

# The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

07-20-2025

Greg Fetzner, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen**

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for our sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen**

## **GATHERING HYMN** [ELW#691 – “Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”](#)

**P** From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**



**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



**B** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and  
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.  
Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the  
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and  
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings: our table is richly furnished, our cup overflows, and we live in safety and security. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

## **PSALM 112**

- L** <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord  
and have great delight in God's commandments!
- C** <sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
- L** <sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.
- C** <sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
- L** <sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- C** <sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
- L** <sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
- C** <sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
- L** <sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.
- C** <sup>10</sup>**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

#### **ACTS 4:32-37**

- L** A reading from Acts: <sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. <sup>36</sup>There was a Levite from Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). <sup>37</sup>He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.
- L** The word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** [ELW#679 – “For the Fruit of All Creation”](#)

**SERMON:** [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

**P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. 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 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

**L** In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

**L** Inspire your church to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair. We pray for Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Mark Hughes, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, the Spiegler family, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** For whom or what else shall we pray?

- For an end to war, violence, and genocide across the world, especially in Ukraine, Gaza, Iran, Israel, Haiti, Sudan, Myanmar, Yemen, India, and Pakistan...
- For the ongoing work of first responders and relief organizations, including Lutheran Disaster Response in Kerr County, Texas, and in all places affected by natural disasters...
- For those experiencing or anticipating storms and floods in the Northeast US and in the Gulf region...
- For the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada who has elected the Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer to serve as its fifth National Bishop and in thanksgiving for the ministry of outgoing National Bishop Susan Johnson...
- For our own church and the discernment of voting members who will soon elect a new Presiding Bishop and Secretary of the ELCA...
- For those affected by recent ICE raids in Camarillo, CA, including those injured and killed...
- For all victims of sexual abuse and assault...
- For those killed and injured in a fire at an assisted living facility in Fall River, MA...

**L** For all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. God of grace,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

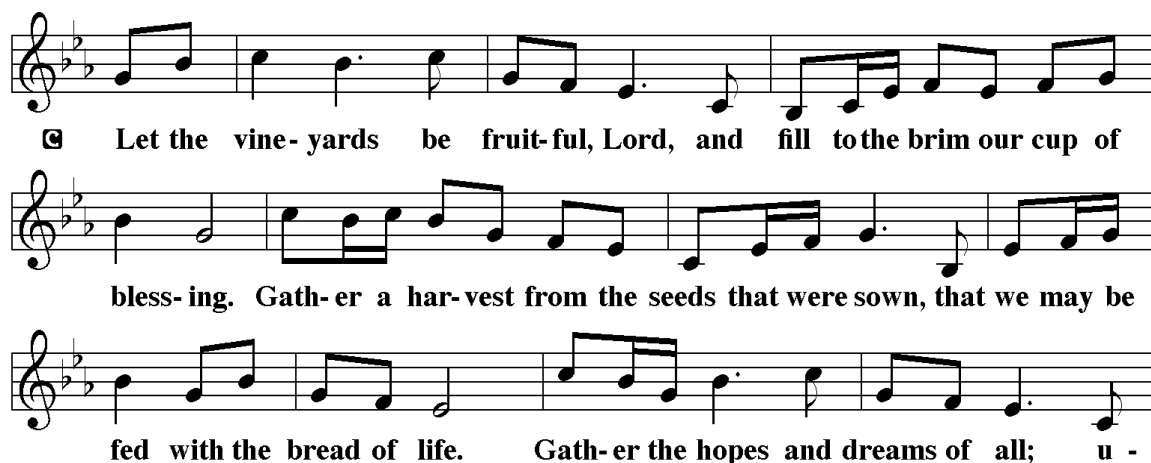
**C** Amen

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.


**C** And also with you.

**OFFERING\*:** ([On-Line giving Link](#))

*The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



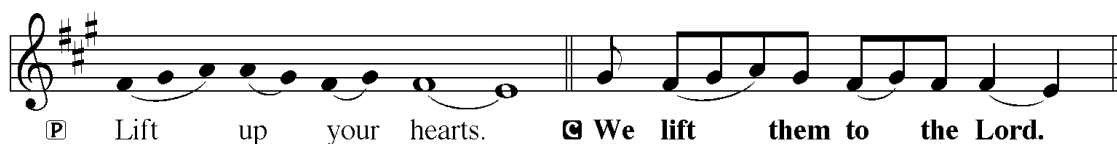
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**P** Let us pray. Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

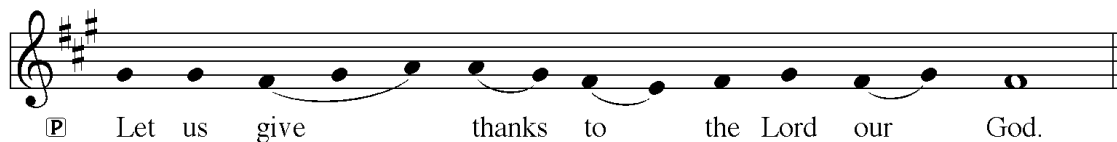
**C** Amen



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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.

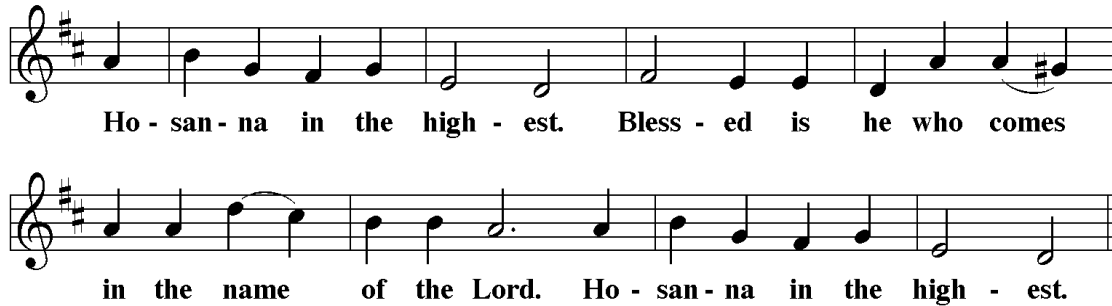
*The thanksgiving continues with the preface; the congregation responds:*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



**P** Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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, his death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

**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**

**P** The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for the table is now ready.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*After all have communed, the following is sung:*



**C** 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.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** Amen



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**C Amen**

**SENDING HYMN:** [ELW#768 – “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”](#)

**P** Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

\*Offering to be sent to  
Robert Brackbill  
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church  
9122 Sybert Drive  
Columbia Hills  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291)

### **Upcoming Events**

- Sunday, August 10 at 9:30 am - Outdoor Worship
- Sunday, September 21 after 9:30 am service - Fall Picnic

### **Upcoming Worship**

Date	Theme of the Day	Preaching Text	Worship Leader
July 20	Give	Acts 4:32-37	Ron
July 27	TBD	TBD	TBD
August 3	TBD	TBD	Heidi and Bob
August 10	TBD	TBD	Julie and Dave
August 17	TBD	TBD	Ron
August 24	TBD	TBD	Monica
August 31	TBD	TBD	Pastor Greg
September 7	Creation	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Heidi and Bob

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