

# Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 18, 2023

*Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude by Susan Roegge – “Fairest Lord Jesus,” arr. Wasson*

## GATHERING

*\*Call to Worship and Confession*

P: Observe the Sabbath, and keep it holy.

**C: God has given us the gift of rest and renewal.**

P: The other commandments took the Israelites out of slavery,

**C: This command takes the slavery out of us.**

P: One day in seven, stop all work.

**C: We remember that we are not defined by our output.**

P: One day in seven, everyone rests.

**C: The distinctions that define our value disappear.**

P: One day in seven, we pause to remember who we truly are.

**C: We are simply and completely humans, alongside one another, beloved children of God.**

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess the ways that we lose ourselves in the busyness of life. Our days are filled with a deluge of distractions that separate us from you. Hear our confessions for the ways we have forgotten your Sabbath, and bring us again into a right relationship with you and one another.**

*Silence for reflection and confession.*

P: God hears your confession and showers you with mercy. Your sins are forgiven. Begin this day renewed. Love God. Love your neighbors. And rest in the goodness of God.

C: Amen.

*\*Sharing of the Peace*

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

**C: And also with you.**

*All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

*Gathering Song – “All Are Welcome”*

*(piano)*

*Refrain: All are welcome, friend and stranger, at the banquet of the Savior.  
All are welcome. All are welcome here.*

- 1. From the woman who comes crying, leaving tears at Jesus’ feet,  
To the man who knows the right way but cannot see. Refrain**
- 2. From the ones who feel forgotten, those who sense their place is gone,  
To the ones who live in hunger, here you belong. Refrain**
- 3. Go into the streets and cities, to the farms and families,  
Tell about the splendid table, God’s mercy. Refrain**

*Children’s Sermon*

*Hymn of Praise: “Praise to You, O God of Mercy” ELW 208*

*(organ)*

- 1 Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!**
- 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!  
Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!**

*Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,  
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.*
- 3 Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!  
Thanks be to you forever!**

## WORD

*Reading:* Deuteronomy 15:1-2, 7-11

Reader: Kelly Hartz

<sup>1</sup>Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts. <sup>2</sup>And this is the manner of the remission: every creditor shall remit the claim that is held against a neighbor, not exacting it from a neighbor who is a member of the community, because the LORD's remission has been proclaimed.

<sup>7</sup>If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbor. <sup>8</sup>You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. <sup>9</sup>Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near', and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the LORD against you, and you would incur guilt. <sup>10</sup>Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. <sup>11</sup>Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.'

P: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

*\*Gospel Reading:* Luke 15:11-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his

father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.”

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

Song – “By Grace We Have Been Saved” (ACS 1006) (piano)

*Refrain: By grace we have been saved—saved by grace through faith,  
not because of what we do; it is the gift of God.*

- 1 **On the days when you are weak, on the days when you are strong,  
rich or poor, young or old, just listen to the song. Refrain**
- 2 **Rest your body, rest your mind, in the stillness you will find  
you're a lovely, precious child, part of the great design. Refrain**
- 3 **You don't need to be afraid. You will never be alone.  
There is mercy, there is hope, and love will take you home. Refrain**

*Sermon:* "Sabbath is for OTHERS"

1. **Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
2. **Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.**
3. **Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**
4. **Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.**
5. **Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.**
6. **Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

*\*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

*Stewardship Time*

"Coming Home," arr. Martin  
*sung by Kelly Hartz*

*–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–*

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

**C: We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.**

### *\*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.**

### *\*Words of Institution*

P: 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.

### *\*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 Songs*

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love " ELW 708 (*piano*)

*Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

**Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,  
Master who pours out himself for them. *Refrain***

**Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,  
Neighbors are nearby and far away. *Refrain***

**These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;  
All these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain***

**Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet:  
This is the way we will live with you. *Refrain***

"The King of Love My Shepherd is" ELW 502 (*organ*)

- 1 **The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**
- 2 **Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.**
- 3 **Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.**
- 4 **In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still; thy cross before to guide me.**
- 5 **Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!**
- 6 **And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.**

*\*Post-Communion Blessing*

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

C: **Amen.**

*\*Closing Prayer*

## SENDING

*\*Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “Go to the World” (ACS 991)*

*(organ)*

- 1 **Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 2 **Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place.  
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 3 **Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 4 **"Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you till the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry, Amen!"  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Song Credits

“All Are Welcome,” by Hans Peterson and Larry Olson, © 1999 Dakota Road Music. CCLI#973583  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission.  
All Creation Sings, © 2020 Augsburg-Fortress Publishing House. Used by permission.



## Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert  
Greeter: Barb Fishback  
Reader: Kelly Hartz  
Usher: Barb Davenport  
Pastor: Adam Dichsen  
Music Director: Jean Welch  
Pianist: Jean Welch  
Organist: Susan Roegge  
Drummer: John Demien  
Financial Assistants: Mindy Carlson & Monica Proefrock  
Chancel Committee: Karen Sibert  
Coffee Hosts: Donna Chenoweth & Laura Sweatman



### Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street	

### Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

## What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, June 18, 9:30am: Worship

### Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, June 21, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

10am: Discipleship Group in the Library

6pm: Women of Faith at Kitchen 63

Sunday, June 25, 9:30am: Worship

5:30pm: Informational Meeting, ELCA National Youth Gathering

Wednesday, June 28, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

## News Updates

### Discipleship Group

Join us at 10:00am on Wednesday, June 21, in the Faith Library as we meet for great conversation and fellowship time. If you haven't attended before, now's a great time to give it a try! For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com).

### Women of Faith Fellowship Night

Join us on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm for dinner out at Kitchen 63 at K's Creek Golf Course. Please RSVP to Monica **by Today** if you plan to come.

### We Celebrate Our Graduates!

Did you have a family member who graduated this year? We want to congratulate them and celebrate their accomplishment! Please tell us their name, the grade level they achieved, and their plans for the future **by next Sunday, June 25**. Whether one is moving on from preschool or a PhD, we give thanks to God!

### Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

### Picnic Ministry – Sign Up to help with Outdoor Picnics

Our Picnic Ministry Team is looking for some volunteers to help with preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month outdoor picnics this summer. **You can help by signing up on the sheets** by the Coffee Sales next to the Mission & Ministry Center/coat closet:

- **Dates:** Sundays July 2, August 6, and September 3
- **Setup** (6 volunteers each Sunday for tables and chairs at 8:30 am)
- **Side Dishes** (8 volunteers each Sunday – see the sign-up sheet for specifics)
- **Desserts** (3 volunteers each Sunday)
- **Clean Up** (6 volunteers each Sunday to put away tables and chairs and clean in the kitchen)

For more information, talk with Kevin and Martha Krohe on our Picnic Ministry Team.

## **Bishop John's Retirement Dinner**

As you may know, Bishop John Roth will be retiring at the close of his term as bishop on August 31, 2023. You are invited to a Retirement Dinner in his honor on Saturday, July 15, 5:00-7:30pm at Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, in Springfield. Tickets are \$30 each, and reservations can be made at [csis-elca.org/retirement](https://csis-elca.org/retirement) **by July 1**. Additional donations toward the cost of the dinner are being accepted and can be included when you make your reservation. Any donations beyond the expenses of the dinner will support our companion synods in the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar.

## **Performing Arts Camp at Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center**

is for youth grades 5-8, and the remaining camp will take place on **June 23-24**. Pastor Adam and Marilyn will be helping lead this final weekend if you would like to join us! You can register at [greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration](https://greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration), or call 217-584-1374.

## **The ELCA National Youth Gathering**

will be held in New Orleans in July of 2024. We will be holding an **informational meeting on Sunday, June 25, at 5:30pm**. Parents and youth are welcome to come learn more, and the youth can stay for pizza and games.

## **Friends From Faith**

Last month, we debuted a new ministry team led by Naomi Hahn called "Friends from Faith." On the last Sunday of each month, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. Visit the tall counter where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

## **Music Update**

I wish everyone a safe and fun summer, and we will meet again in the fall. If anyone is interested in doing something musical during the summer, please contact me.

Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

## **Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea**

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange (on the counter outside of the coat closet). Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display. Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with "*coffee*" designated in the memo area.

## **Contribution Envelopes for 2023**

are available in the office. If you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office.