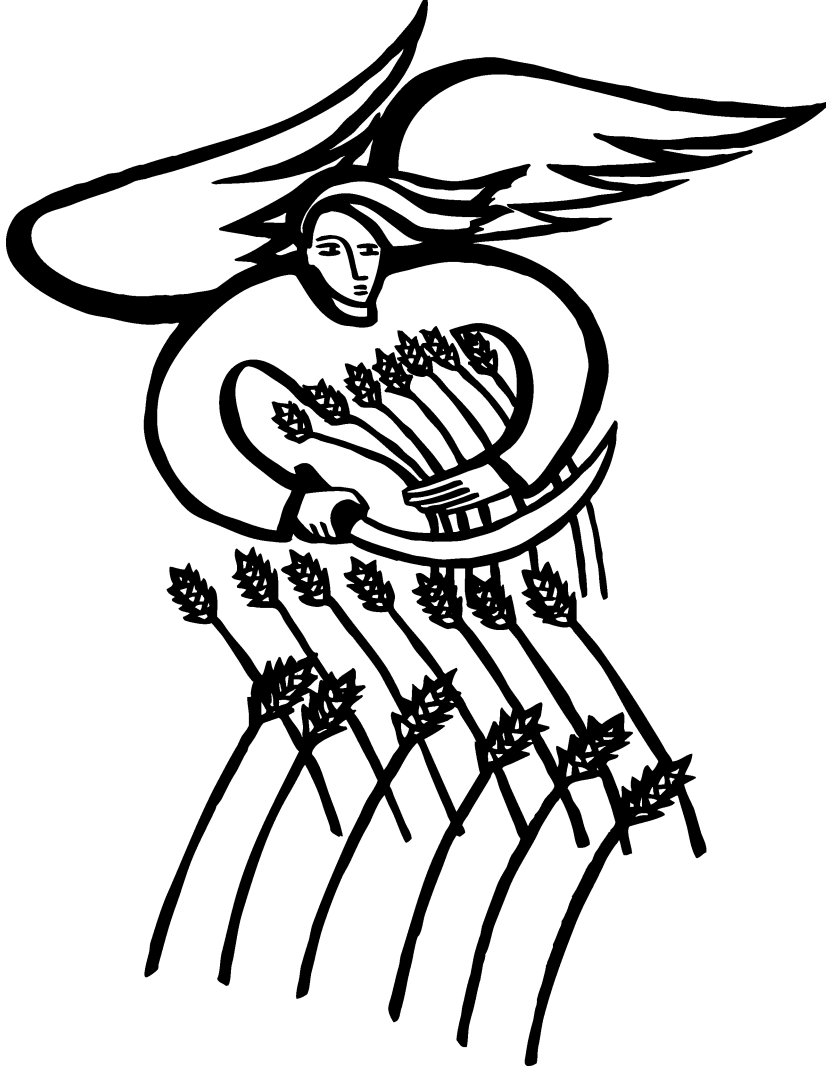


ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 19, 2026



Welcome to worship today!

As a reminder our worship services are available online: Zion Website:

<http://www.zionlewistownelca.com/worship/video-services>

YouTube Channel: Zion Lutheran Church, Lewistown, MT

Zion Lutheran Church
July 19, 2026 8th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

L Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

C **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.

L 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.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *Gather Us In*

