

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship - July 5, 2026

A Declaration of Interdependence



WELCOME



Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in



our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Today, July 5, falls on the weekend of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. While ELCA worship resources generally refrain from commemorating Independence Day as a liturgical occasion outside of intercessory prayer, this milestone anniversary and its broader national context present a unique situation. In witness to the church's ardent stand against Christian nationalism in its various and insidious forms, and in response to implementing resolution CA25.05.25 of the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the Worship Resource Development Working Group of the ELCA Churchwide Organization and Augsburg Fortress has developed resources for this specific occasion that both celebrate and lament our nation's history, affirm the reality of the current moment, and seek to unite the diverse body of Christ for the life of the world (ELCA Sundays & Seasons Worship Resources)

Our ministry team has used resources from a range of resources created for this specific moment. We have carefully planned a "Declaration of Interdependence Service" knowing that we come to moments like this with diverse and deeply held convictions and expectations, yet that we are all connected to one another through Christ. Bring your joy, your lament, your questions, your experience. Our worship will include language and music that connects to the experience and aspirations of who we are and who we seek to be as a nation and as followers of Christ. As part of our worship, we will share in an Affirmation of Christian Vocation. Above all, we will gather to worship and praise God, to speak with honor and honesty about our lives together, and to commit to working for the well-being of God's creation.



Season after Pentecost

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Be Still and Know, with Be Still My Soul* arr. by Mark Hayes

***CONFESSIONS 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,
source of hope, rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy, we have sinned against you, our neighbors, and your creation.

Within ourselves and our communities, our desire to do what is good is at war with the evil that dwells in us.

We lament the evil that holds us captive.

We repent of the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us for lives of compassion and courage

through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins
through the grace of + Jesus Christ,
and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good.
Amen.

An asterisk indicates the congregation should stand in body and/or spirit.

Congregation's speaking and singing parts are in bold font.

As we prepare for worship, take time to look around, to settle in, to receive the Holy Spirit's presence.



Our music before worship today is being played by Dawn Hartley on an Indigenous-style flute. While many today celebrate the 250th "birthday" of America, we gather in a place that has been the home to Indigenous, Spanish, and Mexican people prior to and following the signing of the Declaration of Independence. May this music provide time for reflection about the many ways we depend on and are connected to one another.

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

***GATHERING HYMN** ELW #651 Oh, Praise the Gracious Power - hymnal

***GREETING**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.

Word of God, word of life. **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 7:15-25a

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.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at
hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my
members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to
the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who
will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus
Christ our Lord!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



***GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The gospel of Jesus Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY ACS #1017 Come to Me, O Weary Traveler**

Come to Me, O Weary Traveler



1 "Come to me, O wea - ry trav - 'ler; come to
 2 "Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not
 3 "Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my
 4 "Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - 'ler; rest in



me with your dis - tress; come to me, you heav - y -
 fear, my bur - den's light; do not fear the path be -
 yoke and come with me. Take my yoke, I am be -
 me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is



bur - dened; come to me and find your rest."
 fore you; do not run from me in fright."
 side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty."
 gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care."

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: AUSTIN, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

...God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

OFFERING *Lift Every Voice and Sing* by James Weldon and J. Rosamond Johnson, arr. by David Winkler

***OFFERING PRAYER**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



Listen deeply as the gospel lesson is being read

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" (ELW #841) was written as a poem by James Weldon Johnson in 1900 and set to music by his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson in 1905. It was first performed by a choir of 500 school children at a segregated school in Florida in honor of President Abraham Lincoln's birthday. The anthem was officially adopted by the NAACP in 1919. Hearing this song today, we name the limitations of the Declaration of Independence, honor the history of Black resilience in American, lament the way that the church has failed to speak up and work against racism, and anchor our hope in a future filled with God's promise of justice and liberty for all.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE



Holy God, you alone are Majesty, you alone are Excellency, you alone are Sovereign.

Within the vast reaches you splashed into being, you formed our star and this planet: purple mountains, fruited plains, crystal waters, towering forests, gleaming plains. Here you fashioned human beings in our infinite variety and hue, yet each one created equal, to care for one another and our earthly home.

