

# Service of Holy Communion

## 5th Sunday after Pentecost

### All My Days Worship Series

#### June 28th, 2026



#### GATHERING

##### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The Congregation stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

*The congregation is seated. Silence is kept for reflection.*

P. Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God, **we confess to 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.**

P. 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.**

##### **CENTERING AND INVOCATION**

P. Welcome back to our series on prayer. Today we begin to unpack the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples by looking closely at the significance of the first line. Abba is the Aramaic name for God that Jesus used. This was a very intimate term — referring to God as family — and was a radical idea in Jesus' day. Relationship was central to Jesus' teaching and what he passed on to us is that we are as close with the Divine as a parent and child. How might addressing God with a diversity of names in prayer help form us as disciples and make God more present to us? "Presence" is our focus about prayer today. God is always present, but are we?

We arrive fully into this moment, Holy One. We open to sense your presence among us. We hear you say,

**I am present with you.**

We need you, Jesus, to help us. We come to you as your first disciples did.

We hear you say,

**I am present with you.**

Spirit of Divine Love, Come to us with your healing waters. We hear you say,

**I am present with you.**

Centering us in the present moment let us sing together:



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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P. Those of you who were here last week know that we are using an ancient tradition of prayer beads to help us spend more time in prayer. Bring your beads back each week but we will always have “loaners” on hand if you forget. For those who do not have any please feel free to keep them and bring them back with you each Sunday for the series.

I invite us to a few moments of silence. Feel your rhythms slow a bit. Simply hold the prayer beads in your hands. Begin to sense that the presence of God is as close and real as the beads in your hands.

*Silence*

P. Take a deep breath. You are not alone. We are connected to God. This is not “pie in the sky” but a presence that is close and real in all created things—in the sun that shines on us, in the people that cross our paths, in the tangible presence of these beads. Let us worship God, follow Christ, and revel in the Spirit of Presence in this place. **Amen.**

*Congregation stands*

**THE GREETING**

P. 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**

A. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C. Lord, have mercy.**

A. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C. Lord, have mercy.**

A. 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.

**C. Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C. Lord, have mercy.**

A. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C. Amen**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all  
 crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye  
 heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P. O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Congregation is seated*

## WORD

### **FIRST READING: Romans 8:15-17**

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!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 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.

A. Word of God, word of life.

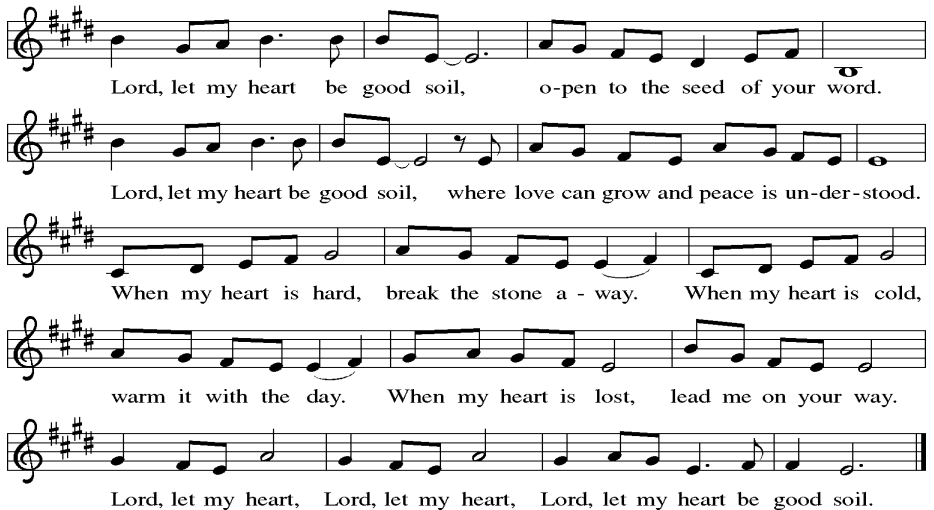
**C. Thanks be to God.**

### **A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL**

*Children & Youth are invited forward for a special sermon time with Pastor.*

*Congregation stands*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

### **GOSPEL: Mark 14:35-36**

P. The holy gospel according to Mark. **C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, “Abba, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want.”

