

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Take MY yoke upon you.



July 5, 2026

10:00am

Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota. We acknowledge their leaders, past, present, and emerging.

GATHERING

Prelude Voluntary in A & Fugue in D *William Selby (1738–1798)*

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

Amen.

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,

we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation. Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us. We lament the evil that holds us captive. We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Opening Hymn *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* #608

Apostolic 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.

Hymn of Praise *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* #771

Prayer of the Day

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

WORD

Children's Message

The first reading is from Psalm 145

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,

¹²that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

The second reading is from Romans, chapter 7

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

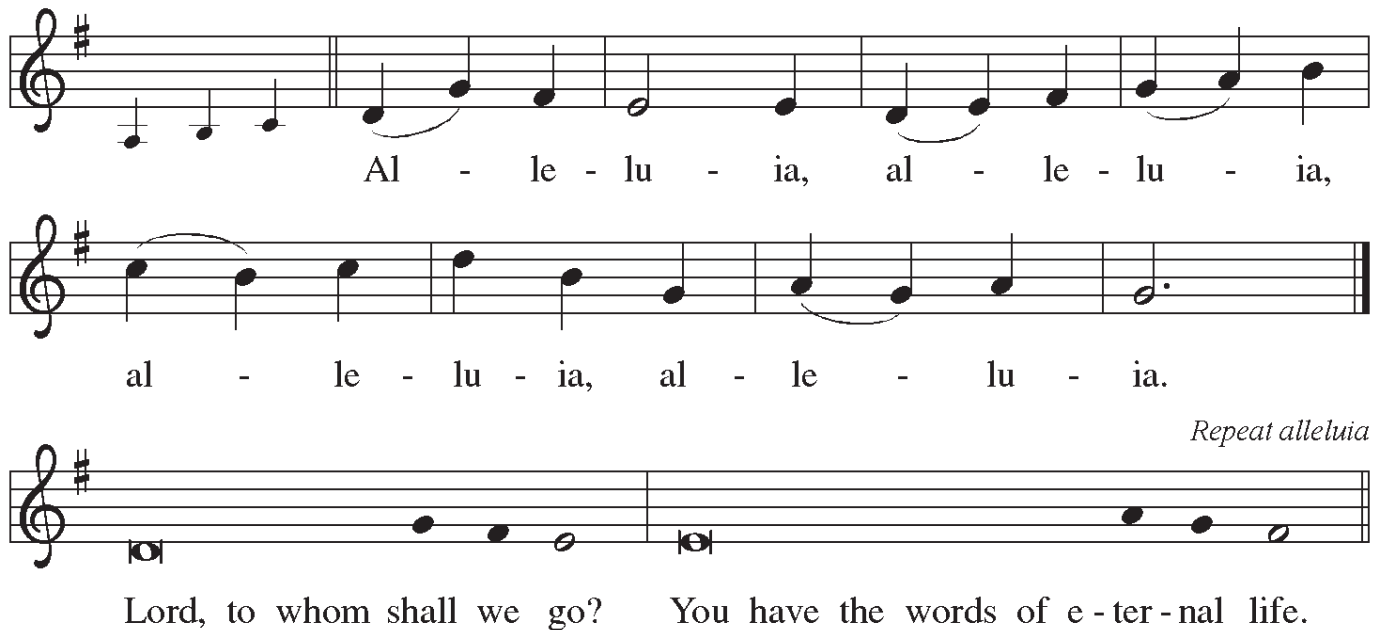
¹⁸For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched person that I am! Who will

rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

The Gospel for today comes from Matthew, chapter 11
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying: ¹⁶ "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷ 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' ¹⁸ 'For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn Precious Lord, Take My Hand

#773

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 the Church

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

A brief silence.

... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Peace

MEAL

Offering God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens *Wilbur Held (1914-2015)*

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

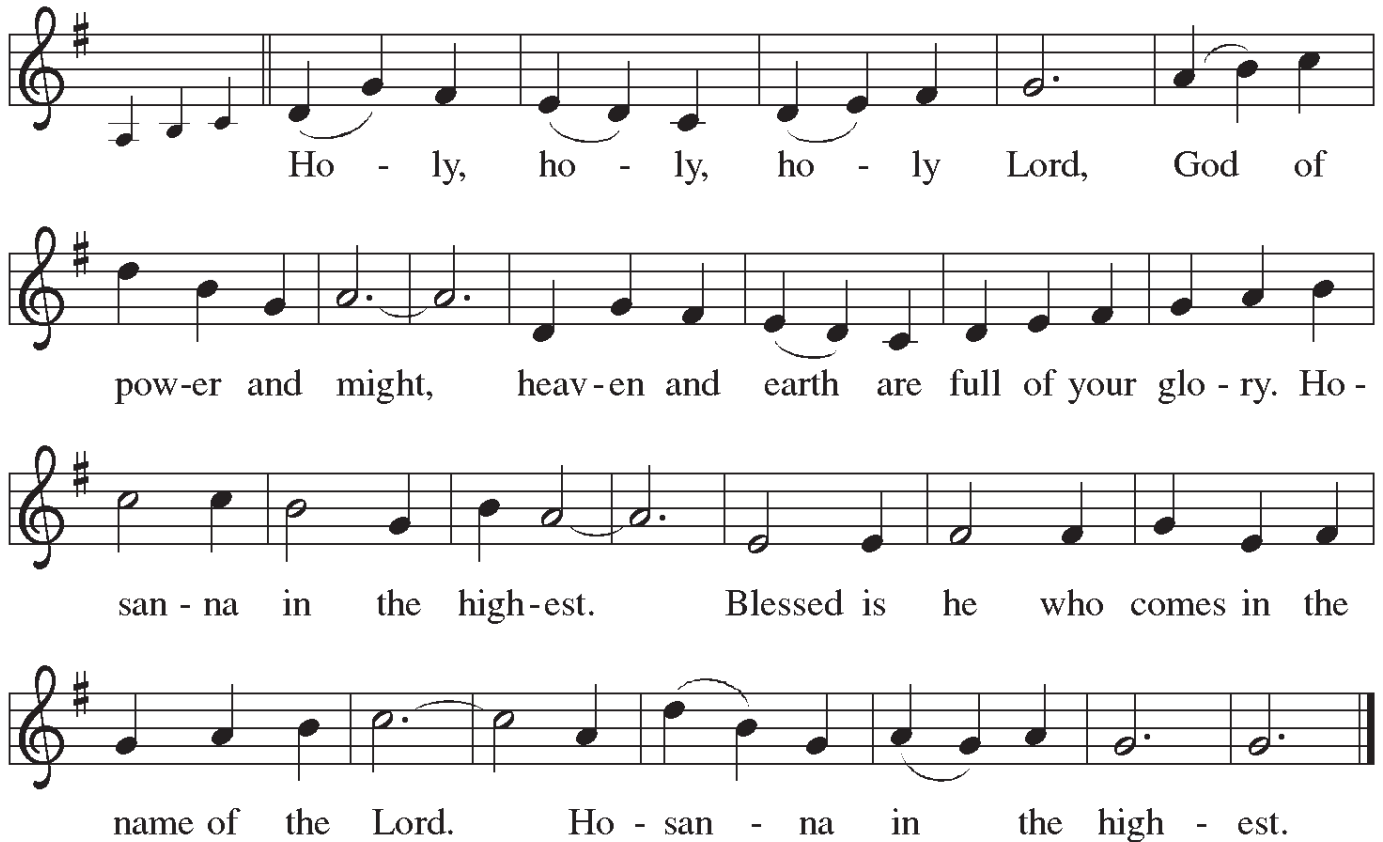
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

