

Service of Holy Communion

6th Sunday after Pentecost

All My Days Worship Series

July 5th, 2026



INTRODUCTION

Welcome back to our series on prayer. Today we continue our exploration of the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples by dwelling with the phrase, “Hallowed be thy name.” Devotion is time set apart (the meaning of “sacred”) to honor something or someone we love. When Jesus called God’s name “hallowed,” he was drawing us to the sacred nature of the holy. When we pray, we set apart our time and attention to things that matter deeply. Who and what do we deem “worthy” and what happens when we make praise a regular expression? “Praise” is our focus about prayer today. How are we being called to set apart our time and attention to witness holiness and offer praise?

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The Congregation stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

The congregation is seated. Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God, **we confess to 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 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.**

CENTERING AND INVOCATION

P. We arrive fully into this moment, Holy One. We open to sense your presence among us. We hear you say,

This moment is sacred.

We need you, Jesus, to help us. We come to you as your first disciples did.

We hear you say,

This moment is sacred.

Spirit of Divine Love, Come to us with your healing waters. We hear you say,

This moment is sacred.

Centering us in the present moment let us sing together:



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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P. Now, simply hold the prayer beads in your hands. Feel your rhythms slow. Begin to set your attention on the sacred nature of the Holy. I invite us to a few moments of silence.

Silence

P. Take a deep breath. Sacredness permeates this world. We are surrounded by so many people and plants, creatures and landscapes that reveal Divine glory. Our hearts overflow with awe, wonder, and praise. Hallowed be. Let us worship God, follow Christ, and revel in the Spirit of Praise in this place. **Amen.**

Congregation stands

GATHERING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

ELW 858

(printed in the back of the bulletin)

THE GREETING

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.**

KYRIE

A. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

A. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

A. For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

A. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

A. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C. Amen

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDETH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Congregation is seated

WORD

FIRST READING: Philippians 4:8-9

Finally, siblings, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

A. Word of God, word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

Children & Youth are invited forward for a special sermon time with Pastor.

Congregation stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. 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.

GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

P. The holy gospel according to Luke. C. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found

it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

P. The gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation is seated

SERMON

Praise

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

ELW 697

(printed in the back of the bulletin)

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 CHURCH

A. Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A. God our unity, your church flourishes in different languages, cultures, and movements. Grant us wisdom to discern when our yokes are too heavy, that we may live and serve in the freedom of your rest. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Gathering God, send your Spirit on the church you have called out from every nation. Knit us together into one body and heal the divisions we have caused. Overcome our timidity to witness and act in the public square when your purpose is being thwarted. Bless rostered and lay leaders with clarity and courage as they center your people in the gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. All your works praise you, O God. From the Arctic to the Caribbean, from the Atlantic to the western islands, these lands and waters have sustained its peoples over many centuries. As we take our part in creation's praise, revive our wonder at what you have fashioned, and enliven our will to ensure its health for future generations. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. We come from many nations with many languages; make us a united people that delights in our many different gifts. As the United States of America marks its declaration of independence, give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, and curb every abuse of that trust, so that both here and abroad, justice, humility, and peace may flourish. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. You are the Mother of exiles, O God. Extend your arms to all who are tired, who live with poverty, the tempest-tossed, all who yearn to breathe free. Embrace people seeking refuge; those incarcerated, detained, or disappeared; and neighbors fearing those they once trusted. Give healing and hope to people in any oppression and need. We pray especially for... those we name aloud... and those we hold in our hearts... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. We remember before you those who have died in every generation: Jan Hus, executed for protesting the ecclesial system; Benedict, teacher of a prayerful life; and those who have died ensuring the freedoms of this country: people in the armed services, peace officers, advocates, and activists. Gather us, together with those who have gone before us and with saints of every tribe and nation, into the holy city you have prepared. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P. Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Congregation is seated

MEAL

OFFERTORY INVITATION

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Offering can be given by putting it in the offering plate when it is passed, online directly via the QR codes for Tithely or Venmo, or by requesting your bank to send a check to the church. Find more details on our website.

Thank you for your generous gifts!

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via Tithely* ↓



Congregation stands

OFFERTORY SONG

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,
Refrain
may we share the pres - ence of your love.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. 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.**

DIALOGUE & PREFACE OF THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Our Father, who art in heaven.

Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

Hallowed be thy name!

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy (*Sing 2x—English 1st time; Spanish 2nd time*)



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to e-res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

Congregation is seated

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. He came to teach us how close you are to us. He came to remind us that our work is this:

Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

And so, your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

Jesus used the most common of items to remind us that all gifts come from God, including the gift of unending grace.

Give us this day our daily bread.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

Even as he said these things, he knew that he would be betrayed. And yet he forgave. We ask for God's help to accomplish this in our own lives:

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to do the right thing even when it is difficult. We pray:

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

And so we ask you, God to pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

*version by Rev. Jim Cotter from
The Prayer Book of The Anglican Church of New Zealand*

Eternal Spirit,

**Earth-maker, Pain Bearer, Life-Giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For your reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to Communion this morning. Please come forward, guided by the Ushers, to receive the bread and wine. Children are invited to the table for a blessing.

Gluten free and traditional wafers are available, please note this to Pastor Peggy when you come up. The bread is dairy and egg free. Grape juice is available in the second communion plate. As you return to your seat via the side aisles you can place your empty cup in the baskets on either side.

P. The prayer that Jesus taught is also a template for how he lived, and how he invited us all to be part of his ministry of bringing a little "heaven on earth." Remembering this prayer, we prepare ourselves to feast at the heavenly banquet on earth as it is in heaven. Let us come to the table.

COMMUNION SONG

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun-gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun-ger.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

After all have received Communion the congregation stands.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Congregation is seated

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joyce and bear Christ's ho-ly name.



