

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons 2026



INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

GATHERING

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit

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, 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.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW #623 “Rock of Ages”

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

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated as the children come forward.

Children’s Time

THE WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah’s delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God’s hand upon him and God’s seeming unfaithfulness. God’s tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, “I am with you.”

¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

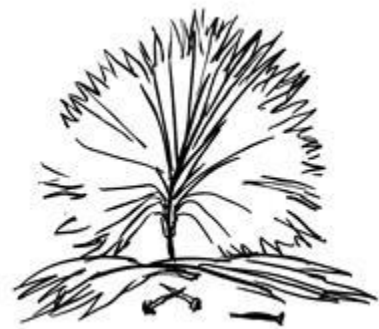
¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.



If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
 you shall serve as my mouth.
 It is they who will turn to you,
 not you who will turn to them.
²⁰ And I will make you to this people
 a fortified wall of bronze;
 they will fight against you,
 but they shall not prevail over you,
 for I am with you
 to save you and deliver you,
 says the LORD.
²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
 and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8 (Read Responsively)

Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)

- ¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
 I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.
- ² **Test me, O LORD, and try me;
 examine my heart and my mind.**
- ³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
 I have walked faithfully with you.
- ⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
 nor do I consort with the deceitful.**
- ⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
 I will not sit down with the wicked.
- ⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
 that I may go in procession round your altar,**
- ⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
 and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- ⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
 and the place where your glory abides.**



Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

- ⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.
- ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for

evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW Setting #4 – S 151a



Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

The Gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day: ELW #798 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

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

Pastor: With bold trust in God’s unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit, especially those we name aloud or in our hearts. *(A brief silence)*. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Pastor: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words. The assembly is seated.

OFFERING – Collection of our offerings.

OFFERING HYMN: *Background music only – ELW 686 "We Give Thee but Thine Own"*

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

Offering 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 MEAL

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.



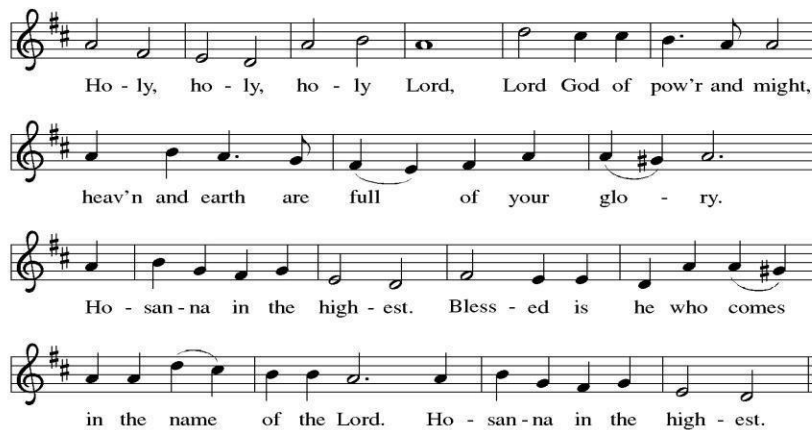
PROPER PREFACE – for the Season of Pentecost

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we
praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting #4 – S 153



The 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.**

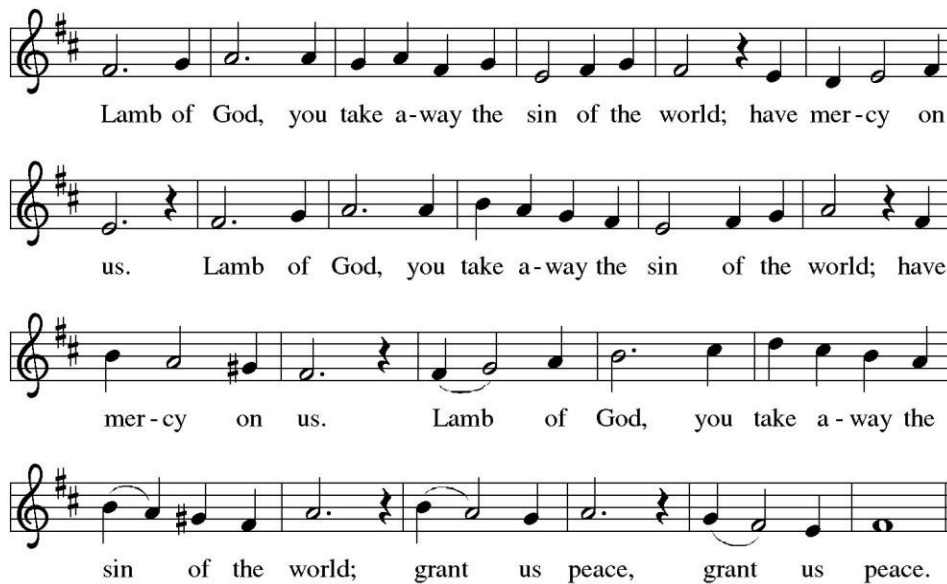
Invitation to Communion

These are the gifts of God for you the people of God. Come, share in the feast! Come.

Please be seated and wait to come forward for Holy Communion after the singing of The Lamb of God song.

Lamb of God

ELW Setting #4 – S 154



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.



HYMN DURING COMMUNION: ELW #817 “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands. The presiding minister may say a table blessing; the assembly responds **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.

THE BLESSING

The one true God, Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.



SENDING HYMN: ELW #574 “Here I Am Lord”

THE DISMISSAL

The Kingdom of Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Today's Lay Leaders

Lector: Sandy Young

Ushers: Bill and Kathy Wakefield

Communion Assistant: Sue Clark

Altar Guild: Deanna Posig

Altar Guild for Wednesday Evenings: Joann Voegeli and
Joyce Weinert

Music & Worship Coordinator: Barb Regent

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Pastor Steve Kuhl, Interim Pastor

Crystal A. Roider, Office Manager

Altar flowers provided by

Joe Tevz in honor of his lovely wife, Joyce.



Special thanks to Sabrina Rivera for playing
the piano today!