



**Community of Christ Lutheran Church**  
*Fifth Sunday after Pentecost,*  
*June 28, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.*  
*Pastor Stephen C. Bond*



**THE GATHERING**

**Welcome**

Pastor Stephen Bond

**Musical Prelude**

“Gather Us In” arr. John A. Behnke”

Pam Stover

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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**

“Gather Us In”

**ELW 532**

**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.**



## **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**

## **Childrens Sermon**

### **THE READINGS**

#### **The First Reading Jeremiah 28:5-9**

<sup>5</sup> The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, <sup>6</sup> and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup> But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup> The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup> As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

**L** The Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God!**

#### **The Second Reading Romans 6:12-23**

<sup>12</sup> Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. <sup>13</sup> No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup> What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted <sup>18</sup> and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. <sup>19</sup> I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

<sup>20</sup> When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of

those things is death. <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!**

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

## The Holy Gospel Matthew 10:40-42

**P The Holy Gospel according....C Glory to you, O Lord!**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>40</sup> “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

**P The Gospel of the Lord! C Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Sermon**

*“God Goes Incognito”*

*Pastor Steve Bond*

**Hymn Sing**

*“Amazing Grace”*

**ELW 779**

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**C 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.

## WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

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

*A brief silence.*

**AM** 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.**

**AM** 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.**

**AM** 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.**

**AM** Provider God, give your children what they need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. *We pray* **Larry Battles, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Luke Holtz, Ron Hetherwick, Jake Cope, Virginia Dillon, Staci, Greg Urbanski, Matt Jurrus, Tom Druschel, Phyllis Sturgeon, Jeff Bucher, Maurice Atkinson, Rich Rison, Eric Dickey & Sarah Magoun, Judy Mock, Ryan Dunn, Mike, Molly Wachtmann, Carol Heuerman, April Rouse, Carol Tomlin, Melissa Mueed ...** and all others whom we remember in silence. Bless caregivers as they show God’s hospitality through their generous service. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**AM** 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.**

**AM** 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.**

### **THE MEAL**

*We practice open communion, which means all baptized believers are welcome to receive the Sacrament. However, if you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate by crossing your arms. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it and gluten-free wafers if needed. Ushers will dismiss you by row.*

#### **Sharing of the Peace**

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**

*Share an expression of peace with your neighbor please.*

**Our Tithes and Offerings** *Bring your gifts to the Altar, or you may offer gifts in the tray located in the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

#### **Offertory**

Variation on “Amazing Grace” by Hal Hopson

#### **Offering Prayer**

**AM** 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.**

#### **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 Him thanks and praise.**

**\*\*Eucharistic Prayer Continues**

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

### The Words of Institution

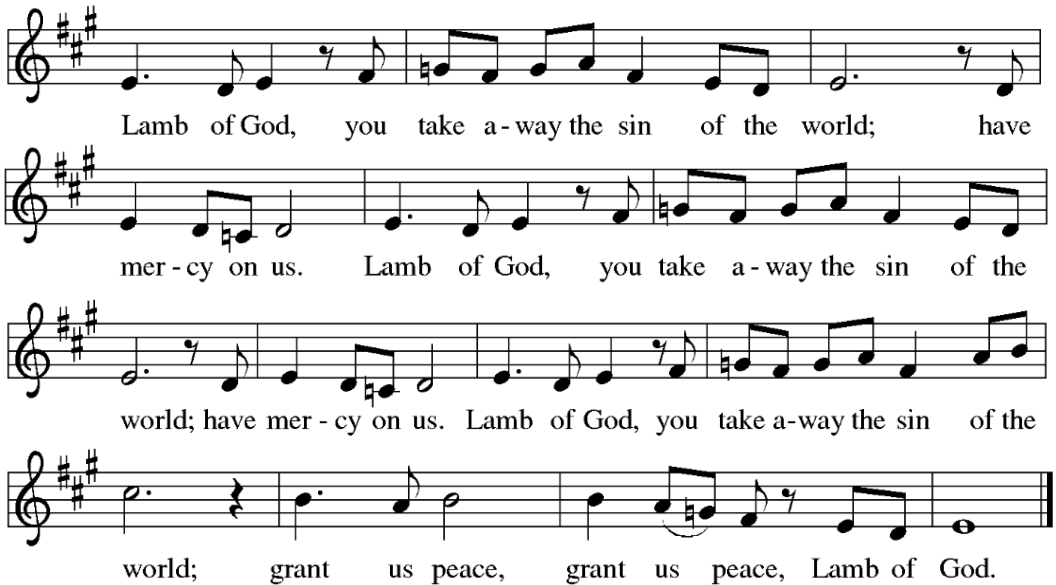
*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.*

### The Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray... **C** **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 Hymns

“Lamb of God”



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, Lamb of God.

“Here I Am, Lord”

ELW 574

“The Church's One Foundation”

ELW 654

## Post Communion Blessing

### Prayer after Communion

**AM** 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.**

## THE SENDING

### *Milestones & Announcements*

### The Blessing

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

### Hymn Sing

“Sent Forth by God's Blessing”

ELW 547

### Dismissal

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

**AM** And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

### Postlude

“Sent forth by God's Blessing” arr. Charles Ore

## *“Making Jesus Known”*

**You're Invited!** Join us for worship this Summer every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.—either in person or via Facebook Live. We'd love to see you there, and don't forget to bring a friend! Interested in becoming a member? Just fill out your information in the friendship pads or call the church office at 419-877-0607. We'd be honored to welcome you into our church family!