Send us with your prom-is-es and lead your peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray...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

BENEDICTION

P. God knows our words before they're said, knows our need and we are fed. God gives us life, knows our ways, our strength, our path, for all our days; our strength, our path, for all our days. Go into the world with the assurance that God goes with you, Jesus prays for you, and the Spirit breathes through you ☩ all your days. Let the people say, **Amen!**

SENDING HYMN

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726

(printed in the back of the bulletin)

DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C. Thanks be to God.

Announcements for July 5th, 2026

Welcome to Holy Counselor Lutheran Church. May you experience the joy of God's presence in our worship!

*If today is your **first time** worshipping at Holy Counselor, please be sure to fill out the "Guest Book" on the table in the narthex and **take a welcome bag**. Please ask our ushers any questions you may have regarding worship this morning. **Large print bulletins are available.***

*The **Pray-ground** is a special place to help **support kids and families** in worshipping. We love the sound of kids in worship! God made kids wiggly and curious, and we celebrate that here. **Tips:** explain, participate, and move around together. Need to leave? No problem, but please come back!*

Worship is live streamed** to our church Facebook page, but the camera is pointed away during Communion and is not on the children when they come forward during A Time for the Child in Us All. **Anyone on the altar is on camera.

~~~~~  
***Thank you, Gale MacPeek, for this morning's refreshments!!***  
~~~~~

Volunteers for Today's Worship

- Lay Asst.** *Emilie Dupont*
- Ushers** *Volunteer needed*
- Comm. Asst.** *Debbie Lennon*
- Tech** *Fred Schoenagel*
- Tellers** *Volunteer needed*
- Refreshments** *Gale MacPeek*

******* Join us for refreshments after worship*******

THIS WEEK AT HOLY COUNSELOR

- Sunday, July 5:** Outdoor Worship w/Communion, 9:30am
- Monday, July 6:** Pastor's Comm. Hrs, Café e Dolci, Warwick, 10:30am-12:30pm
- Sunday, July 12:** Outside Worship w/Communion, 9:30am
Vacation Bible School Volunteer Meeting, following worship

Pastor's Community Office Hours: Pastor Peggy will be at Café e Dolci in Warwick, **TOMORROW, Monday, July 6th from 10:30am-12:30pm** for Community Office Hours. All are welcome to visit as she is present in the community.

Vacation Bible School: Spread the word about our VBS! **Register today** at myvbs.org/hclcverson for **God's Good Creation, July 20th-23rd from 1-4pm.**

VBS Volunteers: **Following worship on July 12th** we will have a **volunteer planning meeting**. If you are volunteering or would like to learn more, please join us!

AED Donations: Our new AED is almost paid off. **Thank you for all your generous donations!** We are \$220 close to covering the outstanding cost not covered by the grant. If you would like to **donate to help cover the cost of the new AED** please note 'AED' with your donation. Thank you for helping our church be a safe place if an emergency ever occurs.

Lunch Bunch: The Lunch Bunch is a **new group** for women of the church, available during the day, to gather for lunch once a month at various restaurants. The next **Lunch Bunch is Tuesday, July 14th at 12:30pm at St. Mortiz Grill in Sparta.** Connect with Diane Rossi for more details.

Plastic Film Recycling Program Update: Thank you to everyone who is diligently bringing in plastic! We are off to a slow start to earn a second bench from NexTrex, but we still have plenty of time. We need to submit 1,000 pounds of plastic wrap and bags within a 12-month period. To achieve that goal, we should be averaging 83 pounds per month, currently **we've collected 96 pounds in our first two months** of this new cycle. Please collect from your friends and families to help increase our numbers while helping to keep this plastic out of our landfills.

Flat Jesus: Take pictures of your adventures with Flat Jesus! **Email your pictures** to Pastor Peggy and she will post them on our social media. You can **post them yourself** and tag the church as well. Add the hashtag **#FlatJesus** and/or **#JesusIsOnTheMove** plus **#HolyCounselorVernon** and/or **#VernonLutheranChurch**

Food Pantry: **Food items to help restock:** 4-pack toilet paper, pasta sauce, canned tuna, canned chili, canned corn, canned soup, canned green beans, peanut butter, jelly, children's juice boxes or pouches. You can always bring donations of canned goods, paper goods, and hygiene products. All donations can be **placed in the blue bin** by the sanctuary doors. Thank you!

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a-dore him!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus-tain - ing.
 sure-ly his good-ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at-tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be-fore him!

Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.

join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Just a Closer Walk with Thee



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: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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God's Good Creation



Register Here



Vacation Bible School 2026

July 20th-23rd 1-4pm



68 Sand Hill Road in Vernon, NJ
Open to all kids: Pre-K-5th grade
\$10 for one kid; \$20 for a family; Scholarships available
Youth and Adults are invited to volunteer!



Contact Information

(973) 827-5251 office

www.hc-lutheranchurch.org

The Reverend Peggy Ludlow: pastorpeggy@hc-lutheranchurch.org

Director of Music: June Tarantino: music@hc-lutheranchurch.org

Office Administrator: Cathy Nemecek: office@hc-lutheranchurch.org

Bookkeeper: Wynn White: accounts@hc-lutheranchurch.org

MISSION STATEMENT

***As Children of God,
we are called to share and serve
Christ's love and bring God's word to all.***

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor Rev. Peggy Ludlow

President Nancy Knecht

Vice President Frank Urbaniak

Treasurer Claire Speroni

Recording Secretary Dawn McCormick

Financial Secretary John Heeren

Outreach Coordinator Francine Vince

Nurture Coordinator Fred Schoenagel

Administration Coordinator Diane Rossi

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Kristina Heeren

Pam Kucks

Matt Moller

Aileen Donovan

Holy Counselor is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Munsee people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

