

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

June 27-28, 2026

4:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE LAW IS GOOD

AS WE GATHER

Having been justified in Christ, how then shall we live? That is the vexing question. The Law that once could only accuse because of sin that stood in judgment over us now guides us to know what the life of the righteous in Christ looks like. The voice of God in the Law continues to set before us the path of a holy, upright, and godly life. Though the Law cannot move us to keep its words or even to appreciate its voice, God works by the Spirit in the life of the redeemed to show us what life looks like in Christ. In Christ, the Law guides us, and, by the gift of the Spirit, we learn not only to hear but to rejoice in its words and, as Luther says, to “gladly do what He commands.”

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Prelude

TBD

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Hymn

“Lord of Glory You Have Bought Us”

LSB 851

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 38:3*

Pastor: There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin.

People: **I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.**

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,

People: **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver according to Your mercy and grant peace to my heart so that I may serve You with all my mind, body, and soul.**

Pastor: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. As a servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

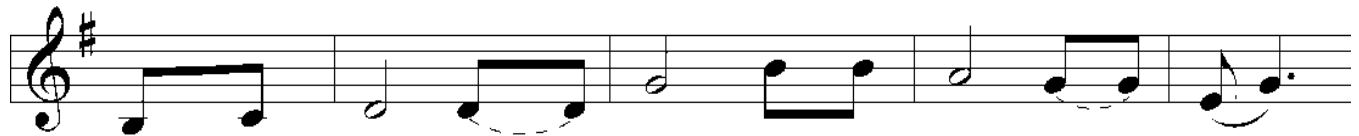
Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

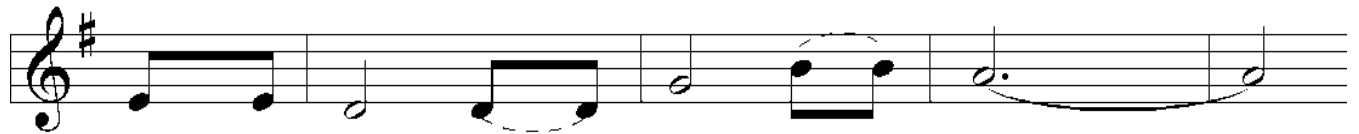
HYMN OF PRAISE

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

LSB 739



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

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✕ WORD ✕

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

(“It will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.”)

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet

who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Romans 7:1-13

(If you have died to the Law in Christ, you have been raised to bear eternal fruit.)

Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

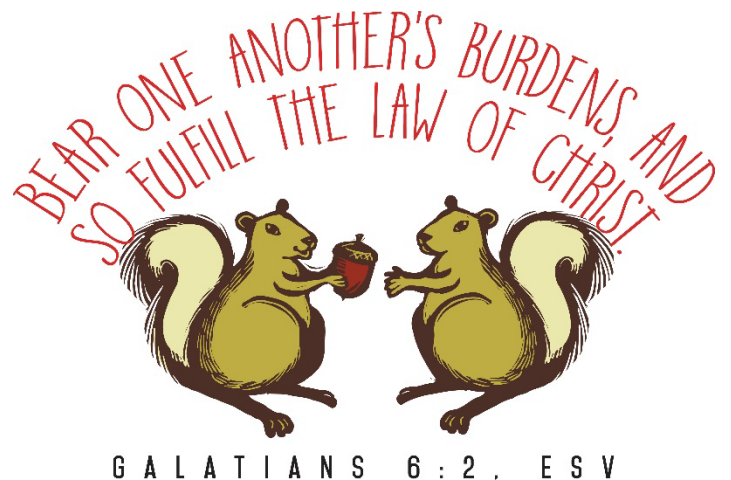
Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

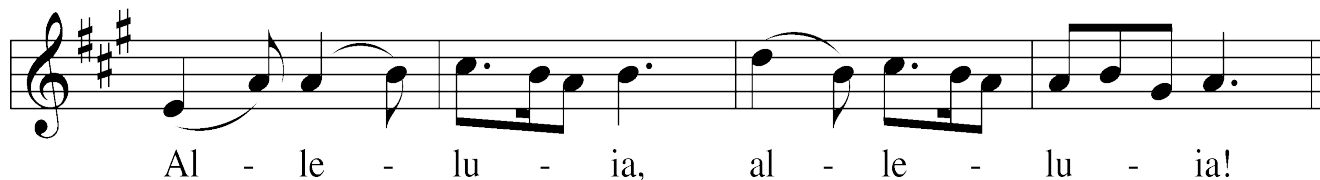
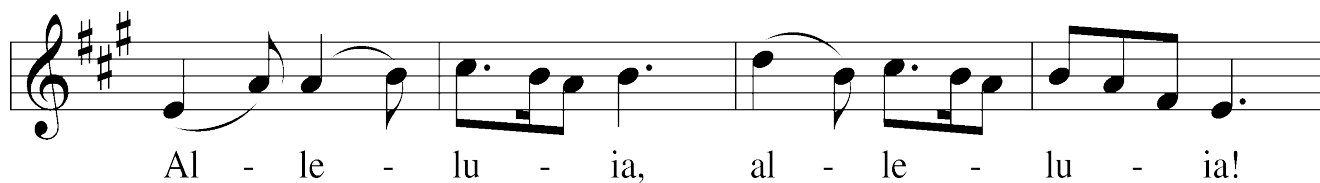


