



Peace Lutheran Church

^{9th} Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026 9:00 a.m.

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME!

Thank you for joining in Worship today. This morning, we continue our six-month celebration of 50 years of faithfulness and ministry at Peace Lutheran, remembering the congregation's second decade, 1987-1996. Pastor Robert Suhr led the faith community as it grew in size, faith and ministry. This morning we are honored to welcome the Rev. Robert Suhr and his wife, Jill.

Whether you regularly worship with us, are here for the first time, or are returning after a time away, your presence is important for the worship we offer to the glory of God. May your experience of God's love be a blessing in your life. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest register in the Narthex, near the front door. All are welcome at Jesus' table. The center ring in the communion tray has grape juice and the other two rings have wine.

Information in italics | **Congregation responses in bold** | * indicates please stand as you are able. Worship services may involve photography, as well as audio and video recording.

Welcome & Announcements to Prepare Us for Worship

Opening Litany and Candle Lighting

The Second Decade of Peace Lutheran Church

Let us pray...

God of life, you brought together this community of believers and planted us in this place. You called us to follow Jesus, to love one another, to love you and your world, and to create a place where all are welcome.

We thank you for your call and for your accompaniment over the years of ministry.

God of love, following your call is not always easy. It requires creativity, strength, patience and most of all, grace.

We thank you for the gifts that made it possible for your people to work together in this place.

God of grace, we thank you this morning for the people during the second decade of ministry - the people who strengthened this body to be faithful in ministry.

Thank you for Pastor and Mrs. Suhr, for all leaders and followers, for children, parents, grandparents, all who gathered at the Table in those years, and all who gather now.

God of past, present and future, guide this congregation through these months of anniversary celebration and in the coming years.

**Continue to equip us to be your love and peace in this place.
Light our pathways always. Fill us with faith, courage,
peace, compassion and commitment.
Amen.**



*** Confession and Forgiveness**

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.



**** Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty***

ELW 533

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

* Hymn of Praise

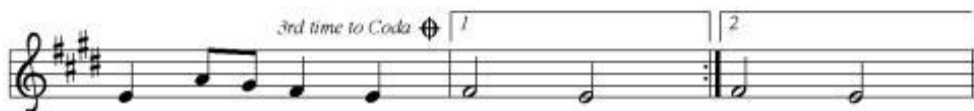
Praise to You, O God of Mercy



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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***The Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray... **Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 29:15-28

¹⁵ Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah’s eyes were weak, but Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸ Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” ¹⁹ Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” ²² So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. ²³ But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. ²⁴ (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵ When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” ²⁶ Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷ Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” ²⁸ Jacob did so and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

...the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 105:1-11, 45b

¹ Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

**² Sing to the Lord, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.**

³ Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**⁴ Search for the strength of the Lord;
continually seek God's face.**

⁵ Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,

**⁶ O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob's chosen ones.**

⁷ The Lord is our God,
whose judgments prevail in all the world,

**⁸ who has always been mindful of the covenant,
the promise made for a thousand generations:**

⁹ the covenant made with Abraham, the oath sworn to Isaac,

**¹⁰ which God established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,**

¹¹ saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
to be your allotted inheritance." ^{45b} Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in

order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

...the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



*Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Holy Gospel according to
Matthew,
the 13th chapter.

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

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the
crowds] another parable: “The kingdom
of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his
field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the
greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come
and make nests in its branches.”

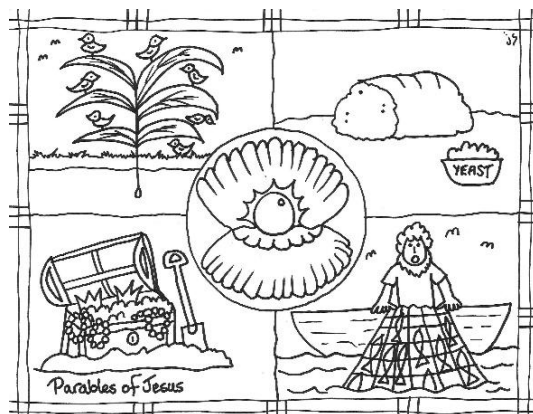
³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast
that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of
it was leavened.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a
man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has
and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine
pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he
had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the
sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore,
sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will
be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil
from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there
will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he
said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the



kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord... **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – Pastor Carol Jeunnette



** Be Thou My Vision*

ELW 793

***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. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

Trusting in God’s steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each petition ends with: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for Michael, Bill, Lynn, Julie, Janet, Crystal, Trish, Kathy, Sean, Tim, Betty.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Share the peace with each other as you are comfortable.

*** Offering Prayer**

Let us pray... **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.**

*(Please place your gifts in the basket
at the back of the Sanctuary as you depart)*

