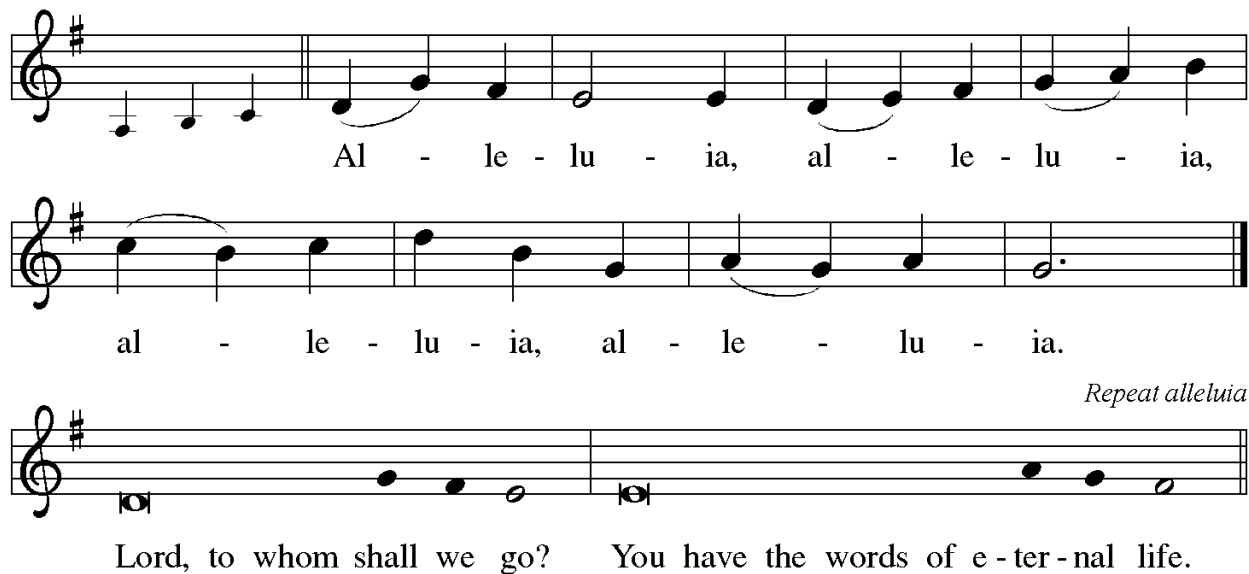
**Thanks be to God**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Deacon Korra Looschen

**Congregation: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter beginning at the 16<sup>th</sup> verse.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

[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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Ann Hultquist

