

June 28, 2026 + Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.

Opening Hymn

“Praise to You, O God of Mercy”

1. Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever! Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
2. From of old you loved and sought us! Thanks be to you forever! Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever! Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love, rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.
3. Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever! Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever! Thanks be to you forever!

The Akathist of Thanksgiving

The Akathist of Thanksgiving comes from the Orthodox tradition. Written in 1934, the title from the final words, “Glory to God for all things” uttered by St. John Chrysostom as he died in exile (CE 407).

O Lord, how lovely it is to be your guest. Breeze full of scents — mountains reaching to the skies — waters like a boundless mirror, reflecting the sun's golden rays and the scudding clouds. All nature murmurs mysteriously, breathing depths of tenderness. Birds and beasts bear the imprint of your love.

How pleasant is our stay with you on earth: It is a joy to be your guest.

*Glory to you for the feast-day of life,
Glory to you for the perfume of lilies and roses,
Glory to you for each taste of berry and fruit,
Glory to you for the sparkling silver of early morning dew,
Glory to you for each smiling, peaceful awakening,
Glory to you for eternal life in us, a messenger of heaven,
Glory to you, O God, from age to age.*

Kyrie Eleison

Refrain

Kyrie eleison, on our world on our way.

Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

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.**

Prayer of the Day

O God, **you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading – Romans 6:12-23

No longer under law but under grace

Response: Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing.

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

‘I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.’”

Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.

For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

Welcome Christ in those he sends

Before: The holy Gospel according to . . .

Glory to you, O Lord.

After: The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Message

Pastor Bill Nelson

"The True Meaning of Welcome"

Hymn of the Day

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

Descant

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

3. We do not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Apostles' Creed

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 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 sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Offering

Giving Prayer

Gracious God, **giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Announcements

Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold us today and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.