

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

Shepherd of the Hill ELCA

“Encouraging faith and proclaiming God’s love
by Gathering, Growing, Giving.”



Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreement to be on our live broadcast.

INTRODUCTION

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God’s grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

GATHERING

Please stand for the parts of the service designated with †

The congregation’s parts are in **bold type**.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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.

LITANY FOR PENTECOST

The Spirit descends like a dove,
bringing peace to unite the world in a just and caring community.

**The Spirit comes like a breath,
bringing life to renew the people of God.**

The Spirit spreads like fire,
bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.

**Spirit of the living God,
come to us and transform our lives by your power.**

~ from the United Church of Christ. Posted on Life in Liturgy, from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/>

† REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

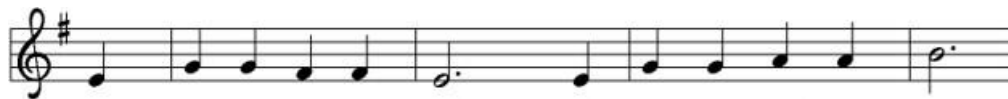
Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

† KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

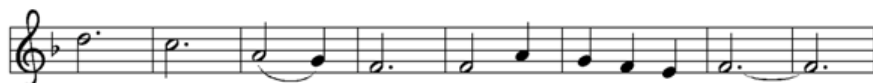
† CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

† PRAYER OF THE DAY

Teach us, **good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

† HYMN

Let the Whole Creation Cry

LBW 242

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

⁷ O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰ For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him." ¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ² O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³ Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

We will read Psalm 69 responsively.

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

⁸ **I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰ **I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

[¹¹ I put on sackcloth also, and became a by- word among them.

¹² **Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O Lord: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴ **Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.]

¹⁶ **Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸ **Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

† GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



† GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

† The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?

Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, ³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. ³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Natalie Leske

† **HYMN OF THE DAY** How Firm a Foundation

LBW 507

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH- Apostles’ Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 CHURCH**

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Prayers followed by: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

† GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(Please share God's peace with each other!)

† OFFERING and OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

MEAL

† DIALOGUE

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 our thanks and praise.

† PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

† THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

† LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

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.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† BLESSING

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

† SENDING HYMN

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

† DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SENDING MUSIC

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Leader

Pastor Natalie Leske

Musician

Lorin Divine

Usher

Dave Blicher

Video

Billy Heltne

Reader

Kris Jenson

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ice Cream Social



Trinity UMC

Wednesday, June 24th

4:00-6:30pm

Join us for BBQs, hot dogs,
coney dogs, potato salad, pies,
ice cream, and beverages!

Going Hog Wild

Help us complete the Pig Puzzle!

Pieces are numbered, and at \$10 each- what a great way to honor loved ones!

We have 22 pieces left to our goal! Lets complete that Pig 🐷

Ushers, readers, communion assistants and livestream helpers are needed.

Helping to lead worship is a very rewarding way to use your talents and gifts. Training and support are offered for all positions. To volunteer or if you have questions, please reach out to Head Usher Tim Jenson for ushering, Kris Jenson, the church secretary for reading and communion assisting, and to Billy Heltne or Tim Jenson for livestreaming.

Thank you for prayerfully considering these forms of discipleship.

If you are a VISITOR with us today, we are so grateful that God brought you here. Please share your name and contact info in either the Guest Book or a purple Visitor info sheet found in the Gathering Area.

Pastor Natalie's Office Hours:

Pastor Natalie's office hours are Wednesday from 10 am to 2 pm or by appointment. You may call Pastor Natalie's cell phone 715-829-8324 to see if she can meet you Monday - Thursday.

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH AND BEYOND OUR DOORS

SUNDAY	6/21		~ FATHERS DAY ~
		10 am	- 4 th Sunday after Pentecost, communion
			- Fellowship after Worship
MONDAY	6/22	6 pm	- Church Council Meets
		7 pm	- AA Meeting
TUESDAY	6/23	4-6 pm	- Food Pantry
FRIDAY	6/26	10 - Noon	- Food Pantry
SUNDAY	6/28	10 am	- 5 th Sunday after Pentecost

Elk Mound Community Food Pantry

Tuesdays: 4-6 pm

Fridays: 10-Noon

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church

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Custodian Terry Stamm 715-379-3728

Sunday School Coordinators: Jaime Folczyk

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Giving questions contact: Ali Sullivan

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