In a time of peace enforced by the cruelty of empire, you came through Jesus to share our life. Born under the rule of a merciless king, Jesus revealed the merciful realm of God. Moving across borders to people broken and oppressed, Jesus brought healing, restoration, and freedom.

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

Remembering, therefore, Christ's execution at the hands of a ruthless regime, Christ's resurrection that buries death, Christ's ascension to rule with love forever, we declare the revolutionary mystery of faith: **Christ lived. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

God, shed your grace on us. Shower your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on your people gathered this day. Ignite in us the flame of freedom— freedom from prejudice, from greed, from fear; freedom for acceptance, for welcome, for the shalom that you have first shown to us. Faithful God, loving God: Your Majesty shines forth in weakness. Your Excellency is revealed to infants. Your Sovereignty reigns from a cross. Yours, O God, Maker, Christ, and Holy Spirit, is the everlasting kingdom, the peaceable power, and the humble glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

In the night... do this for the remembrance of me.

Trusting in the mercy and compassion of God who is with us as Parent and Creator, we pray as Jesus taught,

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

Come as you are. Become what you receive.

This is Christ's table. You and all are welcome, without exception. If you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your heart. Gluten free wafers available by request. The wine is red; grape juice is clear. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to your pew.

This congregation tends to use the traditional form of the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to pray using other versions, words, or languages that may be more familiar to you. You are also encouraged to address God in a way that most opens your heart to relationship with God (Creator, Father and Mother, Abba, Our Only Home are a few options). Jesus taught this form of prayer to the disciples to encourage sincere and meaningful conversation with God.

COMMUNION HYMNS



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

ELW #887 This is My Song

ELW #888 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION IN CIVIC LIFE

People of God, you are chosen and named as God's beloved...

I ask you, therefore:

Will you endeavor to pattern your life on Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others?

Response: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you strive to pursue the common good in public life, nurturing mutual care among neighbors near and far?

Response: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you pledge to bear witness in word and action, commending what is true and right, renouncing what is unjust and harmful, and working to mend what is flawed?

Response: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Sovereign God, Jesus lived within the structures of society even as he spoke truth to those in power and challenged systems of oppression. Give to your people courage, patience, and vision in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Empower us all in our Christian vocation to be courageous disciples and responsible citizens. Grant that our life in the public realm be grounded in love for our neighbors, care for the most vulnerable, and respect for the common life we share, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SENDING PRAYER



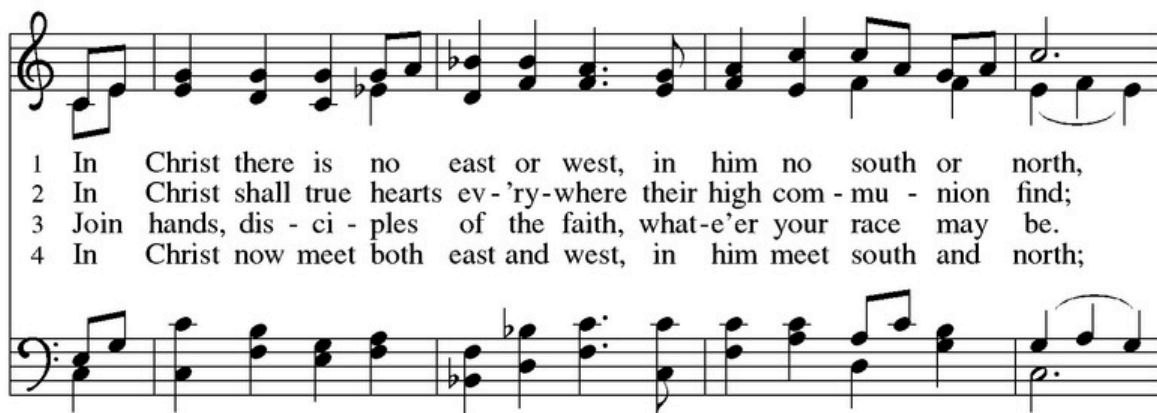
SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