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

*Congregation is seated*

*Congregation stands*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

Build a Longer Table

ACS 1062

*(printed in the back of the bulletin)*

## APOSTLE'S 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

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

A. Faithful God, establish your church to offer welcome and proclaim your peace. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Creator God, bring life to places experiencing drought, deforestation, and pollution. Help us to cultivate and care for the natural world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Loving God, bring an end to conflict and division. Sustain the work of prophets in our time, and work through world leaders to foster understanding,

justice, and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We pray especially for... those we name aloud... and those we hold in our hearts... Bless caregivers as they show God's hospitality through their generous service. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Living God, lead us from death to life. Inspire new ministries and endeavors, renew established ones, and strengthen our welcoming presence to our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Eternal God, we remember the faithful departed of this community and of the wider church and world. We give thanks for saints of all times and places. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

## **HONORING OUR GRADUATE**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

*Congregation is seated*

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

The Presence of the Lord Is Here

*Stone & Cates*

## **MEAL**

### **OFFERTORY INVITATION**

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*Offering can be given by putting it in the offering plate when it is passed, online directly via the QR codes for Tithely or Venmo, or by requesting your bank to send a check to the church. Find more details on our website.*

***Thank you for your generous gifts!***

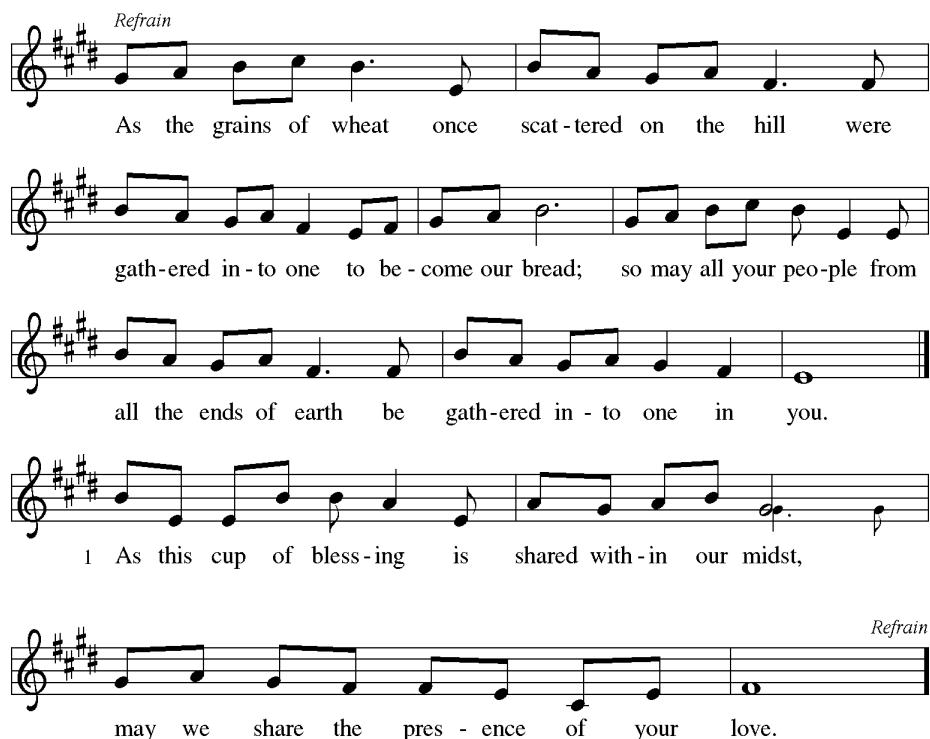
Scan to give  
via Tithely ↓



*Congregation stands*

## OFFERTORY SONG

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.  
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
*Refrain*  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. 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.**

## DIALOGUE & PREFACE OF THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

**Our Father, who art in heaven.**

Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

**Hallowed be thy name!**

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy** (*Sing 2x—English 1st time; Spanish 2nd time*)



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra-zón te a - do - ra.  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra-zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to e-res Se - ñor.  
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional  
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

*Congregation is seated*

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P. Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. He came to teach us how close you are to us. He came to remind us that our work is this:

**Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

And so, your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

Jesus used the most common of items to remind us that all gifts come from God, including the gift of unending grace.

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

Even as he said these things, he knew that he would be betrayed. And yet he forgave. We ask for God's help to accomplish this in our own lives:

**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to do the right thing even when it is difficult. We pray:

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

And so we ask you, God to pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.**

Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

*version by Mother Thunder Mission*

**Holy One, our only Home, hallowed by your name. May your day dawn, your will be done, here, as in heaven. Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other. Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil. For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

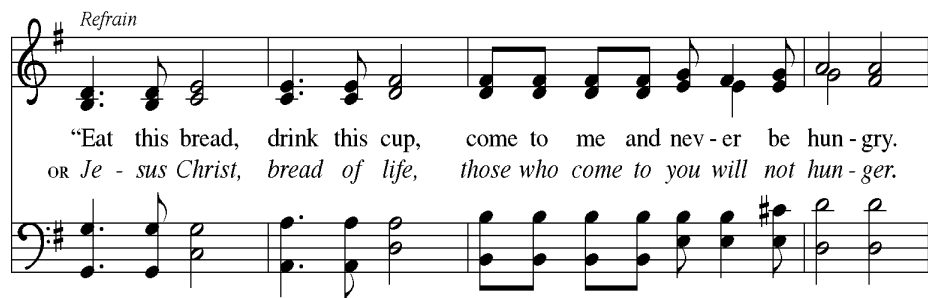
*Believing in the real presence of Christ, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to Communion this morning. Please come forward, guided by the Ushers, to receive the bread and wine. Children are invited to the table for a blessing.*

