

# Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

## May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Service Music: ELW, Setting 3 (ELW, page 138)

Year A, Easter 7 (ELW, page 35)



In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus

had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

## WELCOME!

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

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.

*The assembly rises at the invitation of the presiding minister.*

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP** – 8:55 a.m.

### **PRELUDE**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*The assembly rises at the invitation of the presiding minister.*

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

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, we give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**C: You give us springs of living water.**

P: Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you. **C: You give us springs of living water.**

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.  
Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**C: You give us springs of living water.**

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels,  
giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Christ is in our midst! **C: He is and ever shall be.**

## GATHERING HYMN ELW 526 *God is Here*

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

## GREETING

A: 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

A: Let us pray.

**C: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

*This Little Light of Mine*

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

<sup>6</sup> When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the

earth.”<sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.<sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.<sup>11</sup> They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

<sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.<sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.<sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

A: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALMODY: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35** (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup> Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup> **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at  
the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup> But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup> **Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one  
who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup> In your holy habitation, O God,

you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup> **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into  
freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup> O God, when you went forth before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,

**<sup>8</sup> the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup> You sent a bountiful rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance when it languished.

**<sup>10</sup> Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup> Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

**<sup>33</sup> You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup> Ascribe power to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

**<sup>35</sup> How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>5:6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power 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



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.

## GOSPEL

P: The holy gospel according to **St. John 17:1-11, 16-18**

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

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.

<sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup> “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.” <sup>16</sup> They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the

truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, oh 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 482 / *Come with Joy*



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

## 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

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A: O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops, especially in light of this weekend's Bishop election at our Synod's Annual Assembly, to proclaim the gospel of Jesus.

Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Bring peace to war zones and places of conflict, especially **Ukraine, Venezuela, Iran, and the surrounding region.** Keep safe first responders, those serving in the military, and those whose duty it is to protect others, especially **Anthony, Chris, Eli, Nathan, and Tyler.**

Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick, especially **Bev, Ed, Frieda, Jeryl, Jim, LaVonne, Maxine, Sandy** and those who are family and friends of our congregation, especially **Amanda, Annette & Rick, Brenda, Donna, Drew, Emmett, Hattie, Karen & Ed, Lylah, Mark, Michelle, Pat, Phil, Sloane, Stan, Steve, and Wally**. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, especially **Erik and Helena**, whom we \*commemorate this week, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give.  
Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **C: Amen.**

*\*see page 15 for commemorations.*

**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: ELW 186 Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **C: Amen.**

## HYMN: ELW 517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us stead-fast in your word; curb those who  
 2 Lord Je-sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
 3 O Com-fort-er of price-less worth, send peace and

by de- ceit or sword would wrest the king-dom from your Son  
 Lord of lords a-lone; de-fend your ho-ly church, that we  
 u-ni-ty on earth; sup-port us in our fi-nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.  
 may sing your praise e-ter-nal-ly.  
 and lead us out of death to life.

*The assembly is seated.*

*The Assisting Minister reads this week's commemorations.*

## **COMMEMORATIONS**

**Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160**

**Monday, May 18, 2026**

Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.

**Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330**

**Thursday, May 21, 2026**

Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.

## **SENDING**

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

## **TEMPLE TALK**

Christian Education Upcoming Events

*Justina Pessein, Chair of Christian Education Committee*

*The assembly rises in body or spirit.*

## **SENDING BLESSING**

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: ELW 543 *Go My Children with My Blessing*



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

**P:** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**May 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Rummage Sale 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.:** – If you would like to drop items off for the sale or would like to volunteer to help, please contact Judy Larson at 563-340-7902.

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>** – No Saturday service! Come worship Sunday morning, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 9AM as we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and Confirmation! Kick-Off to Summer party following the service.

**May 24<sup>th</sup> Feast of Pentecost** – Come celebrate our Confirmands during the service then stay for the Kick-Off to Summer party – more information located in the Narthex!

**June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> – Baptisms!** If you or someone you know needs to be baptized, please contact the Church office at (563)355-416.

**New Member Service** – We're looking at having a membership service in July. If you are interested in becoming a new member, please contact the Church office at (563)355-4161.