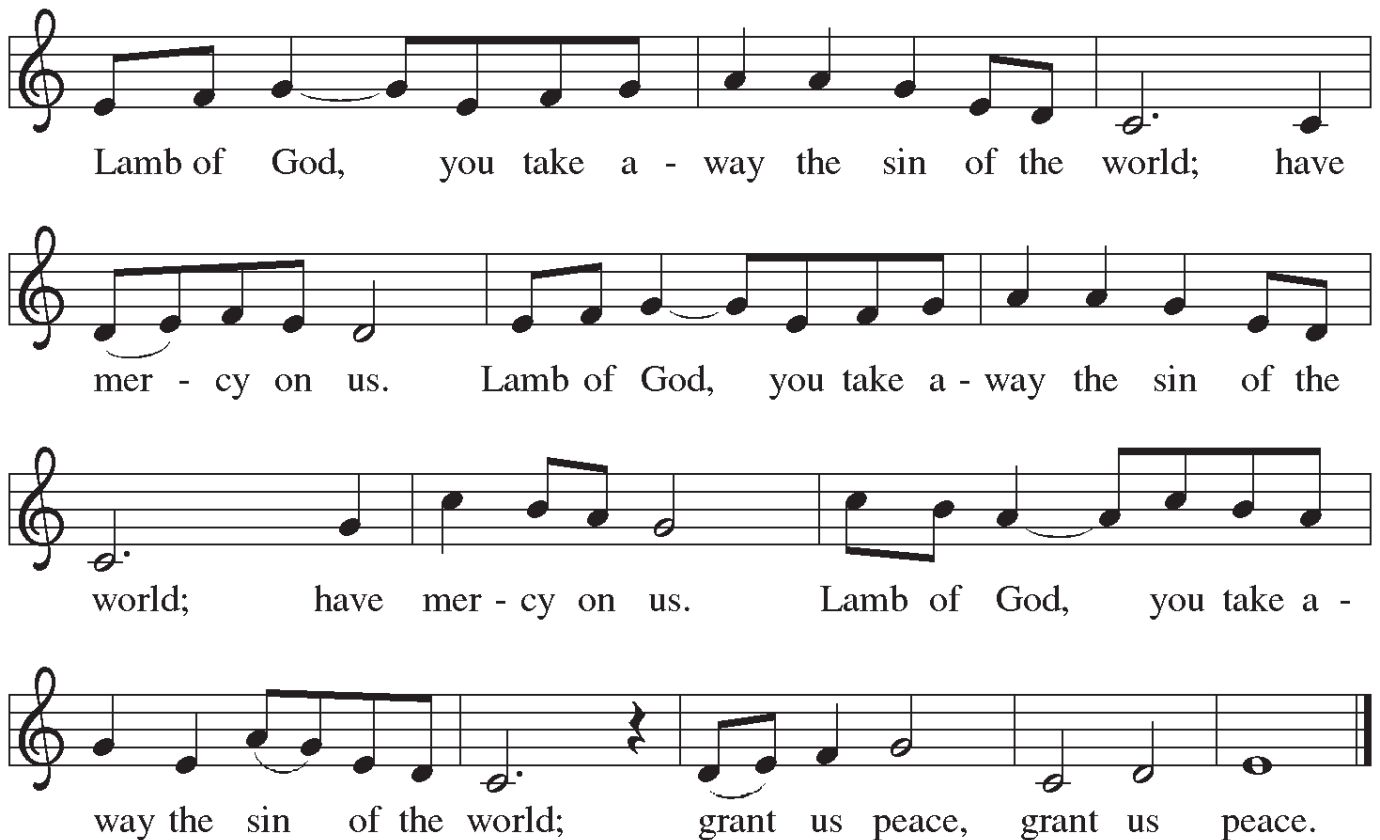
Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (sing)

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 debts
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

Communion

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



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.

Prayer After Communion

We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn *This Is My Song*

#887

Dismissal

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Variations on "America"

Charles Ives

Portions of service from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS103714

Licensing Permission

All music Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License # A-724795

Copyright

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling, 608, Public Domain

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens, 771 Text © 1967 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Arr. © 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Precious Lord, Take My Hand, 773 Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Alfred Publishing

This Is My Song, 887 Text Sts. 1,2 © 1934, 1962, Lorenz Publishing Company. St. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens, Wilbur Held

Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Reader: Jan Adams

Assisting Minister: Bev Page

Organist: Elaine Mann

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (5th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

MONDAY

Summer Camp – 6am

TUESDAY

Summer Camp – 6am
Grace Pacers – 9:30am
Prayer Group – 11am

WEDNESDAY

Summer Camp – 6am
Crafters – 9am
Text Study – 12noon
Clearwater Ringers – 5:30pm
AA meeting – 7pm

THURSDAY

Summer Camp – 6am

FRIDAY

Summer Camp – 6am

SUNDAY (12th)

Christmas in July
Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Grace Lutheran Foundation, Brighter than Sunshine, Grace Rising Wellness, ECWiT, Theater Guild



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
2026-7-5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas in July

Next Sunday's service we will be celebrating Christmas in July by singing Christmas carols.

