

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

June 7th, 2026

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord's day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God's mercy for the world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

Morning Has Broken

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

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***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**

Let us pray.

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15-6:6

Because the people have trusted in military powers and not God, God decides to withdraw from the scene until Israel acknowledges its guilt and seeks God's face. The response of the people does not acknowledge this guilt and is as fickle as fog or dew burned away quickly by the sun. God desires loyalty rather than words or meaningless deeds.

A reading from Hosea:

I will return again to my place
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
In their distress they will beg my favor:

- ^{6:1} “Come, let us return to the Lord,
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.
² After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.
³ Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.”
- ⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

A Word for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 50:7-15

Call upon me in the day of trouble, says your God. (Ps. 50:15)

“Listen, my people, and I will speak: Israel, I will bear witness against you;
for I am God, your God.

⁸**I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices;
your burnt offerings are always before me.**

⁹I will not accept a calf from your stalls,
nor goats from your pens;

¹⁰**for all the wild animals of the forest are mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills. R**

¹¹I know every bird of the mountains,
and the creatures of the fields are mine.

¹²**If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.**

¹³Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls,
or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴**Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and make good your vows to the Most High.**

¹⁵Call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall honor me. **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as a living model of right relationships. For Abraham and for us, a right relationship with God involves trusting that God's promises will be fulfilled because God makes the dead alive and calls into existence what otherwise does not exist.

A reading from Romans.

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made

you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³ Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

A Word for God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL – Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

Jesus demonstrates God’s mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹² But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

¹⁸ While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹ for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. ²³ When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴ he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶ And the report of this spread through all of that district.

Praise to you, O Christ.

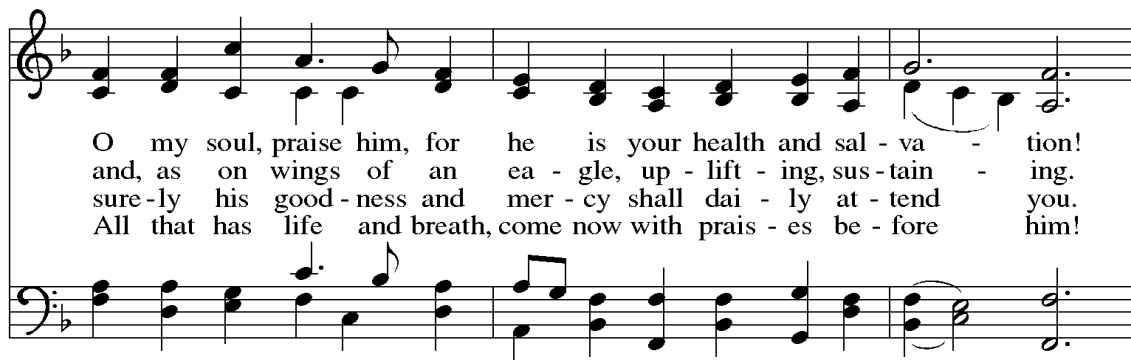
CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



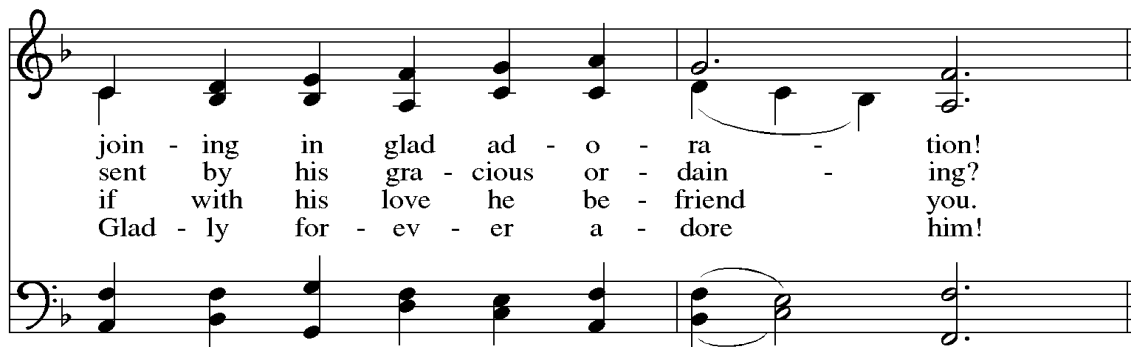
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



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!

***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.**

Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need. The following responses will be used after each petition: **Hear our prayer.***

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.
A brief silence.

God of mercy, you call us to a life filled with acts of mercy. Ground us in following Christ, that we might extend the mercy we receive. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of creation, all you have made is yours. Revive lands in need of healing and make us wise stewards of all you have given us to tend. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of the nations, you promise to deliver those who call on you. Bring an end to conflict, bigotry, and injustice in all their forms wherever they are found. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of comfort, you provide for those in need. Bring an end to addiction. Comfort people as they mourn. Provide tenderly for those in need. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of blessings, you send the Holy Spirit to provide varieties of gifts in the body of Christ. Accompany those who travel this summer, make our gatherings joyous, and grant us a spirit of hospitality and togetherness. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God of wisdom, we give you thanks for our congregation, for our sister congregation Peace Lutheran in South Haven with their pastor Rev. Travis Wilson and for First Congregational Church with their pastors Rev. Nate Craddock and Rev. EJ Staib. Give us wisdom as we move forward with our common mission of spreading your word throughout our communities. God of grace,
Hear our prayer.