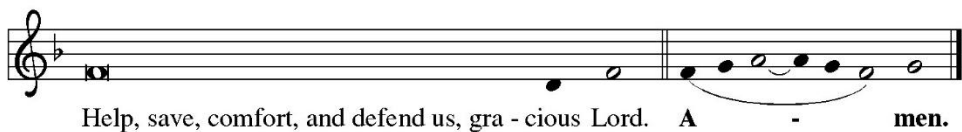
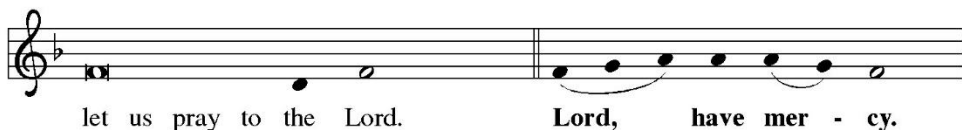
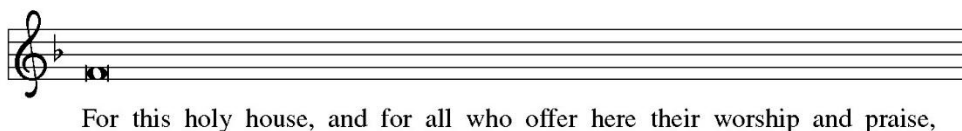
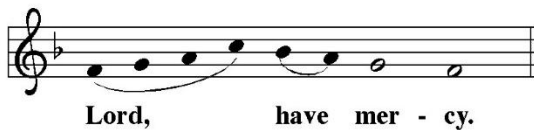
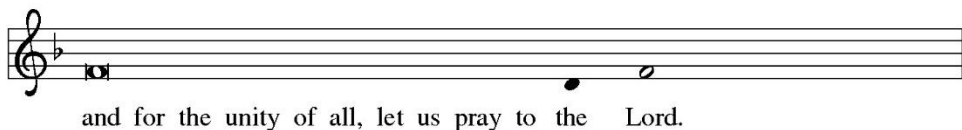
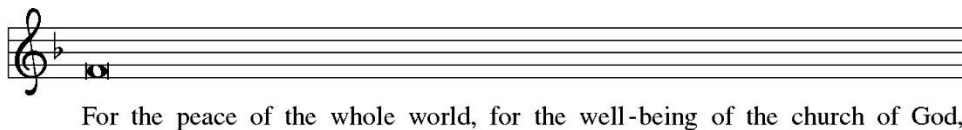
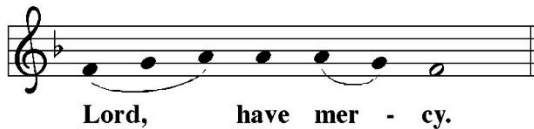
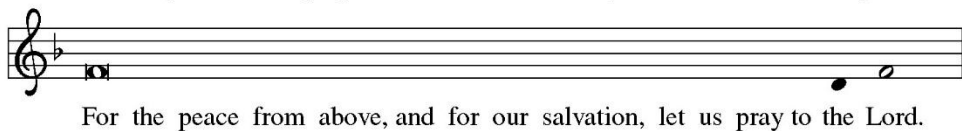
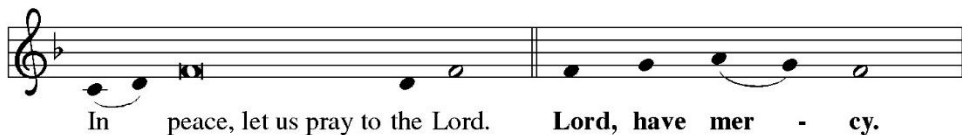
(ELW 532)

GREETING

L 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



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p.148)

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray. Faithful God,
C **most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

A reading from Isaiah.

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk ¹ in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with ¹ all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your | love toward me;

you have delivered me from the | pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people | seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;**

give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of your handmaid.

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be | put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | fortified me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

A reading from Romans.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)



GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

L The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where

there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

L The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast*

(ELW 516)

CREED

L With the whole church let us confess our faith.

**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

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

(Response to prayers)

L Gathering God,
C **hear our prayer.**

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

PEACE

L The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING



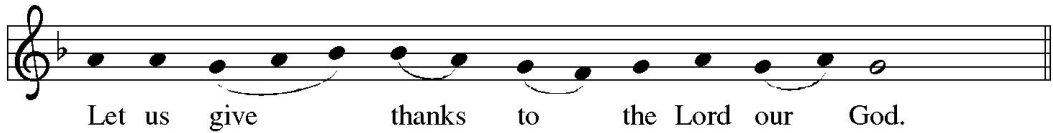
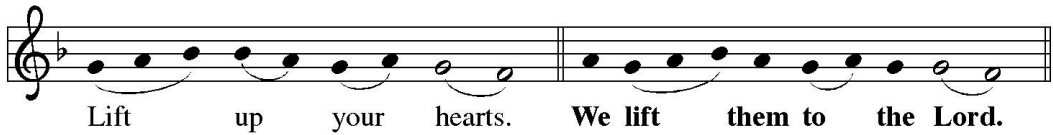
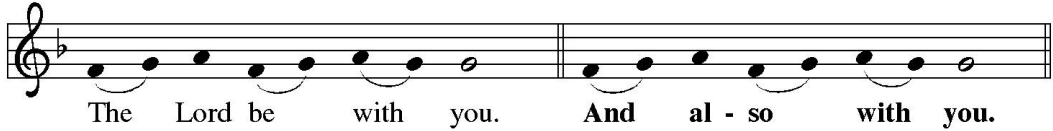
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