We will be collecting Wish List items from Sojourner and Beacon House now through July 12th.

- Sojourner: deodorant, bottled water, toothpaste, bug spray and sunscreen
- Beacon House: paper towels, baby wipes, diapers size 4–8, new pillows and bath towels.

Labeled boxes will be placed in the Narthex.

Mission Outreach Ministry

Summer Activities

We are once again hosting the 2026 Sunsational Summer Camp with school age participants that will provide a lively environment in the Parlors and Memorial Assembly most weekdays. We are excited to join with the foundation, Grace Lutheran Communities, in making this opportunity available. This program is extremely popular and fills up quickly after the enrollment period opens. We will enjoy the sound of children's voices as well as the youthful and professional staff that make the program successful. The whole crew is frequently out in the community on a wide range of field trips. One parent represents the experience of many when she says, "Ensuring my children have both an enjoyable and adventurous summer with trusting, responsive, and safe staff members is a top priority for me. Having the opportunity to partner with the Grace Lutheran Foundation's 'Sunsational Summer Camp' for the last two year, has provided our family with just that!"



Summer Concert Band

The Eau Claire Municipal Band is starting their summer concert series. The band will perform at the Sarge Boyd Bandshell in Owen Park every Monday at 7:30 from June 8 to July 27. Hope to see everyone there!



Join our regular community walks around the neighborhood.

Grace Pacers

Tuesdays 9:30am / Starting June 16th
Meet in Chapel on 2nd floor off Sanctuary
(Rain day Thursday same week)

Duration: 30 minutes (approx.)

Pace: At your own pace

Age: All are welcome

Intensity: Low to moderate (no steep hills or stairs) with a variety of routes

What to bring: Comfortable walking shoes and your water bottle

Need a ride to join: Let us know!

Let's walk this road together!

Grace Walking Group

As our first response to the areas of interest expressed in the survey we took several weeks ago, weekly walks by the informal group we will call “Grace Pacers” will begin this Tuesday morning at 9:30am, weather permitting. This is a time to get to know each other better and to tend the bodies God has given us. The information is below. Thanks to Barb Piper for thinking through the details for us.

Blessing Box

Summer is finally here and we still need food and other supplies for our Blessing Box. Our Blessing Box is open all year and we would like to keep it stocked especially in the summer months when many of us are away on vacation. Here are some of the items we need:

- cereal
- crackers
- soap
- packaged soup
- packaged noodles
- toothpaste
- tuna pouches
- packaged potatoes
- granola bars
- peanut butter

Since we are in the warmer months, we are able to collect any canned goods or liquid items.

You can drop off any donations outside the church office or at the Friendship Door. You are also always welcome to put any donations directly into the Blessing Box at any time.

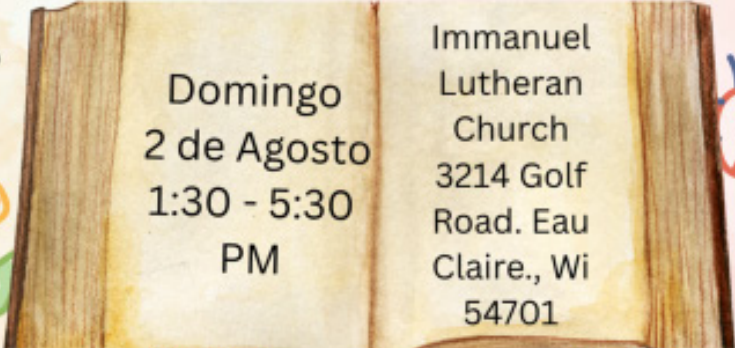
Thank you for your continued support.



**Escuela Bíblica de
Vacaciones**

DE COLORES

presenta
"En la Mesa"



Domingo
2 de Agosto
1:30 - 5:30
PM

Immanuel
Lutheran
Church
3214 Golf
Road. Eau
Claire., Wi
54701





Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org



Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org/our-ministry> Bulletins may also be found on the same page.

Recordings of worship services are broadcast Sundays 10:30am on WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

Past services are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page — <http://grace-church.org/our-ministry>

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713