*Gluten free and traditional wafers are available, please note this to Pastor Peggy when you come up. The bread is dairy and egg free. Grape juice is available in the second communion plate. As you return to your seat via the side aisles you can place your empty cup in the baskets on either side.*

P. The prayer that Jesus taught is also a template for how he lived, and how he invited us all to be part of his ministry of bringing a little “heaven on earth.” Remembering this prayer, we prepare ourselves to feast at the heavenly banquet on earth as it is in heaven. Let us come to the table.

## COMMUNION SONG

*Refrain*



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.  
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”  
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*After all have received Communion the congregation stands.*

## TABLE BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

*Congregation is seated*

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray...Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BENEDICTION

P. God knows our words before they're said, knows our need and we are fed. God gives us life, knows our ways, our strength, our path, for all our days; our strength, our path, for all our days. Go into the world with the assurance that God goes with you, Jesus prays for you, and the Spirit breathes through you † all your days. Let the people say, **Amen!**

### SENDING HYMN

God Welcomes All

ACS 978 repeat 5x

*(printed in the back of the bulletin)*

### DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

# Announcements for June 28th, 2026

*Welcome to Holy Counselor Lutheran Church. May you experience the joy of God's presence in our worship!*

*If today is your **first time** worshipping at Holy Counselor, please be sure to fill out the "Guest Book" on the table in the narthex and **take a welcome bag**. Please ask our ushers any questions you may have regarding worship this morning. **Large print bulletins are available.***

*The **Pray-ground** is a special place to help **support kids and families** in worshipping. We love the sound of kids in worship! God made kids wiggly and curious, and we celebrate that here. **Tips:** explain, participate, and move around together. Need to leave? No problem, but please come back!*

***Worship is live streamed** to our church Facebook page, but the camera is pointed away during Communion and is not on the children when they come forward during A Time for the Child in Us All. **Anyone on the altar is on camera.***

~~~~~  
***Thank you, Heeren Family for this morning's refreshments!!***  
~~~~~

## Volunteers for Today's Worship

<b>Lay Asst.</b>	Nancy Knecht
<b>Ushers</b>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
<b>Tech</b>	Mark Rossi
<b>Tellers</b>	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
<b>Refreshments</b>	Heeren Family

**\*\*\*\*\* Join us for refreshments after worship\*\*\*\*\***

## THIS WEEK AT HOLY COUNSELOR

**Sunday, June 28:** Outdoor Worship w/Communion, 9:30am  
Graduation Sunday

**Tuesday, June 30:** Pastor's Community Office Hours, Daily Bean, 12:30-2:30pm  
Mindfulness Walk, Maple Grange, 4:30-5:30pm

**Sunday, July 5:** Outside Worship w/Communion, 9:30am

**Pastor's Community Office Hours:** Pastor Peggy will be at the **Daily Bean, THIS Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-2:30pm** for Community Office Hours. All are welcome to visit as she is present in the community.

**Mindfulness Walk:** Join Pastor Peggy for a **mindfulness walk at Maple Grange Park THIS Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-5:30pm.** We will meet in the first parking lot and determine our route based on the group. You're invited to **wear your 'Live Generously T-shirt'**. All ages are welcome!

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS is less than a month away! **Register today** at [myvbs.org/hclclvernon](http://myvbs.org/hclclvernon) for **God's Good Creation, July 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> from 1-4pm.** We are also **looking for volunteers** to help with snacks, games, and more! Talk to Kristina Heeren if you are interested and able.

**AED Donations:** Our new AED is almost paid off. **Thank you for all your generous donations!** We are \$320 close to covering the outstanding cost not covered by the grant. If you would like to **donate to help cover the cost of the new AED** please note 'AED' with your donation. Thank you for helping our church be a safe place if an emergency ever occurs.

**Lunch Bunch:** The Lunch Bunch is a **new group** for women of the church, available during the day, to gather for lunch once a month at various restaurants. The next **Lunch Bunch is Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm at St. Mortiz Grill in Sparta.** Connect with Diane Rossi for more details.