### **Summer Adult Forum - “Journey through the Old Testament”**

We invite you to join us for our summer Adult Forum series, “Journey through the Old Testament.” Over these weeks, we'll have the chance to take an overview of the books and stories of the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament, in the hopes of becoming more familiar with these books, understanding how to read them and the times and cultures they were first written in, and how they continue to speak to us as followers of Jesus today. Join us in the Bible study room on Sundays at 10:15 for this series!

**Thursday Bible Study Opens Up the Book of Acts** Join us for our current series in our Thursday afternoon Bible Study, as we take a deep dive into the New Testament book of Acts to learn the story of the early church and how the band of rag-tag fishermen and tax collectors from Galilee grew into a movement that reached outward to the very heart of the Roman Empire and became a “found family” of Jewish and Gentile people, rich and poor, enslaved and free, women and men, and lived through the growing pains of that outreach to change the world. Join us weekly on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Bible Study/Council Room as we work through the book of Acts and let it spark our own ways of living out our faith and sharing the good news of Jesus in the world around us. Remember, too, that we'll continue to share video catch-up sessions on our social media (see the church Facebook page) each week, so that you can know what we'll be looking at each week in case you miss a week, want to join in, or to share with a friend!

### **The Shaping of Our Hearts—Spiritual Practice Series for Summer 2026**

All are welcome on Wednesday evening this July and into August as we gather weekly once again for a series of ten spiritual practices from 6:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m. So far, we have been introduced to “Spiritual MacGyvering,” the art of new creation, breath prayer, labyrinth walking, and reverse Visio Divina, and we've got more great opportunities to learn new ways to connect with God in our daily lives and weekly routines. We'd invite you to sign up in advance, either at the kiosk or online through the Sign-Up Genius tab on our website ([www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org)), but even if you can't sign up ahead of time, we'd be glad to have you join us! Coming up in July, we'll feature archery as a spiritual practice, tangible prayer (like prayer squares,

shawls, and other textiles), the daily Examen with Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, and sand art in what we'll call "the spirituality of the ephemeral." We hope you can try out some of these new practices this summer!

**Summer Reading Club:** Kids join us on Wednesdays this summer through August 12. We'll welcome kids of all ages from 9:30-10:00 a.m. every week for stories, songs, fun, and friends. Bring a friend or neighbor, and we'll gather in the church library (the long classroom where our youngest Sunday School class meets on Sunday mornings). But wait, there's more! You will also be able to find our bookshelf in the Gathering Space all summer, with a new collection of kid-friends' books as well as some of our favorites from last year, that you can borrow, read, and return. We're inviting you to read ten books over the course of the summer for a special prize at the end of the summer! And if you are an adult who might be free on a Wednesday morning this summer and you would like to volunteer to be a guest reader of one of our stories, please reach out to Pastor Steve or Bryce and let us know—we'd be glad to welcome you to be a special guest on one or more of our Wednesday story times! See you this summer around a good book!

**Salem Lutheran Church offers a Free Store. You can place your donations in the library today, Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>.** The donations will then be transported to Salem Lutheran. Thank you!!!

**Average Joe Car Show** Break out the Turtle-Wax, the Outreach Committee is organizing the inaugural Community of Christ Average Joe's Car Show! Do you have a sweet ride or maybe it just looks GREAT from 10 feet away – either way, we'd LOVE for you to show it off to the community here in our parking lot on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 p.m. Food will be available for a free-will offering to support our youth's trip to the National Youth Gathering next year. Come out and purchase a lucky 50/50 ticket to help support our friends down at Salem. You may be asking yourself how can I get involved in this fun experience? The answer is simple – just reach out to a member of the Outreach Committee or look for the sign-up sheet on the kiosk so we can ensure we have enough space. We look forward to seeing you – and your ride! Thank you – The Outreach Committee – Cammie Abraham, Dave Braun, Shelly Hayes, Tammy & Greg Myers, Cindy Smigelski, Kari Swagler, and Pastor Steve.



<i>Event</i>	<i>Day and Time</i>
Youth Group @ COC	Today, Sunday, June 28, 6:30 p.m.
	Wednesday, July 1, 9:30 a.m.
Social Action	Wednesday, July 1, 10:00 a.m.
Spiritual Practices	Wednesday, July 1, 6:30 p.m.
Worship & Music	Thursday, July 3, 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study	Thursday, July 3, 1:00 p.m.
Search Committee	Thursday, July 3, 6:30 p.m.
<b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Friday, July 3, in observance of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>



**Altar Flowers given by Dorothy Petrell in loving memory of Jerry Petrell ❤️**



**Sunday mornings, @ 9:00 a.m.  
both in person and Facebook Live**

**Church Office Hours**  
**8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
(Monday through Friday)

**Please note.....**  
Hours may vary with  
vacations.  
Please call ahead ☺

**Office Notice**

Please note that Michelle will be out of the office June 29–July 2. The church office will remain open and staffed during this time.

**The church office will be closed on Friday, July 3, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.**



Did one of our Bible readings capture your attention today? Was there a story you could picture in your mind? Did a phrase from a hymn or a thought from the sermon start some new ideas or inspire some reflection? Did a Scripture passage spark a question for you to think about? Use this space here as an open canvas for your faithful imagination: you can draw a picture of something you pictured, write a question, take

notes from the message or scriptures, or doodle your faith into a visible form here. Then, either take it with you or leave your thoughts and images here to be shared in an ongoing collection here at Community of Christ!