

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
Sunday, July 5, 2026
6th Sunday after Pentecost

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship**

P: Welcome! Whether you've come from across town or across the country, God gathers us here with open arms.

C: We come with thankful hearts, grateful for this new day and God's abundant grace.

P: As we celebrate Independence Day, we give thanks for the blessings of freedom and pray for all who work for justice, peace, and the common good.

C: We remember that in Christ we are set free to love God and to serve our neighbors.

P: Come, let us worship the One whose mercy is everlasting, whose welcome is for all people, and whose love unites us.

C: Let us rejoice in the Lord! Alleluia!

***Hymn**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

ELW 888

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.

***Prayer of the Day**

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

- ⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
- ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
- ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.
L: Word of God. Word of Life
C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-14

- ⁸ The Lord is gracious and full [|] of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in [|] steadfast love.
- ⁹ **Lord, you are [|] good to all,**
and your compassion is over [|] all your works.
- ¹⁰ All your works shall praise [|] you, O Lord,
and your faithful [|] ones shall bless you.
- ¹¹ **They shall tell of the glory [|] of your kingdom**
and speak [|] of your power,
- ¹² that all people may know [|] of your power
and the glorious splendor [|] of your kingdom.
- ¹³ **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures**
through- [|] out all ages.
You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in [|] all your works.
- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all [|] those who fall
and lifts up those who [|] are bowed down.

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-20

- ¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For 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. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

L: Word of God. Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

***Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord

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.”

P: The gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

Sermon

Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

***Hymn**

God Bless Our Native Land

ELW 891

***Holy Baptism**

pg 227

Baptism: Tammy Jo Pingel

Parents: Donald Pingel III and Kay Dessinger

*** Prayers of Intercession**

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

***Peace** (*Feel free to share a handshake or hug*)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering: *Please consider giving an offering for the mission and ministry of St. Olaf. We can continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ with your support and generosity. God bless you. Also, please pass the attendance sheets down your row and fill out your info.*

***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.

*** 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.

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

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

Communion Hymns

Amazing Grace

ELW 779

***Prayer After Communion**

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.

***Blessing**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***Hymn**

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

ELW 890

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Assisting in Worship

Presider: Pastor Emily Sauer-Alvarez

Organist: Jason Swedlund

Reader: Lynda Mumm

Communion Assistants: Lynda Mumm, Vera Hartman, Stacy Hendrickson

Ushers: Craig Hamilton, Viv Nore, Karla Berg, Terry Hansen

Tech: Marc Matthes

6/28

Offering: \$ 5672

Attendance: 87