St. James Lutheran Church Commemoration of Peter & Paul June 29, 2025



St. James Lutheran Church

Presiding Minister: Bryce Hewlett, SAM Assistant Minister: Pat Larson Reader: Diana Worley Acolytes: Rilynne Larson & Carter Royse Music Minister: Steve Abel Church Address: 1705 Oak Street, Bettendorf, IA 52722 Office Email: *stjamesbett@gmail.com* Church Office: 563-355-4161 Website: *www.stjamesbett.com*

WELCOME!

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from St. James following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate. Welcome!

Children's Church takes place during our worship service. The children are dismissed after *Blessing the Children* and brought back to their families after the *Prayers of Intercession*.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.** P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

You may find a simple prayer helpful, such as: "Lord, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner." or "Lord, you see all things. I open my heart before you now."

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen. P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of + Christ,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,

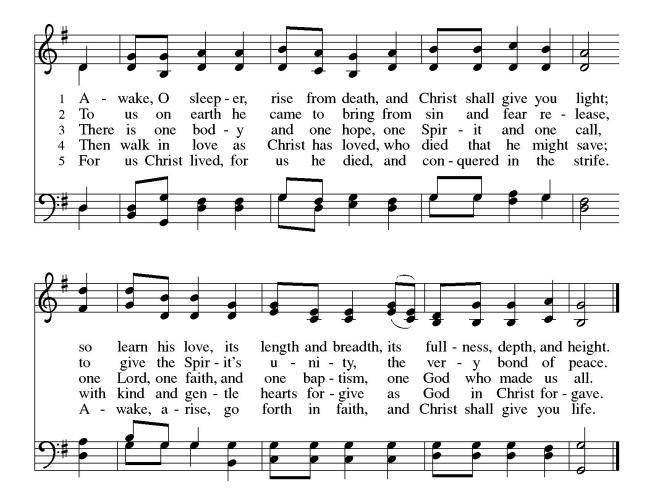
your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

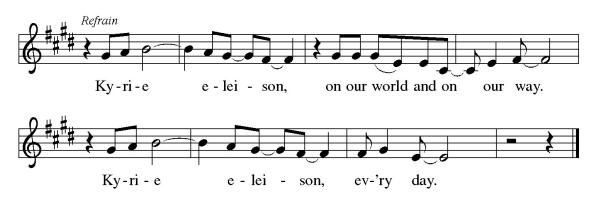
GATHERING HYMN ELW 452 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



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.

<u>KYRIE</u>



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;

that we may live out truth and justice and grace,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, we praise you that your blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdoms. Grant that your church throughout the world may always be instructed by their teaching and example, be knit together in unity by your Spirit, and ever stand firm upon the one foundation who is Jesus Christ our Lord, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

This little light of mine, I'm gonna' let it shine This little light of mine, I'm gonna' let it shine This little light of mine, I'm gonna' let it shine Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Children are dismissed for Children's Church.

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 12:1-11

¹ About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. ² He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. ³ After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the Festival of Unleavened Bread.) ⁴ When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. ⁵ While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.

⁶ The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison.

⁷ Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists. ⁸ The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." ⁹ Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. ¹¹ Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

A: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 87:1-3, 5-7 (read responsively)

- ¹ On the holy mountain stands the city God has founded;
- ² the LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
- ³ Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of our God.
- ⁵ Of the city it shall be said, "Everyone was born in Zion, and the Most High shall sustain the city."
- ⁶ Enrolling the nations, the LORD records: "These also were born there."

⁷ The singers and the dancers will say, "All my fresh springs are in you."

