

# Welcome to Worship

June 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

---

**Pastor Beatrice Michals-Brown**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.  
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**

876

Let the Whole Creation Cry

**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 together.

**Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

# The Word

## First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

*Please be seated.*

O Lord, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.  
I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.  
For whenever I speak, I must cry out;  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the Lord has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.  
If I say, "I will not mention him  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.  
For I hear many whispering:  
"Terror is all around!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All my close friends  
are watching for me to stumble.  
"Perhaps he can be enticed,  
and we can prevail against him  
and take our revenge on him."  
But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not prevail.  
They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.  
Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.  
O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous;  
you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.  
  
Sing to the Lord;  
praise the Lord!  
For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,  
and shame has covered my face.

**I have become a stranger to my own kindred,  
an alien to my mother's children.**

Zeal for your house has eaten me up;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**I humbled myself with fasting,  
but that was turned to my reproach.**

Second Reading

Romans 6:1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

174

*Please stand as you are able.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“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 one’s foes will be members of one’s 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 up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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

Message

*Please be seated.*

Hymn of the Day

*Please stand as you are able.*

796

How Firm a Foundation

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

*Please be seated.*

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sharing of Peace

*Please stand as you are able.*

The Peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us offer one another a greeting of Christ’s peace.

## Offering Prayer

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.

## 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.**

### Preface

#### Holy

191



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

## The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

## Invitation to Communion

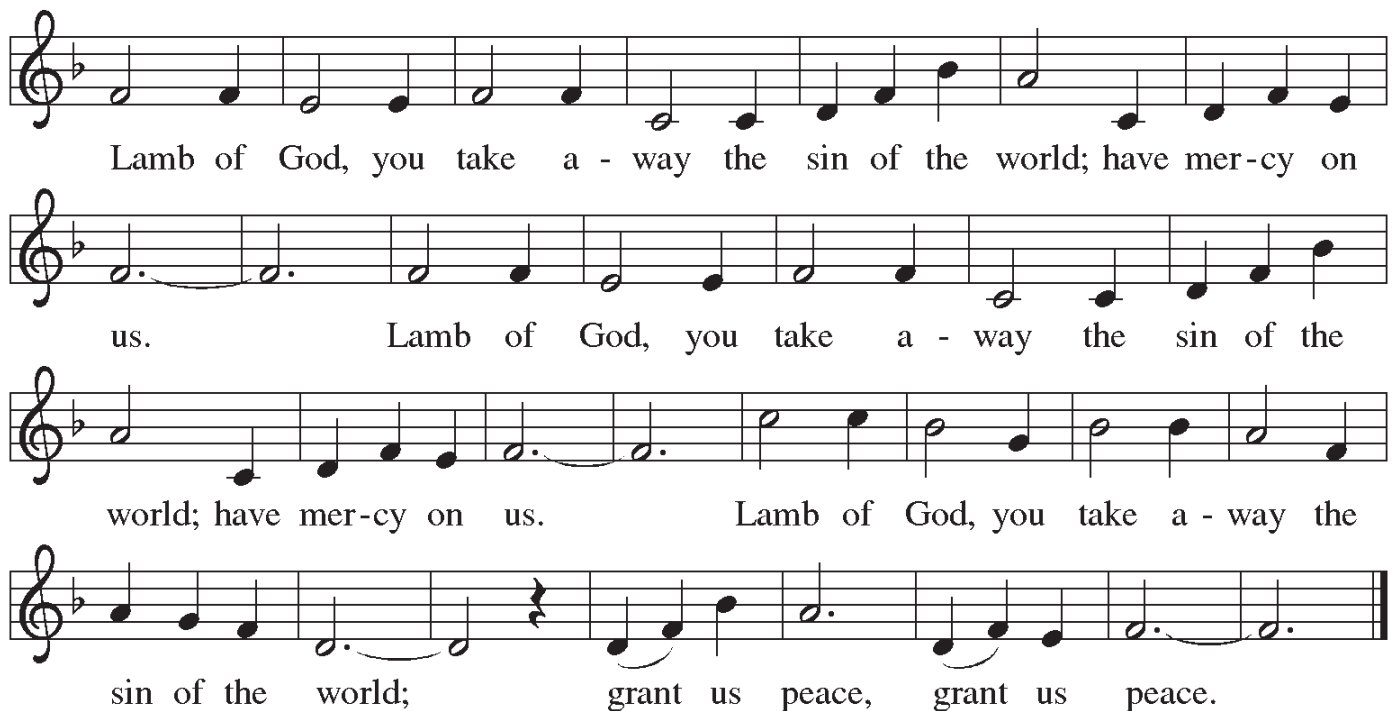
Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!

## Communion

*Please be seated.*

## Lamb of God

195



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.

## Hymns during Communion

810  
732

O Jesus, I Have Promised  
Borning Cry

## Prayer after Communion

*Please stand as you are able.*

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.

# **Sending**

## **Blessing**

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

## **Sending Hymn**

881

**Let All Things Now Living**

## **Dismissal**

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

## **Postlude**