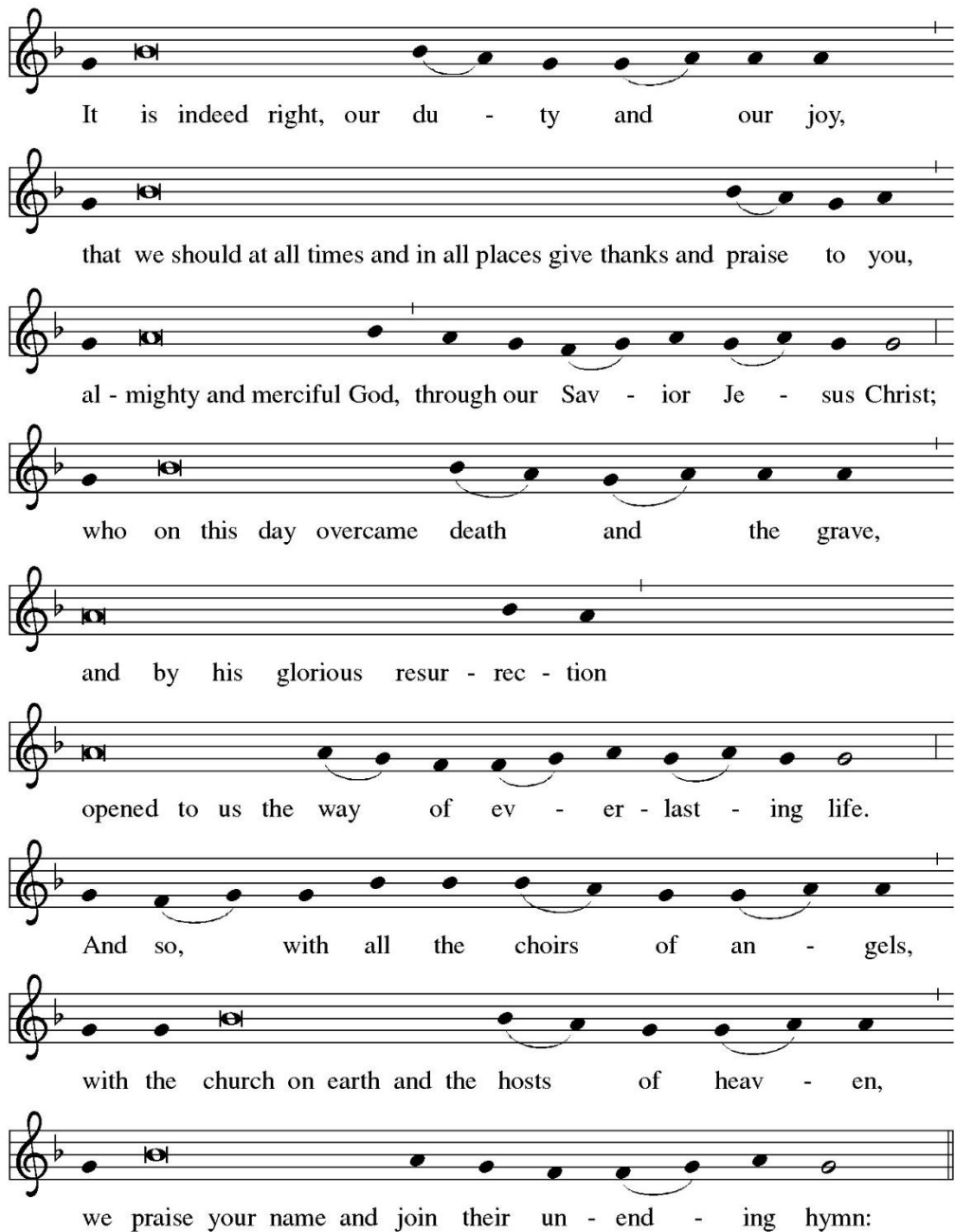
L Let us pray.

C Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE



It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a comma, the second with a period, the third with a period, and the fourth with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L 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

L Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

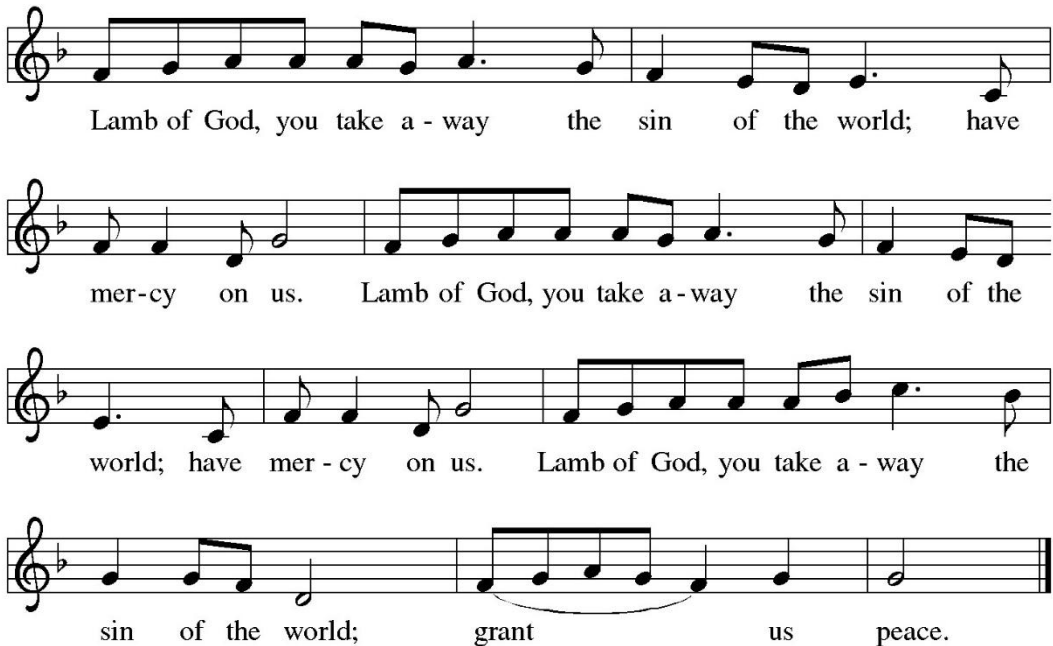
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 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.

SONG DURING COMMUNION *As the Grains of Wheat*

(ELW 465)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L Let us pray.

C We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

L Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

(ELW 535)

DISMISSAL

L Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C Amen.

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Serving Us:

Lay Minister: Meryl McKenna

Pianist: Rhonda Jeide

Lector: Teresa Stokken

Communion Assistants: Christy Rogers & Bill Cowen

Ushers: Monte Boettger & Laurie Bentley

Greeters: Glenn Stokken & Laurie Bentley

PowerPoint: Kyrie Benes

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Scott, Ed, Jessie, Norma D., Tia (Pam Bowen's granddaughter), Ken, Scott, Larry, Mike, Dianne, Gordon, Matt, Pam, Ron, Avis & Stephanie

Please call the office if you would like to join Prayer Partners.

Social Concern for July: Lutheran World Relief

Founded by Lutherans in the United States at the end of World War II, grounded in Lutheran theology and building on decades of experience, Lutheran World Relief tackles global poverty by helping people adapt to the challenges that threaten their livelihoods and well-being. Our goal is to help people build self-sufficiency and create new community-owned approaches to problem-solving that will last long after our projects end.

If you would like to contribute to this effort, please mark LWR in the memo line of your check.

Fall Adult Forum Series: Pr. Stacey is going to be teaching a 6 session Adult Forum Series starting on August 9th called, Holy Resistance: The Courage to Abide in an Age Divided. Look for details in the June ZLC newsletter or on posters around the church. Prior to our discussions, she would like everyone to pick up the book Evangelism in an Age of Despair: Hope Beyond the Failed Promises of Happiness, by Andrew Root. Please read or listen to the book over the summer, as you're able. She looks forward to having some great discussions about our modern times and how to best deliver God's good news of grace and hope to those in need of Christ's love and reassurance.

Week of 7/20 - 7/26

7/20	6:00pm	Council Meeting
7/22	12:00pm	Men Over Lunch
7/23	9:00am	Quilting
7/26	9:30am	Worship

Week of 7/27 – 8/2

7/29	12:00pm	Men Over Lunch
7/30	9:00am	Quilting
8/2	9:30am	Worship