

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP  
AT  
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH***



***Fourth Sunday of Pentecost  
Sunday June 21st, 2026***

Matthew Hembrook will be leading our worship service today.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Brian Hinkley*

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection.

*Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)*

### CALL TO WORSHIP *876 Let the Whole Creation Cry Vs 1*

- 1 Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!"  
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty king!"  
Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;  
sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice.

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as Pastor begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who calls us beloved children,  
who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Faithful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, Our risen Lord. Amen.**

P: In the name of † Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

**C: Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN** *806 O God, My Faithful God*

- 1 O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever flowing,  
without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing:  
give me a healthy frame, and may I have within  
a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin.
- 2 Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing  
whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling--  
to do it when I ought, with all my might--and bless  
whatever I have wrought, for you must give success.
- 3 Keep me from saying words that later need recalling;  
guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling;  
but when, within my place, I must and ought to speak,  
then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.
- 4 When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless;  
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless;  
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,  
and, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.

**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** *ELW 154*

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Have mercy O Lord.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE *This is The Feast ELW Setting 4 Pg 149*

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**All: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation; Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . . 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.

**C: Amen.**

## FIRST READING *a reading from Jeremiah 20:7-13*

*Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.*

<sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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."

<sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 69:7-18**

*Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)*

<sup>7</sup> Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

<sup>8</sup> **I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.**

<sup>9</sup> Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup> **I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.**

<sup>11</sup> I put on sackcloth also, and became a byword among them.

<sup>12</sup> **Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me.**

<sup>13</sup> But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

<sup>14</sup> **Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

<sup>15</sup> Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

<sup>16</sup> **Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.**

<sup>17</sup> Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

<sup>18</sup> **Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me.**

## **SECOND READING *a reading from Romans 6:1b-11***

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

<sup>1b</sup> Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***Refrain:***

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light onto my path.**

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light onto my path.**

**When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me.**

**And nothing will I fear as long as you are near.**

**Please be near me to the end. *Refrain***

## **GOSPEL**

**P: The Holy Gospel according to *Matthew 10:24-39***

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup> "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup> 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! <sup>26</sup> "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup> What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup> So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup> "Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies <sup>34</sup> me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. <sup>34</sup> "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. <sup>35</sup> 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, <sup>36</sup> and one's foes will be members of one's own household. <sup>37</sup> "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, <sup>38</sup> and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY 796 *How Firm a Foundation***

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."
- 3 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."
- 4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

## **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 INTERCESSION**

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

*a brief silence.*

A: Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty.  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression in all forms. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering . . . .  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of grace,

**C: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## **OFFERATORY HYMN *ELW 186 Create in Me a Clean Heart***

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray . . . **God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION     *\*There will be no communion today\**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE    674 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Vs 1 & 3*

1 Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

### ***Refrain***

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again,  
earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! ***Refrain***

## BLESSING

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**    *810 O Jesus, I Have Promised*

- 1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
remain forever near me, my master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
- 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.
- 3 Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.  
Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
- 4 O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you  
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

### **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace, to love and serve Our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