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.⁷

¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.A: Word of God. Word of Life. C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly rises in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

P: The holy gospel according to St. John 21:15-19

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

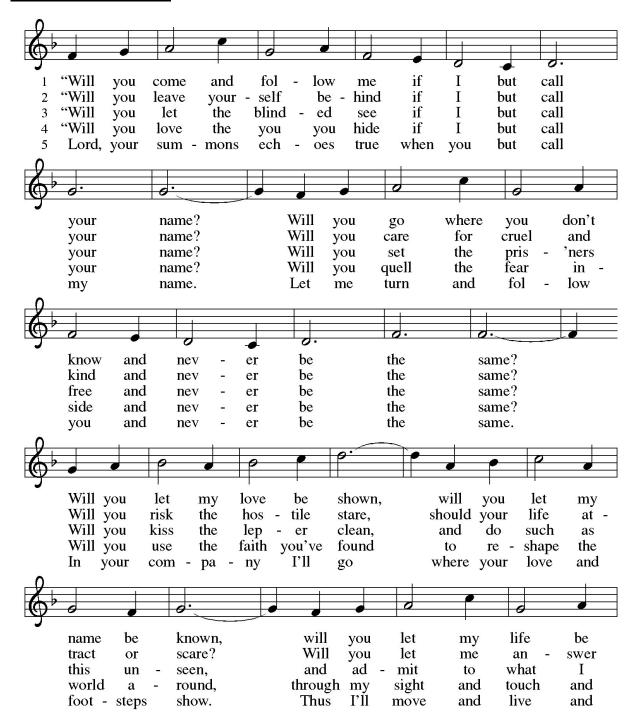
P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

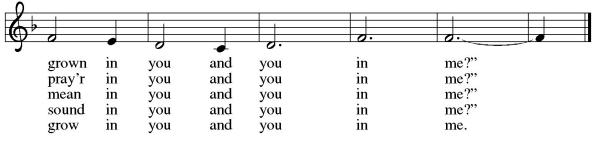
The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly rises in body or spirit to sing the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 798 Will You Come and Follow Me





APOSTLES' CREED

A: In prayer and devotion, we confess our faith with the whole church.

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.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

Greet one another by shaking hands or with a word or sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Drawn into the embrace of the Holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A: We pray for the church. As you raised up apostles like Peter and Paul, raise us up to share your life-giving gospel.

Enrich the proclamation of bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for the earth. As you rescued Paul from the lion's mouth, rescue your creation from harm. Sustain fragile ecosystems; watch over dwindling numbers of insects, birds, and fish; and open our hearts to regard this earth as a gift. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for the nations. As you bid Peter to feed your sheep, bid our leaders to feed all in need and work for their good. Make peace in places of conflict, especially **Ukraine and the Holy Land** and bring justice to each community. Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others, especially **Anthony, Brandon, Eli, Nathan, and Samantha**. We pray for the people of **Sudan** who are facing a hunger crisis due to famine. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for all who suffer. As you stood by Paul and gave him strength, stand by all who know loneliness, and give strength to all who know persecution. Comfort those in grief and heal those who are sick, especially **Annette & Rick, Barry, Bev, Carol, Donna, Donnie, Dotty, Drew, Ed, Emmett, Frieda, Hattie, Janet, Jason, Konnor, LaVonne, Lynn, Maggie, Mark, Michelle, Michelle, Phil, Sandy, Sherry, Stan, Ted, Tyler, and Wally.** God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for this assembly. As you freed Peter from prison, free us from lethargy and fear. Loose the chains of timidity and doubt, and teach us to pray fervently. Strengthen the ministry of prison chaplains and ministries, and accompany all who are incarcerated and their families. We pray for **Noa and Kaylee** while they are at the Summer Music Academy at Valparaiso University. Keep them safe and enliven their voices to sing in unity with your Spirit. We thank you for **all of our children** returning from Summer Day Camp last week. Thank you for a week of fun and learning. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: We give thanks for all who rest in your eternal mercy. As you reserved a crown of righteousness for Paul, reserve for us a place in your heavenly kingdom.

We give you thanks for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially **Peter and Paul**, whom we commemorate* today, and **Catherine Winkworth**, **John Mason Neale**, **and Thomas**, whom we will commemorate* in the upcoming week. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer**.