## APOSTLE'S 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 THE PEOPLE

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also, with you.**

# MEAL

## OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.**

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 107

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

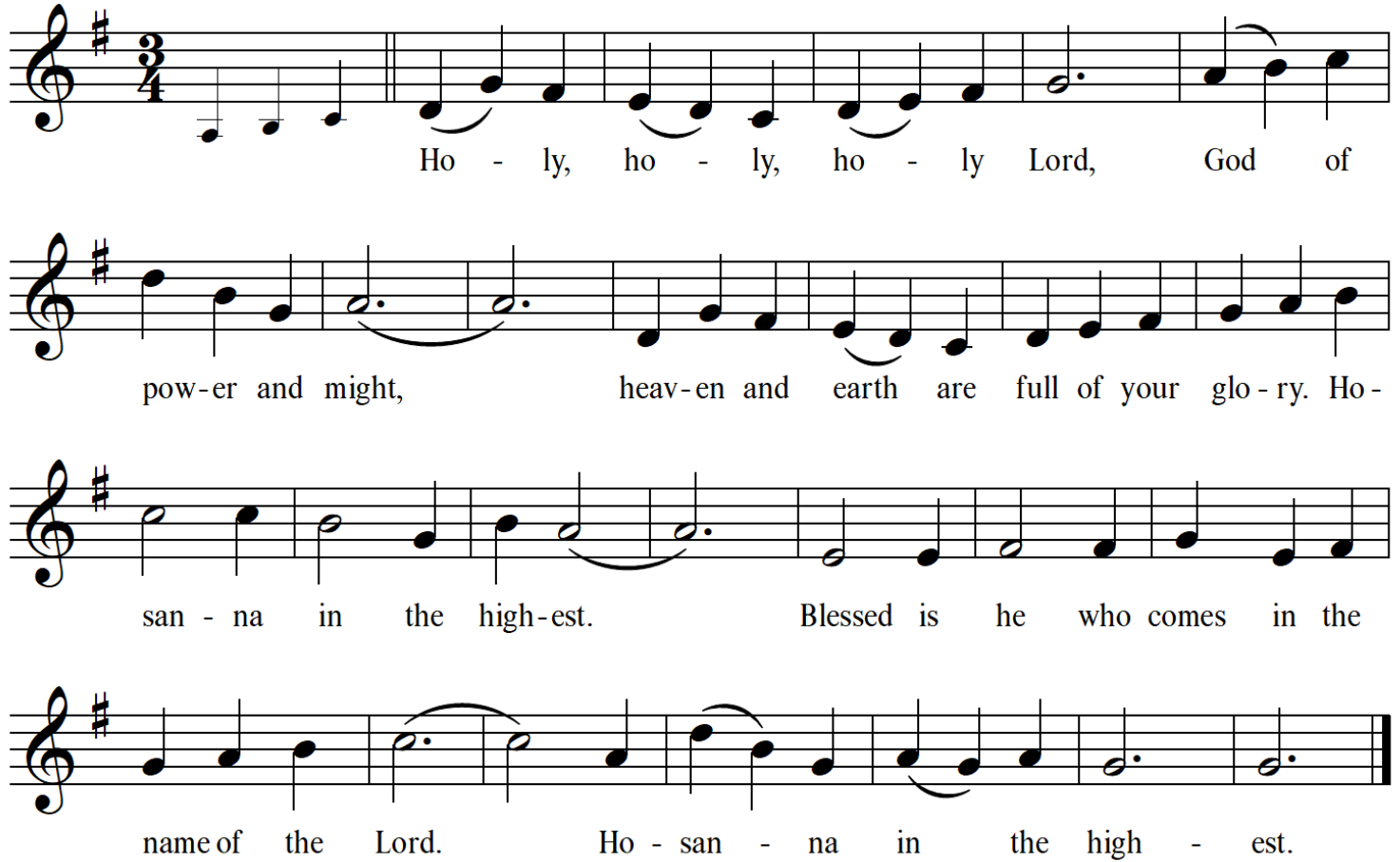
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. —

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE 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 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.**

### COMMUNION

*All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of the forgiveness of sin, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord. The ushers will invite you to come forward for communion. We invite everyone to receive communion if you so desire. The invitation to receive Holy Communion is from Christ Jesus; therefore "all are welcome". In our serving communion trays, wine is darker red on the outside, and grape juice is the lighter color in the center. We serve only gluten-free bread prepared in a kitchen excluding wheat flour, to include everyone regardless of wheat-gluten sensitivities. Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good.*

# LAMB OF GOD

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.

# COMMUNION HYMNS

*"Let Us Break Bread"*  
*"As the Grains of Wheat"*  
*"Eat This Bread"*

ELW 471  
ELW 465  
ELW 472

# Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees:  
 2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
 3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees:

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: African American spiritual

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER  
 10 10 and refrain

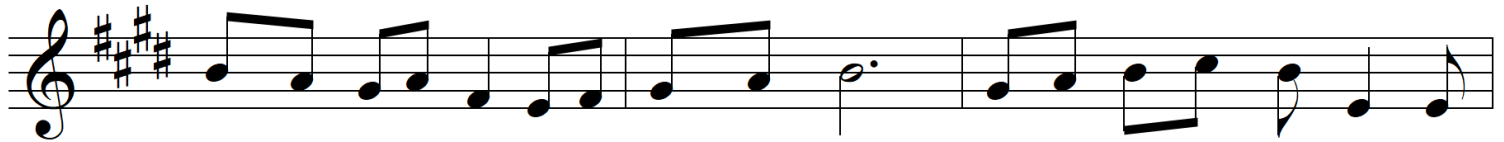
# As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