The Meal

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

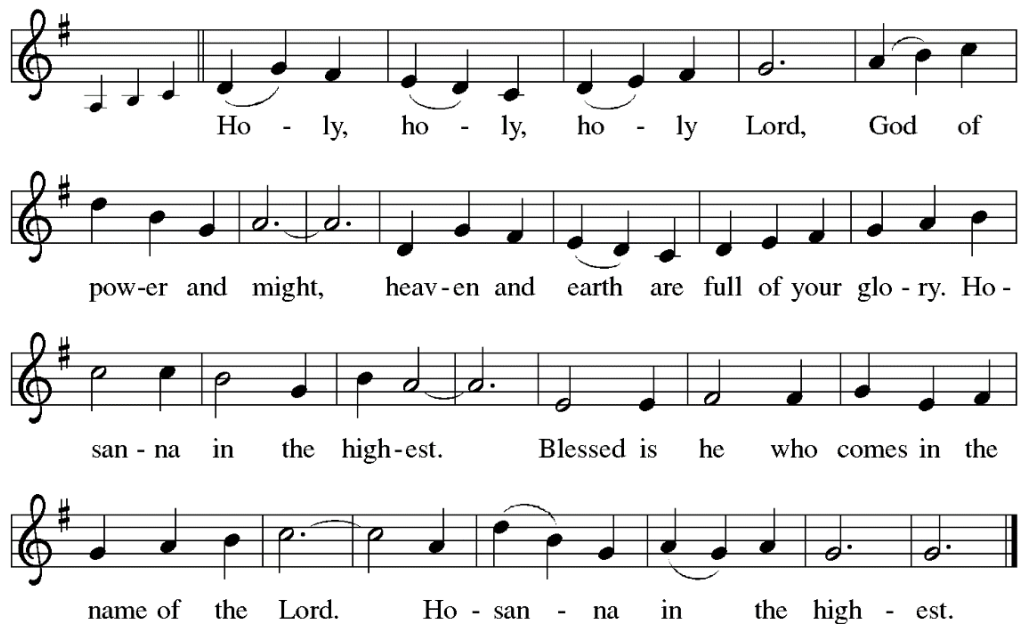
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***Proper Preface**

**Holy, Holy, Holy*



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

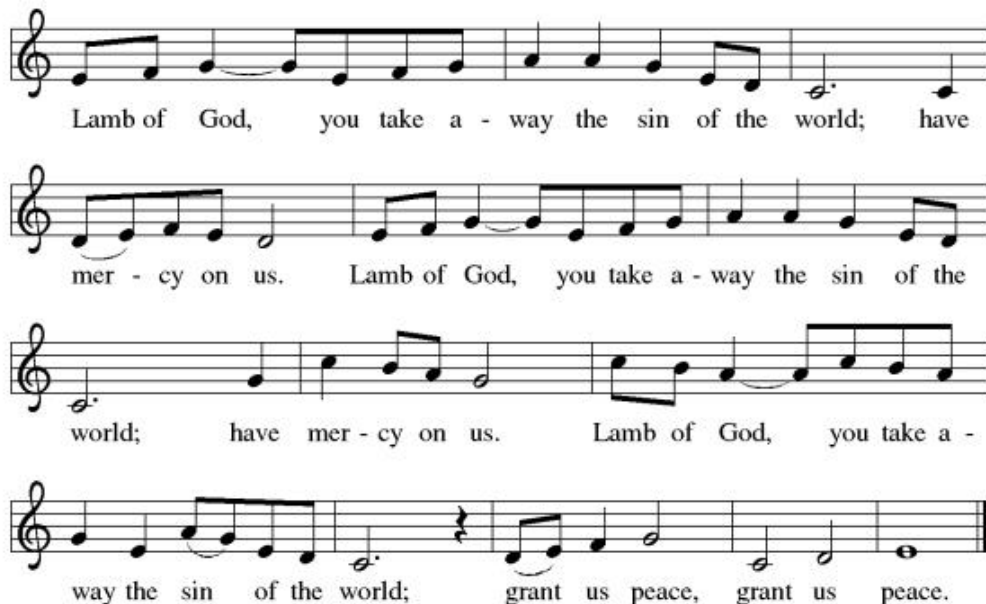
***Eucharistic Prayer**

***Lord's Prayer** (*traditional*)

***Invitation to Communion**

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Please come forward as you are able to receive communion.



***Post-Communion Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, now and forever.

***Prayer after Communion**

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.**

***Blessing**

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



Announcements for the Good of All

***Dismissal**

Heaven has come near. Grow, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.



Peace Lutheran Announcements for July 26, 2026

Church Website: www.peacelutheranburlington.org

Church Email: peacelca@gmail.com

Pastor Carol's email: pastorcarol.peace@gmail.com

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Attendance for Sunday, July 19, 2026 –24 confirmed, 1 virtual

General Offerings \$5,535.00 Mt Meru \$12.00

Worship Assistants for today – Council member in charge: open, Lector:

Ken Christensen, Communion Assistant: Ken Christensen, Offering

counter: Sharon Ryd, Tech: Sean McGinty

Office Hours... Pastor Carol's office hours are Wednesday from 9am to noon. Feel free to stop in and say "hello." She can also be reached by phone, if needed. (303) 909-3064.

Growing Relationships... Please contact Renee Knapton by phone (262-492-0718) or by e-mail at reneeknapton@gmail.com with any joys, sorrows, prayer requests, etc. that you wish shared with fellow members.

Ground Zero Veteran's Outreach... currently has 2 locations. In Union Grove it is the Fresh Start where food and personal items are stored, and in 2024 they opened a farm oasis. They are currently serving 18 veterans. Small tools are needed as well as nonperishable food. We will be collecting items in August, to be delivered September 1st. A more detailed list of needs will be posted August 1st.

50th Anniversary picnic-July 26... We are thankful that Pastor Robert Suhr was able to join us today for our anniversary celebration. We will be having a church picnic following worship.

50th Anniversary photos needed... As we continue our anniversary journey, we would like to include as many photos from our history as possible. Please look through what you may have at home to see what you might have that we could add to our collection. Give them to Sharon and she can scan them and return to you immediately.

Outreach For Hope... we're putting together a team of walkers this year to participate in the 2 mile walk on September 26th beginning at 10:30am. The walk takes place at Petrifying Springs Park in Kenosha. There will be a signup sheet in the back of the Narthex and a quick meeting after worship the first Sunday of August.

