

July 19, 2026 | 8:30am



Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



18865 SW Johnson St. | Aloha, OR 97003 | 503-649-3380 | www.BLCFAMILY.org

Order of Worship

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost | 8:30 am | July 19, 2026

*Music for the Divine Service III liturgy is not in the blue hymnal.
If you would like music for the liturgy, please see an usher.*

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Worship

(Please Stand)

Opening Hymn

All Depends on Our Possessing

LW #415 v1,2,4,6

All depends on our possessing God's free grace and constant blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart. They who trust with faith unshaken
By their God are not forsaken and will keep a dauntless heart.

He who to this day has fed me and to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine. He who did so gently school me,
He who daily guides and rules me will remain my help divine.

When with sorrow I am stricken, hope anew my heart will quicken,
All my longing shall be stilled. To His loving-kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender, for on God alone I build.

If my days on earth He lengthen, God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place. Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding; safe in anchor in His grace.

Invocation and Confession

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Hebrews 10:22

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. Psalm 124:8

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Psalm 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Absolution

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

John

20:19-23

C: Amen.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

P: Glory be to God on high:

C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us pray.

C: Gracious God, You are the Author of our salvation. Fill us with Your Spirit to renew our hearts and our minds. Remind us of the hope and assurance we have in the redeeming work of Your Son, Jesus. It is in His name we pray. Amen.

First Reading

(Please Sit)

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

"I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.

Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

⁸ Fear not, nor be afraid;

have I not told you from of old and declared it?

And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock; I know not any."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed

to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Alleluia  page 6

C: Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Holy Gospel  page 6

(Please Stand)

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

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁴He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

³¹He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³²It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."

³⁴All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. ³⁵This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:

"I will open my mouth in parables;

I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world."

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of

God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for *us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(* "us men" means "all people")

Children's Message

(Please Sit)

Eric Oswald, DCE

Hymn of the Day

How Firm a Foundation

LW #411

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

Throughout all their lifetime my people will prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in my bosom be borne.

Sermon

No Vacancy

Pastor Dudley Nolting

Gathering of our Tithes and Offerings

Bringing tithes and financial gifts to the Lord is an act of worship. These offerings help to accomplish ministry both here at Bethlehem and around the world. May God bless your response of faith.

Please join our members in signing the Red Friendship Register in your pew.

Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

(Please Stand)

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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

(Peace of the LORD)

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

C: And also with you.

Agnus Dei page 10-11

(Lamb of God)

C: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

(Please Sit)

(see information on inside cover page)

Distribution Hymns

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

LW #366

I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us from the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious till not a spot remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus; all fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; my soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

Your Will I Love, My Strength

LW #375

You will I love, my strength, my tower; You will I love, my hope, my joy;
You will I love with all my power, with fervor time cannot destroy.
You will I love, O Light divine, so long as life is mine.

You will I love, my life, my Savior, You are my best, my truest friend;
You will I love and praise forever, for never shall Your kindness end.
You love for me casts out my fear, You are my Savior dear.

I thank You, Jesus, sun from heaven, Whose radiance has brought light to me;
I thank You, Who has richly given all that could make me glad and free.
I thank You that my soul is healed with love that You revealed.

Oh, keep me watchful, then, and humble, and never suffer me to stray;
Uphold me when my feet would stumble, and keep me faithful to Your way.
Fill all my nature with Your light, O Radiance strong and bright!

You will I love, my crown of gladness; You will I Love, my God and Lord,
Within the darkest depths of sadness, and not for hope of high reward--
For Your own sake, O Light divine, so long as life is mine!

Communion Blessing

(Please Stand)

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith unto life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction page 15

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn

Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

LW #457

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let all in me combine
To aid my tongue to bless His name whose favor is divine.

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul, nor let His mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness and without praises die.

The Lord forgives my sins, and He relieves my pain;
The Lord has healed my sicknesses and made me whole again.

He crowns my life with love, He ransoms from the grave;
He that redeemed my soul from hell has sov'reign pow'r to save.

He fills the poor with good; He gives the suff'ers rest;
The Lord has judgments for the proud, relief for those oppressed.

His works and laws and ways He made by Moses known
But showed the world His loving heart in Christ, His only Son.

Sending

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

All Depends on Our Possessing

Text: Gesang-Buch, Nurnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78, alt.
Tune: Johann Lohner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann B Konig, 1691-1758
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

How Firm a Foundation

Text: John rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.
Tune: J. Funk, Genuine Church Music, 1832
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

You Will I Love, My Strength

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624-77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78, alt.
Tune: Johann B. Konig, Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1774, alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014552

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