*Refrain*



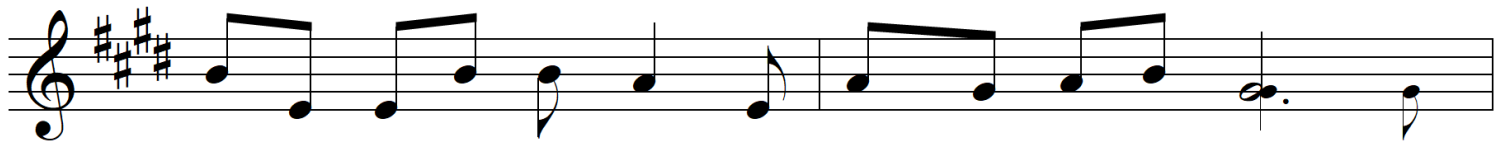
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

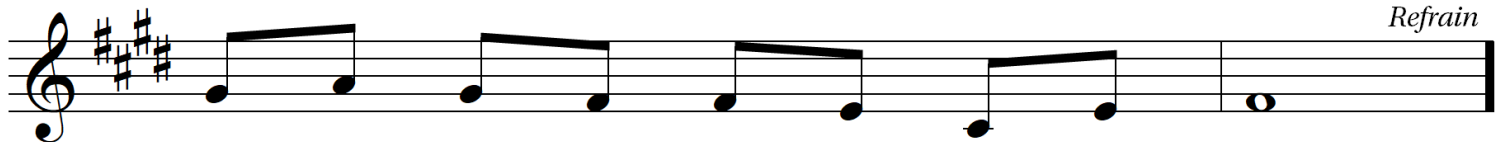


all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, \_\_\_\_\_

2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.

all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*Refrain*



Test: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company

AS THE GRAINS

Irregular

# Eat this Bread

ELW 472

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens under 'nev-er' and 'hun - gry'.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

The second system of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature as the first system. The lyrics are written below the staves, with a double quote at the end of the line.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © Les Presses de Taizé, admin GIA Publications, Inc.

BERHTIER

Irregular

# COMMUNION BLESSING

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**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.**

**Amen**

## SENDING

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, † one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day.

**Amen**

## BENEDICTION

## SENDING HYMN

*"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"*

ELW 697

## SENDING

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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### WELCOME to Worship!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP, and families can sit anywhere in the sanctuary, including the chapel near the front.

A NURSERY is available downstairs across from the Choir Room for children under 5. Follow the signs.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS are available from the ushers.

ADDITIONAL PARKING is available in the Ahlberg Chapel parking lot, one-half block north of the church on Terry Street.

RESTROOMS are located on the upper level of the church, along the hallway leading to the Big Room. There are handicap accessible restrooms on the lower level near the elevator, and in the Big Room.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND LIVE STREAMED AND RECORDED so that others may enjoy worship remotely. Please note that today's worship service is audio and video recorded for online sharing and archival purposes.

We love seeing you in worship!

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Preacher/Presider

Pastor Ann Hultquist

Worship Assistant

Deacon Korra Looschen

Council Hosts:

Dorotha Ekx

Al Manley

Ushers:

Todd Gould

Holly Keenan

Reader:

Sally Campbell

Communion Assistants:

Sally Campbell

Sandy Moore

Organist/Pianist:

Gary Elmquist

# Just a Closer Walk with Thee

ELW 697

*Refrain* Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea; \_\_\_  
 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je-sus, keep me from all wrong; \_\_\_  
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal-ter, Lord, who cares? \_\_\_  
 3 When my fee-ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more; \_\_\_

dai-ly walk-ing close to thee, \_\_\_ let it be, \_\_\_ dear Lord, let it be.  
 I'll be sat-is-fied as long \_\_\_ as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*  
 Who with me my bur-den shares? None but thee, \_\_\_ dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*  
 guide me gent-ly, safe-ly o'er \_\_\_ to thy king-dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*

Text: North American traditional  
 Music: North American traditional

CLOSER WALK  
 Irregular