



**THE GIFTS OF DISCIPLESHIP SERMON SERIES
THEME: TO LIVE AMONG GOD'S FAITHFUL PEOPLE
July 12, 2026**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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**Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

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Office Hours: Monday, Wed., & Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Children are an active part of Memorial's community of faith! We welcome you to worship each week! Children's bulletins and Quiet Bags (lots of exciting things to do!) are available at the doors coming from the parking lot. Please take one of each as they may help your children bring smiles into our time of worship!

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone.

INTRODUCTION: LIVE AMONG GOD'S FAITHFUL PEOPLE

God gives the gift of community to teach us, accompany us, and encourage us. This community isn't limited to a select few, but it is all of God's people. And together as God's people, we have the opportunity and privilege to do some of God's work in the world today. In our scriptures appointed for this week, we are reminded of the joy and gift of being in community. God's grace makes community with one another possible. It flows through our baptisms, guides and grounds us in our call to discipleship.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE *"When Peace Like a River"*

- Burkhardt

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

All 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, 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.**

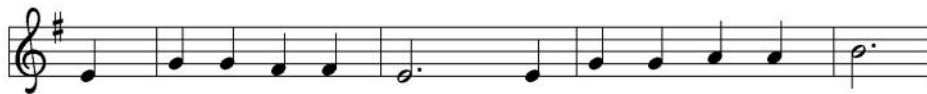
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Please remain standing or stand as you are able.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE**READ IN UNISON**

1 Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol-emn prayer.

2 Have mer-cy on us, Christ, and wash a-way our sin.

3 Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de-part.



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be-gin.

Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of the church. We are especially grateful for those who have taught us what it means to be a disciple and Child of God, and for those who have modeled love, kindness, and mercy. Bless our church and guide us to be a model of faithful living today and always. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD**FIRST READING****Philippians 1:3-11**

³ I thank my God for every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy ⁵ for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help

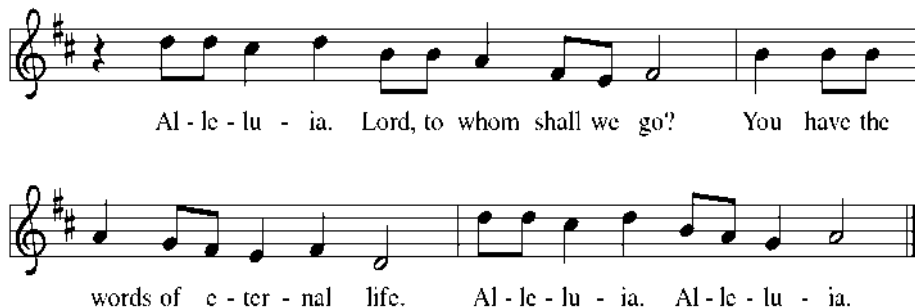
you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

John 20:19-23

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

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 into hell.
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

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.

Eternal Father, you invite each of us to share in the life and ministry of your Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit to transform our faith family into a community of disciples. In this year of discipleship, teach us how to listen to Jesus, to love Jesus deeply, and to share Jesus with everyone we meet. Through the Holy Spirit, guide us to deepen our commitment as disciples of Jesus. Lead us, we pray, to grow as an intentional community, committed to our call to discipleship. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Father of all goodness and God of our land, as our country celebrates its 250th anniversary, we give you thanks for the many blessings and evidence of divine favor on us. We give thanks for the God-given rights and hard-fought freedoms we enjoy in this country. We repent as people for all the times, past and present, where we have squandered your blessings and have not lived up to our nation's ideals. Forgive us for our sins and mistakes and continue to make us prosperous. For as many more years as you give us as a nation, may we be a land where the truth of Christ is known, the good news of Christ is sent out, and all of us work towards oneness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith (*especially Bishop Nathan Söderblom, whom the church commemorates today*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

Please greet those around you

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY DUET “Joy in the Morning”

arrg. L. Larson

Norma Bricker, Brenda Mason

The Ushers will collect the offering.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

ELW 884

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Read Together

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All glory and honor is yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray.

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.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

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

BLESSING

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.

SENDING HYMN *"In Christ There Is No East or West"*

ELW 650

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"For the Beauty of the Mountains"*

- Stephens

Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1931

Sunday, July 12, 2026

A winner of the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts to unite peoples after the First World War, Söderblom also called attention to the revival of early church worship principles, and helped to lay the groundwork for the World Council of Churches.

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Doug & Pat Maun
Jeanne Naugle
Dorothy Railing
Trina Ruth
Wayne Widney
All Caregivers**



**Pastor
Pastor Godfred Effisah
Organist & Pianist
Nancy Fogelsanger
Senior Choir / Bell Choir
Director
Kathy Kerr
Parish Coordinator
Amy Piper
Preschool Director/Head Teacher
Emily Crider**

Check out our church website using this QR Code!