Please rise for the Verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE

Alleluia — II

LSB 952



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Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:34-42

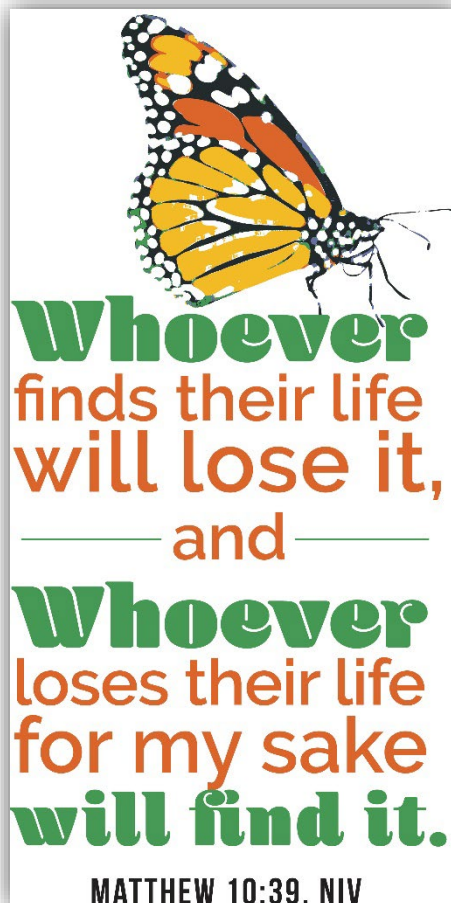
("Whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.")

Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



Children's Message (9:00)

Jenna Lawrenz

Hymn of the Day "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"

LSB 698

Sermon "Mending Torn Relationships"

Guest Preacher: Rev. Larry A. Alb
Text: Matthew 10:34-42

Nicene Creed

(found at the back of the hymnal)

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy ...

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

You may now greet one another in the name of the Lord using...Peace be with you!

Offering (4:00 pm - collected in back; 9:00 am – collected in the pews)

Offering Music (9:00) TBD

✠ HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION ✠

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface (Divine Service, Setting One)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation,

humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Divine Service, Setting One)

LSB 161

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

**People: 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.**

Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting One)

LSB 163

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Special Music

"Peace in the Valley"

by Thomas A. Dorsey
Tom Munson, soloist
Andy Munson, guitarist

Hymn

"Lord Jesus Christ We Humbly Pray"

LSB 623

Hymn

"The Law of God is Good and Wise"

LSB 579
(as time permits)

General Communion Blessing

Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen





Closing Hymn

“Thy Word is a Lamp”

LSB 973



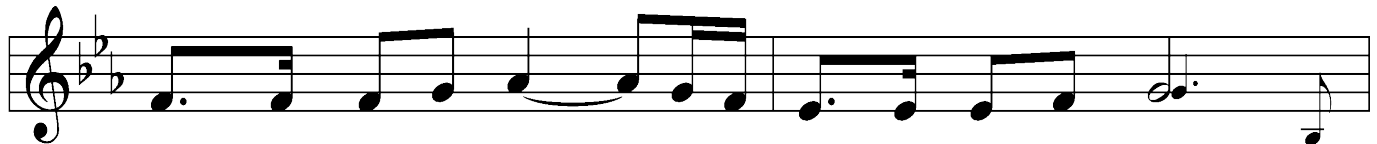
Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,
2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My



Still You're there right be - side me. And
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.



noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; And



Please be near me to the end. _____
I will love You to the end. _____

Refrain

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Congregational Concerns

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

TBD



*“Love does
no wrong to
a neighbor; therefore,
love is the fulfilling
of the law.”* Romans 13:10, NRSV

SERVING IN WORSHIP

PASTOR
PREACHER / CELEBRANT
MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP
ORGANIST
SOLOIST
GUITARIST
ELDERS
ACOLYTES
LECTORS
COMMUNION SERVER (4:00)
ALTAR GUILD

Pastor John Larson
Pastor Larry A. Alb
Rev. Michael Zehnder
Nancy Nordby
Tom Munson
Andy Munson
4:00 Jim Wert; 9:00 Arvin Michel
9:00 Arvin Michel
4:00 Dick Castleman; 9:00 Norm Finrock
Dick Castleman
Barbara Rutter, Charmaine Rohde



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