**Plastic Film Recycling Program Update:** Thank you to everyone who is diligently bringing in plastic! We are off to a slow start to earn a second bench from NexTrex, but we still have plenty of time. We need to submit 1,000 pounds of plastic wrap and bags within a 12-month period. To achieve that goal, we should be averaging 83 pounds per month, currently **we've collected 96 pounds in our first two months** of this new cycle. Please collect from your friends and families to help increase our numbers while helping to keep this plastic out of our landfills.

**Flat Jesus:** Take pictures of your adventures with Flat Jesus! **Email your pictures** to Pastor Peggy and she will post them on our social media. You can **post them yourself** and tag the church as well. Add the hashtag **#FlatJesus** and/or **#JesusIsOnTheMove** plus **#HolyCounselorVernon** and/or **#VernonLutheranChurch**

**Food Pantry: Food items to help restock:** 4-pack toilet paper, pasta sauce, canned tuna, canned chili, canned corn, canned soup, canned green beans, peanut butter, jelly, children's juice boxes or pouches. You can always bring donations of canned goods, paper goods, and hygiene products. All donations can be **placed in the blue bin** by the sanctuary doors. Thank you!

## High School Graduate 2026

Kevin Drache is graduating from Vernon Township High School. He will be attending St John's University in Queens, New York, majoring in Sports Management.

\*\*\*Congratulations! May God bless you on your journey!\*\*\*



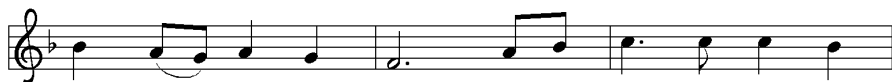
## All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



*Refrain*  
 Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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## Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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## God Welcomes All

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transc. and arr. John L. Bell.

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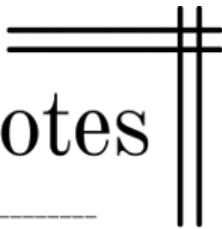
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For God's Children of all ages!

# Worship Notes

Sunday's Date: \_\_\_\_\_



My Favorite Song:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



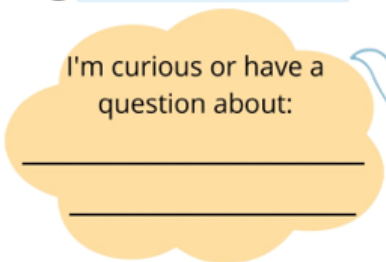
This week, I'm praying for:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



I'm curious or have a question about:

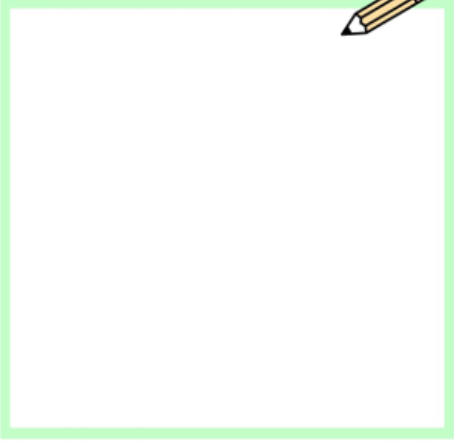

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Today's Focus Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_

I would draw it like:



**Word Count**

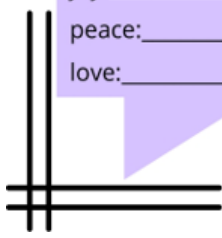
How many times did you hear each of these words today? Make a tally.

grace: \_\_\_\_\_

joy: \_\_\_\_\_

peace: \_\_\_\_\_

love: \_\_\_\_\_



# God's Good Creation



Register Here



## Vacation Bible School 2026

**July 20th-23rd**  
**1-4pm**



68 Sand Hill Road in Vernon, NJ  
Open to all kids: Pre-K-5th grade  
\$10 for one kid; \$20 for a family; Scholarships available  
Youth and Adults are invited to volunteer!



**Contact Information**

(973) 827-5251 office

[www.hc-lutheranchurch.org](http://www.hc-lutheranchurch.org)

The Reverend Peggy Ludlow: [pastorpeggy@hc-lutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastorpeggy@hc-lutheranchurch.org)

Director of Music: June Tarantino: [music@hc-lutheranchurch.org](mailto:music@hc-lutheranchurch.org)

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

***As Children of God,  
we are called to share and serve  
Christ's love and bring God's word to all.***

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Pastor Rev. Peggy Ludlow**

**President Nancy Knecht**

**Vice President Frank Urbaniak**

**Treasurer Claire Speroni**

**Recording Secretary Dawn McCormick**

**Financial Secretary John Heeren**

**Outreach Coordinator Francine Vince**

**Nurture Coordinator Fred Schoenagel**

**Administration Coordinator Diane Rossi**

**PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Kristina Heeren

Pam Kucks

Matt Moller

Aileen Donovan

*Holy Counselor is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Munsee people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.*