### **Attendance last week:**

Saturday: 13      Sunday: 54      YouTube: 6      Total: 73

### **Year to Date Financial Summary:**

Contributions: \$77,688.86    Spending: \$70,088.85    Balance: \$7,600.01

**Birthdays this week:** 5/21 Scott Wendell

**Anniversaries this week:** 5/21 Lora & Mark Gwin

**Flowers this week:** The flowers today are given by Ron & Lisa Mekalson.

**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:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjqGF4g\\_QWtn\\_I2SqL5Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzjqGF4g_QWtn_I2SqL5Q)

**Worship Assistants****May 17**

Presider  
 Assisting Minister  
 Reader  
 Acolyte  
 Organist  
 Ushers  
 Altar Guild

**9:00 AM Worship**

Ellen Hogbin  
 Jason Forari  
 Amanda Southwell  
 Edi Southwell  
 Linda Gross  
 Ryan Martin & Fritz Voss  
 Ellen Hogbin & Judie Brooks

**May 24**

Presider  
 Assisting Minister  
 Reader  
 Acolytes  
 Music Minister  
 Ushers  
 Altar Guild

**9:00 AM Worship** (*Pentecost Sunday*)

Vicar Bryce Hewlett, SAM  
 Anna Forari  
 Kaylee Pessein  
 Jude Hewlett & Eli Pessein  
 Steve Abel  
 Ron Mekalson & Kelly Crooks  
 Shirley Richlen & Judie Brooks

## Prayers for Healing and Support

### Congregational Members

Ed Arp, **Bev** Chappen, **Maxine** Duhm, **Sandy** Henry,  
**Frieda** Houldsworth, **Jeryl** Krumbholz, **Jim** Krumbholz,  
**LaVonne** Mienke

### Family and Friends

**Amanda** (friend of Melissa),  
**Annette & Rick** (Steve & Sue Miller & Pat Sorenson's sister  
 & brother-in-law), **Brenda** (Friend of Janene Anderson),  
**Donna** (Ed Arp's sister),  
**Drew** (Pat Larson's friend), **Emmett** (friend of Diana Worley),  
**Hattie** (Frieda's sister), **Karen and Ed** (Shirley's Aunt and Uncle), **Lylah**  
 (friend of Noa), **Mark** (friend of Jason Forari), **Michelle** (friend of Joleen  
 & Erik Bakken), **Pat** (Judy Larson's Sister-in-Law), **Phil** (Steve Miller and  
 Pat Sorensen's brother), **Sloane** (friend of Deb Crooks), **Stan** (relative of  
 Fritz Voss), **Steve** (friend of Pat Larson), **Wally** (Frieda's nephew)

### Those Whose Duty it is to Protect Others

**Anthony** Karasek (Judy Larson's great nephew)  
 LT. **Chris** Tribble USN (Erik & Joleen Bakken's friend).  
 CPT **Eli** Smith (Jerry and Myrna Mattly's grandson)  
**Nathan** Pearson USAF (Jenna & Kane Schmidt's friend)  
**Tyler** McLaughlin, First Responder (Family of Pat Larson)

## May / June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9AM Worship  10AM Council Mtg.	8:30-3:30 Rummage Sale Items Drop-Off	8:30-3:30 Rummage Sale Items Drop-Off  1PM Sarah Circle (in conference room)	8:30-3:30 Rummage Sale Items Drop-Off  6-8PM Food Pantry	8:30AM - 3:30PM Rummage Sale  9-11AM Food Pantry  2:30 BING at BHCC	8:30AM - 3:30PM Rummage Sale	No Saturday Worship due to Pentecost and Confirmation Celebration
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9AM Worship  Feast of Pentecost & Confirmation  Kick off to	<i>Memorial Day – Office Closed</i>	12-4PM Quilting	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry  11AM Service at BHCC		5PM Worship
31	6/1	6/2	6/3	6/4	6/5	6/6
9AM Worship  11AM Dixon Service	4PM Social Ministry Mtg.		6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry		5PM Worship with Baptisms
6/7	6/8	6/9	6/10	6/11	6/12	6/13
9AM Worship		8AM Worship & Music Mtg.  4PM Property Mtg.	6-8PM Food Pantry	9-11AM Food Pantry  11AM Service at BHCC		5PM Worship