A: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

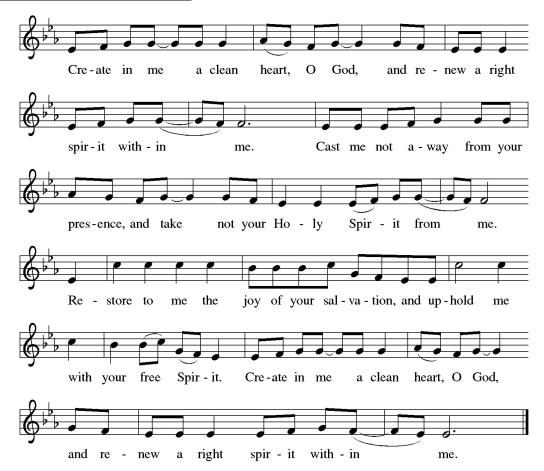
*See announcement for commemorations.

MEAL

OFFERING your offering may be placed in the plate as it is passed. We thank all who support God's ministry here and in the world.

Stand as the offering is presented at the rail.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS: Create in Me a Clean Heart



OFFERING PRAYER

A: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

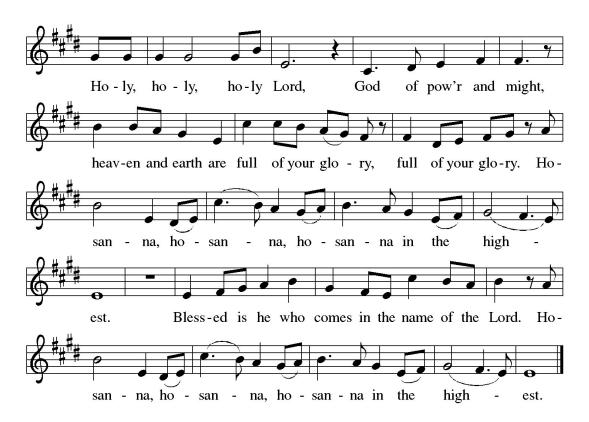
P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

In every age you sent prophets

to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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. 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen. **C: Amen.** Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,

to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen. **C: Amen.**

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

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

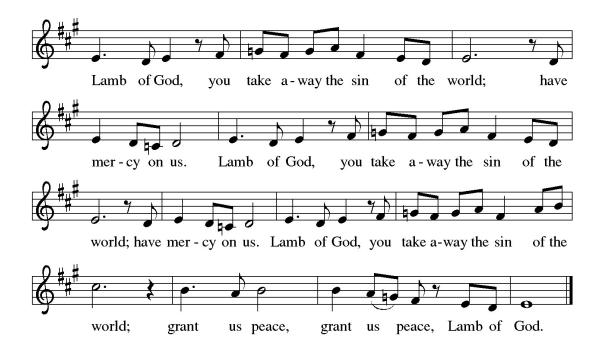
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice. All are welcome. **C: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is seated.

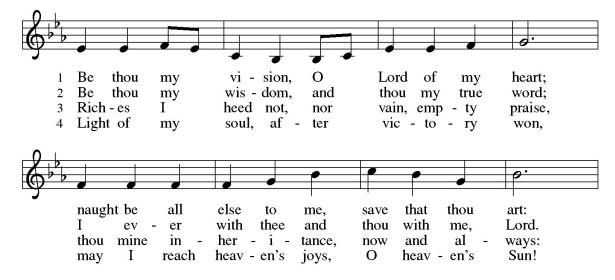
Come, for Christ invites you. Communion today will be distributed at the altar rail (please stand or kneel, as you are comfortable), the ushers will direct you forward to receive the bread (which is gluten-free) and cup either wine (red) or grape juice (white).