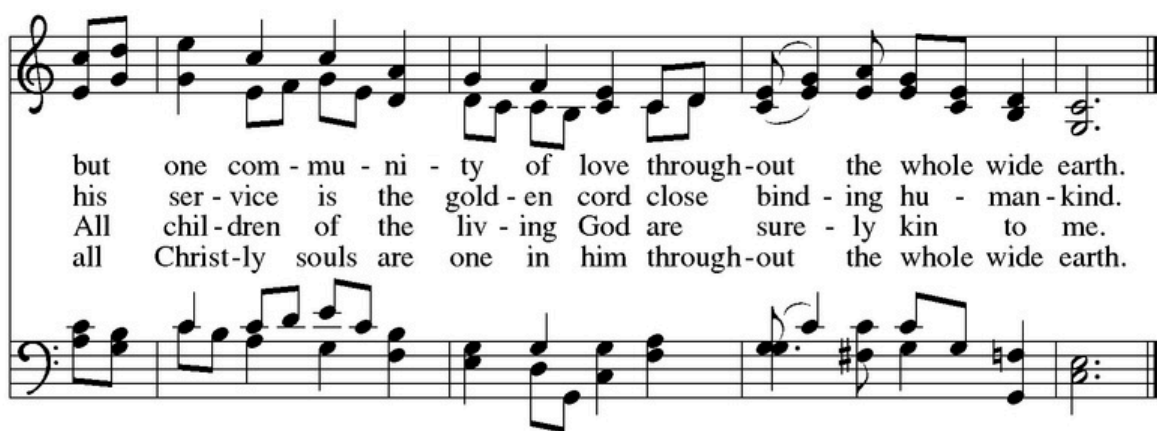
The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth, + one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day. **Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN ELW #650 In Christ There Is No East or West**

In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man-kind.
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.
Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.
Thanks be to God.

Newcomers + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion.

Families + we have a small play area (pray-ground) up front. The joyful sounds and movements of children in worship are the welcome sounds of children growing in faith. Parents, thank you for doing the hard work of worshipping with children. This congregation is here to support you.

Hearing Assistance + headphones are available to assist in hearing the service. Please contact an usher to get set up with one.

Nametags + Nametags help us get to know and remember each other. Please let the ushers know if you need one made for you.

Expansive Language + As Lutherans, we teach that "God calls all creation into being and gives people language as a way of responding to God and forming community" (Principles for Worship, Principle L-1). In worship at Our Saviour's, we seek to use expansive language for God and people, sometimes changing or offering alternatives to the printed text.

Turn to follow the cross as it passes and leads us to love and service in the world.

Prayer Requests: Alecia Chrin; Justin Schneider; Gerry Meyer; Fred Alvord; Corky Ronstadt, Mary Neff; Amy, Liz, and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Family: Friends and Family of John Shelton upon his death (former member); Friends and Family of Kathy Gregory upon the death of her husband Gary (friends of Ann and Bill DeVinney); Liz (friend of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Sarah (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Barbara (sister-in-law of Kenith Ijams); Josh, Melissa, Mary Ann Libby (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Sally, Friends and Family of Carol, and Ashley, (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak); John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Sidibe, and Zinsou, (friends of Rachel Starner); Ann (friend of Suzanne Hesh).

Names will generally remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for renewal. Please contact the church office for corrections, updates, and additions.

OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.

THOSE SERVING NEXT SUNDAY 7/05/26

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister John Indermark
Communion Assistants Jennifer Strand, Patty Sirls
Acolyte Jennifer Strand
Keyboard Dawn Hartley
Cantor Aysen Millioğullari
Usher Eric Howard, Kathy DeVinney
Greeter Gloria Schmidt
Cross Bearer Jennifer Strand
Coffee Host Sharon Reinbott
Treats Mary Havenhill
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

THOSE SERVING TODAY 7/12/2026

Presiding Minister Rev. John Indermark
Assisting Minister Kathy DeVinney
Communion Assistants Kathy DeVinney
Acolyte Jennifer Strand
Keyboard Dawn Hartley
Music Blue Grass Band
Usher Patty Sirls, Jennifer Strand
Greeter Diane Siefkes
Cross Bearer Diane Siefkes
Coffee Host Fred Hudson
Treats Gloria Schmidt
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.



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Sunday Worship
9:00 - Sanctuary
Coffee following

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministry Team

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Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator
Michele@lutherantucson.org

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
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Dawn Hartley
Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community
Engagement

David Zezulka
Facilities Director

Lutheran Campus Ministry
Pastor Jenn Luong
Director
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