God of life, we give you thanks for saints whose lives revealed your faithfulness. May remembering their faithfulness strengthen our own. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PEACE

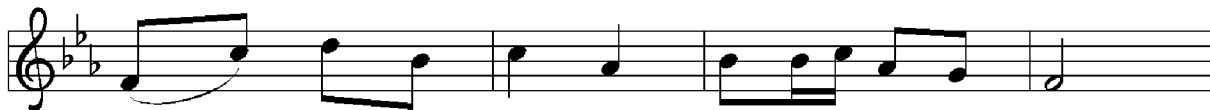
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING ANTHEM

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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OFFERING PRAYER

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

*** WORDS TO LOVE BY**

Where God's People Gather

The essence of CHURCH is your Christian family – those people around the world who follow Christ and commit themselves to Him and to each other. For Paul, the expression of the church meant a personal relationship among Christians. He most often compared the church to a human body. In a body, all the parts and details are important, and they usually function in harmony:

If one member is injured or sick, then the entire body suffers.

The members must operate in unison because if they try to go in opposite directions they won't get anywhere. Some members are more visible, while others play a vital role on the inside, but both types are necessary. There are no small parts in the body of Christ. If every member were the same, the body would look really weird and it wouldn't function very well.

Think about yourself: What is your role in the church? How do you fit in the body? Are you contributing to the health and fitness of the body? Being part of a church is a lot more than just attending a service on Sunday morning and tossing a few coins in the basket. Being part of a church involves an interactive relationship between people with Christ as their common bond. You can't walk out of the church on Sunday morning. You are part of the body all week long. The measure of a good sermon is the listener's response, not the pastor's speech! Don't leave the sermon at church!

Authors: Bruce and Stan

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

***BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✠ one God,

bles, heal, and hold you

today and always.

Amen.

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go share the good news!! **Thanks be to God**

POSTLUDE

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2055 E. Columbia Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49014
269-963-5356
tlcbattlecreek.org

Welcome! We believe God created all of humanity in God's image. Since every person is made in the image of God, every person is part of God's family. Whatever your gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, income, mental or physical ability, age, religious background, nationality, or political ideology, you are welcome here. Diversity of skills, gifts, talents, opinions, and experiences are strengthened in the body of Christ. "For all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28b).

Contact Info: For emergency pastoral care contact:

Pr. Ed Ruble, St. Peter Lutheran Church

Cell: 269-569-4721

Email: pastor@saintpeterbc.org

Our thanks to all those who give of their time, talent, and prayers for our church and God's work in the world.

Assisting in worship today:

Preaching: Tresa Garver

Assisting Minister: Kendra Witkowski-Lehman

Sound Board: Ellis Cutler

Streaming: John Kolodizieizyck

Music Director: Ronnie Cung

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

June 7 – June 14, 2026

TODAY: 11:00 am Worship, Coffee Hour

MONDAY:

TUESDAY: 2 – 4, Freeze Pop Tuesday

WEDNESDAY:

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY:

NEXT SUNDAY: 11:00 am, Worship, Coffee Hour

Readings for next Sunday: Exodus 19: 2 – 8a, Psalm 100, Romans 5: 1 – 8, Matthew 9:35 – 10:8 [9 – 23]

PRAYER REQUESTS Prayer requests are gathered from the spoken prayer requests during worship and can also be added by calling or emailing to office@tlcbattlecreek.org. Prayer requests will stay on the list for three weeks and can be renewed:

May 31: Tish: Roseann; **Eileen:** JoAnn & Steve Rusan, Valerie, Vada; **Tresa:** Beth, Jim, Angela; **Eric:** Herb, Himself; **Connie:** Families of Ken Johnson and Ross Jarrard, Dick Sheffer, Linda Herman; **Janelle:** Kelly Case, Jessica Hatch, Jenny Wyatt, Justin Stacy, Ginesa; **Kendra:** Gina

May 24: Eric: Herbert Nichols; **Connie:** Tresa, Linda, Angela; **Eileen:** Vada Mercer; **Janelle:** Ginesa

May 17: Connie: Jan and Mike, Olaf Stolen, Jack; **Tresa:** FCC

The Franklin Food Pantry desperately needs to have its shelves restocked. The items needed are: Canned goods, soups, fruits, vegetables; also, cereal, juice, boxed milk, toilet paper and soap. Cash donations are also appreciated. Please drop off any donations at church placing them in the wagon in the narthex. Thanks!!