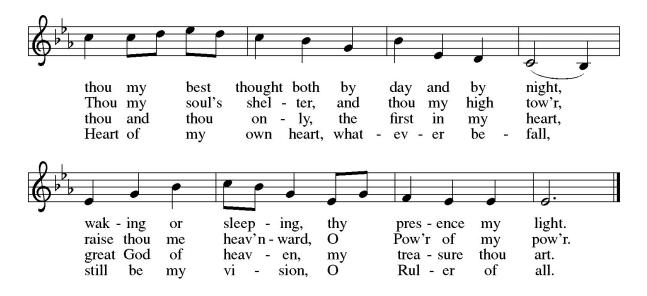
HYMN Lamb of God



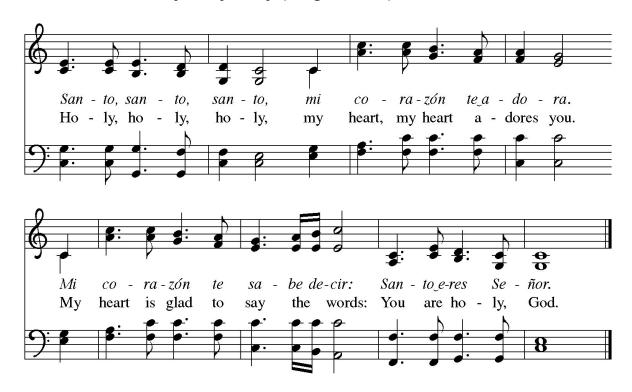
COMMUNION HYMNS

HYMN ELW 793 Be Thou My Vision (favorite)





HYMN ELW 473 Holy, Holy, Holy (sing 3 times)



The assembly rises in body or spirit.

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Nurturing God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **C: Amen**

SENDING

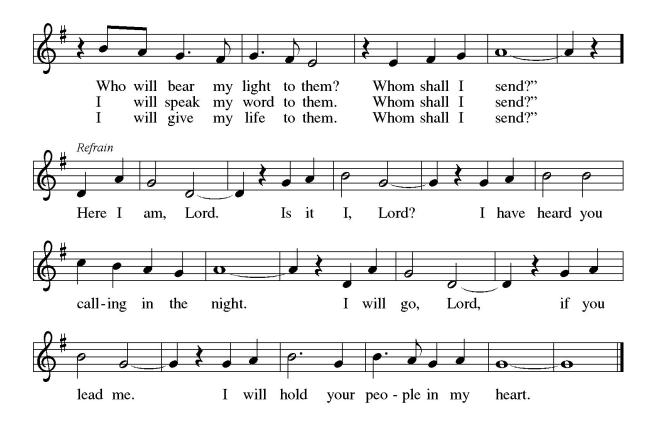
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 574 Here I Am, Lord (favorite)





P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance last week:

Saturday Sunday

YouTube

There are no birthdays this week.

Anniversaries this week:

7/4 Kenny & Maggie Bayliss

The flowers are given today by Shirley Richlen in memory of Denny and for Independence Day.

We livestream our services on YouTube each week to help us worship together and stay connected even when we are not at full health or out of town! YouTube link for livestream:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjngGF4g_QWtn_I2SqpL5Q

<u>Kaylee & Noa</u>—Below is the address where Kaylee and Noa will be staying for Lutheran Summer Music Academy! While they're away, it would be nice to send them notes of encouragement or little treats from home!

> Kaylee Pessein / Noa Hewlett c/o Lutheran Summer Music Valparaiso University 1509 Chapel Drive, Room 145 Valparaiso, IN. 46383

COMMEMORATIONS

Peter and Paul, Apostles Sunday, June 29, 2025

These two strong-willed apostles are the pillars of the church in the first generation after Christ. Peter was one of the Twelve, one who both offered a glorious confession of faith and later denied knowing Jesus. Paul once led the persecution of Christians, then was converted and helped bring the faith to non-Jewish people.

Catherine Winkworth, died 1878; John Mason Neale, died 1866; hymn translators

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Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Neale was an English priest who specialized in the translation of Latin and Greek hymns into English. Winkworth lived in Manchester, England, and devoted herself to translating German hymns. Almost all English-speaking hymnals include many of their translations.

Thomas, Apostle Thursday, July 3, 2025

Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas," this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!" By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India. Long commemorated on December 21, Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.

Worship Assistants

June 29

Presider Assisting Minister Reader Acolyte Ushers YouTube Assistant Altar Guild Counters

July 6

Presider **Assisting Minister** Reader Acolytes Ushers YouTube Assistant Altar Guild Counters July 13 Presider **Assisting Minister** Reader Acolytes Ushers YouTube Assistant Altar Guild Counters

9:00 AM Worship

Bryce Hewlett, SAM Pat Larson Diana Worley Rilynne Larson & Carter Royse Jerry Nichols & Yvonne Nichols Deb Crooks Pat Larson & Mary Meumann Maddie & Angie Schmidt

9:00 AM Worship

Bryce Hewlett, SAM Shirley Richlen Pat Larson Eli & Sam Pessein Ron Mekalson & Kelly Crooks Deb Crooks Pat Larson & Mary Meumann Erik Bakken 9:00 AM Worship Bryce Hewlett, SAM Jason Forari Angie Schmidt Jude Hewlett Melissa & Anna Forari

Deb Crooks

Ellen Hogbin & Terry Martens

Erik Bakken

Prayers for Healing and Support

Congregational Members

Ed Arp, Maggie Bayliss, Lynn Chamberlain, Bev Chappen, Sherry Germanio, Sandy Henry, Frieda Houldsworth, LaVonne Mienke

Family and Friends

Annette & Rick (friends of Sue and Steve Miller), Barry (cousin of Ellen Hogbin), Carol (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Dotty (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken), Donna (Ed Arp's sister),
Donnie (friend of Deb Crooks), Drew (Pat Larson's friend),
Emmett (friend of Diana Worley), Hattie (Frieda's sister) Jason (Lynn Chamberlain & Sherry Germanio's son),
Janet (Maggie Bayliss' sister),
Konnor (Bert Leder's grandson), Mark (friend of Jason Forari),
Michelle (friend of Joleen & Erik Bakken),
Michelle (friend of Jason & Melissa Forari), Myles (friend of Anna Forari),
Phil (Steve Miller and Pat Sorensen's brother),
Stan (relative of Frtiz Voss), Ted (Ellen Hogbin's father-in-law),
Tyler (Pat Larson's grandson in-law), Wally (Frieda's nephew),

Military Personnel

Anthony Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew) Lt. Col. Brandon Sandoval USAF (Pat Larson's grandson) CPT Eli Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson) Nathan Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend) Samantha Richard (friend of Larson family)

If you have anyone who needs to be taken off or added, please notify the church office.

<u>Notes</u>

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6/29 9AM Worship	6/30	1	2 6-8PM Food Pantry	3 9-11AM Food Pantry	4 Independence Day	5 5:00PM Saturday Service
6 9AM Worship	7	8	9 6-8PM Food Pantry	10 9-11AM Food Pantry 6-8PM Summer Kids Club	11	12 5:00PM Saturday Service
13 9AM Worship	14 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship 1:30PM Finance Mtg.	15 1PM Sarah Circle	16 6-8PM Food Pantry	17 9-11AM Food Pantry 11:30AM GANG	18	19 5:00PM Saturday Service
20 9AM Worship	21	22 12-4PM Quilting	23 6-8PM Food Pantry	24 9-11AM Food Pantry	25	26 5:00PM Saturday Service
27 9AM Worship	28 9:30AM Monday Morning Fellowship	29	30 6-8PM Food Pantry 28	31 9-11AM Food Pantry	8/1	8/2 5:00PM Saturday Service