



*"As you go, proclaim the good news" Matthew 10:7*

### 3rd Weekend after Pentecost

June 13, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

June 14, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church  
Decorah, IA

# WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whatever your country of origin or ancestry, your race or ethnic heritage, and whether you are religious or not, Christian or not, or Lutheran or not, you are welcome here.

Whether you are male, female or transgender, young or old, straight, gay, lesbian or bisexual, you are welcome here.

Whether you are single or partnered, married, widowed or divorced, you are welcome here.

Whether you are wealthy or poor, own a home or rent, live at home or are homeless, you are welcome here.

Whatever your political views - whether to the right, to the left or to the center, you are welcome here.

Whatever your strengths or weaknesses, gifts or challenges, they will be honored, for you are welcome here.

First Lutheran Church is committed to being a loving and welcoming community centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ. In faithfulness to the Christian Gospel, in reflection of our Lutheran emphasis on grace, and in celebration of our shared baptismal journey, we promise to enter into ministry with all who seek God here.

We invite you to join us for worship and take up your place with us in ministry for you are welcome at First Lutheran Church.

## NOTES ABOUT WORSHIP:

This **bulletin** contains the prayers, readings, some music, and responses that you will need to participate in worship.

**Hymnals** can be found in the pews for most congregational songs. We use both the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and purple All Creation Sings (ACS) hymnals.

The **communion meal** is open to all who desire to participate, of any age. Gluten-free wafers and juice are available. Individual communion kits are also available as you enter the worship space for those who wish to remain in the pews.

**Children are welcome at all of our worship services.** A play area, where you'll also find quiet bags, is available for families in sanctuary. Feel free to nurse or feed your child in the sanctuary. We also have a staffed nursery during Sunday worship. Ask an usher for directions or follow the signs out the door at the northeast corner of the sanctuary.

**Are you visiting?** We invite you to fill out a yellow connection card found in your pew. Please also introduce yourself to Pr. Mike and Pr. David on your way out! Consider yourself welcome and invited to participate in the activities and worship life of this congregation!

In January 2026 we began Phase 2 of our **For Generations to Come** building project. While we are under construction, **restrooms** are available on the 1st level near the kitchen, our new nursery bathroom, and on the 2nd floor education wing. Visit [firstlutherandecorah.org](http://firstlutherandecorah.org) for weekly construction updates.

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE** Gather Us In - Marty Haugen/Mark Hayes  
*5:00 p.m. only*

**GATHERING SONG** ELW 526 God Is Here!  
*9:00 a.m. only*

**WELCOME** *Everyone is invited to share their prayer requests on the yellow cards. If you are new to worship, please also include your contact information.*

**GATHERING SONG** Amazing Grace (Eagles Style)  
*9:00 a.m. only*

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.

*(Refrain)* I've got a peaceful, easy feeling  
I know that you won't let me down  
Cause I'm already standing on solid ground.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*  
Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. **Amen.**  
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

To you, O God,  
**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you,  
 confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us  
 in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead  
 us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus  
 Christ our Savior. Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and  
 through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives  
 you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all  
 goodness and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## By Grace We Have Been Saved

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the  
 2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the  
 3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,  
 still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,  
 nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



*Refrain*

young or old, just lis - ten to the song.  
 pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.  
 there is hope, and love will take you home.

**\*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** *After we pause to breathe and for personal prayer, the presiding minister will pray.*

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song.*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** *Sunday only*

**FIRST READING** Genesis 18:1-15

*God, in the form of three messengers, announces to Sarah and Abraham that they will have a child. Sarah, because of her advanced age, laughs at this seeming impossibility. But nothing is impossible for God, and in due course Isaac is born (Gen. 21:1-7). Now, Sarah confesses, everyone will share in her joyous laughter.*

<sup>1</sup> One hot summer afternoon while Abraham was sitting by the entrance to his tent near the sacred trees of Mamre, the LORD appeared to him. <sup>2</sup> Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. He quickly ran to meet them, bowed with his face to the ground, <sup>3</sup> and said, "Please come to my home where I can serve you. <sup>4</sup> I'll have some water brought, so you can wash your feet, then you can rest under a tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me get you some food to give you strength before you leave. I would be honored to serve you."

"Thank you very much," they answered. "We accept your offer."

<sup>6</sup> Abraham went quickly to his tent and said to Sarah, "Hurry! Get a large sack of flour and make some bread." <sup>7</sup> After saying this, he rushed off to his herd of cattle and picked out one of the best calves, which his servant quickly prepared. <sup>8</sup> He then served his guests some yogurt and milk together with the meat.

While they were eating, he stood near them under the tree, <sup>9</sup> and they asked, "Where's your wife Sarah?"

"She is right there in the tent," Abraham answered.

<sup>10</sup> One of the guests was the LORD, and he said, "I'll come back about this time next year, and when I do, Sarah will already have a son."

Sarah was behind Abraham, listening at the entrance to the tent. <sup>11</sup> Abraham and Sarah were very old, and Sarah was well past the age for having children. <sup>12</sup> So she laughed and said to herself, "Now that I am worn out and my husband is old, will I really know such

happiness?" <sup>13</sup> The LORD asked Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Does she doubt that she can have a child in her old age?" <sup>14</sup> I am the LORD! There is nothing too difficult for me. I'll come back next year at the time I promised, and Sarah will already have a son." <sup>15</sup> Sarah was so frightened that she lied and said, "I didn't laugh." "Yes, you did!" he answered.

Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 100

<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!

<sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

<sup>3</sup> **Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.**

<sup>4</sup> Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;

give thanks and bless God's holy name.

<sup>5</sup> **Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.**

**SECOND READING** Romans 5:1-8

*We are no longer estranged from God but have peace because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death.*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. <sup>2</sup> Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory.

<sup>3</sup> We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. <sup>4</sup> And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. <sup>5</sup> And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. <sup>6</sup> When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. <sup>7</sup> Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. <sup>8</sup> But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Word of God, word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**\*GOSPEL** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.*

Matthew 9:35—10:8

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

<sup>10:1</sup> Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, <sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>8</sup> Cure the sick; raise the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

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

**SERMON** Pr. David Severtson

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

\*HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 985 Let Us Enter In

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

This summer we bring both our thanksgivings and prayers to God, who hears and holds us in love. First we'll give our thanks, ending each petition: Thank you, God. The congregation responds **Alleluia!** Then we'll share our prayer concerns ending each petition: God have mercy. The congregation responds **Hear our prayer.**

*A brief silence. The minister concludes each petition:*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.*

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . . Thank you, God.

**Alleluia!**

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . . Thank you, God. **Alleluia!**

for the gifts of relationship with others . . . Thank you, God.

**Alleluia!**

for the communion of faith in your church . . . Thank you, God.

**Alleluia!**

*Congregation members may add other thanksgivings.*

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray—

for our friends and family members seeking healing and peace including *(the minister will read names from our congregational prayer list; congregation members can also add additional names)* . . . God have mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

for those who govern nations of the world . . . God have mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . . God have mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . . God have mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . . God have mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . . God have mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Congregation members may add other intercessions.*

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

**MINISTRY  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Prayers, announcements, and updates can be found in the weekly AfterWord. To view the AfterWord or to subscribe online, visit [firstlutherandecorah.org/afterword](http://firstlutherandecorah.org/afterword) or scan the QR code.*



**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

**OFFERING** 5:00 p.m. - Satisfied - Ralph Hudson/Lloyd Larson  
9:00 a.m. - Amazing Love

I'm forgiven, because you were forsaken  
I'm accepted, you were condemned  
I'm alive and well, your spirit is within me  
Because you died and rose again

*Chorus:* Amazing love, how can it be  
That you my king would die for me  
Amazing love, I know its true  
Its my joy to honor you  
In all I do, I honor you. *(repeat to top)*



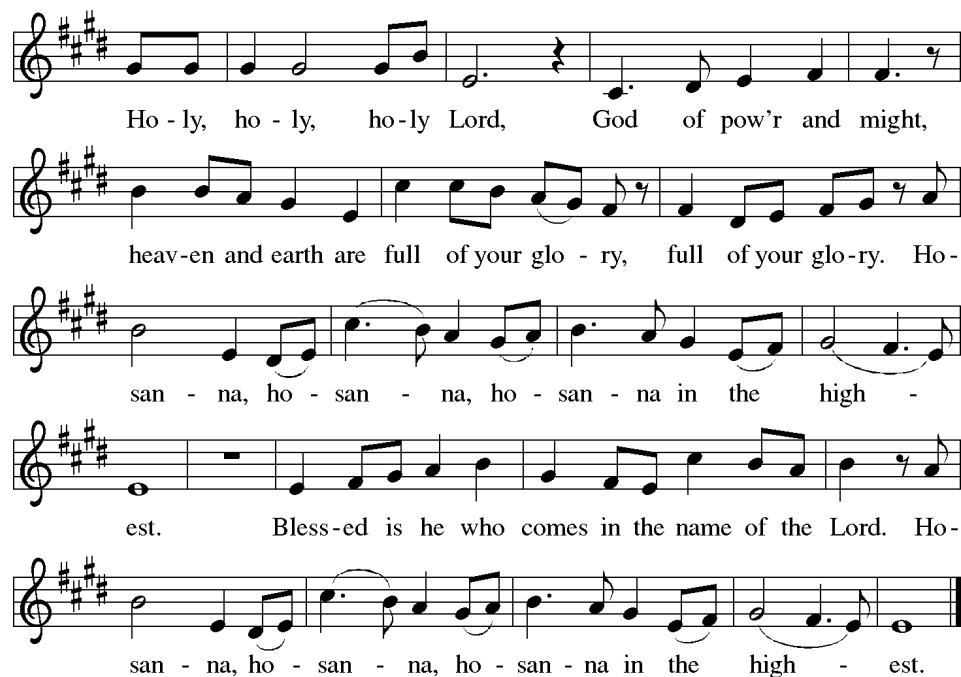
*Give online at [firstlutherandecorah.org/give](http://firstlutherandecorah.org/give), text "GIVE" to (563) 412-2243, or scan the QR code.*

**\*OFFERING PRAYER** Let us pray.  
**Come Lord Jesus be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blessed.  
May there be a goodly share on every table everywhere. Amen.**

**\*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 our thanks and praise.**

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O 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, church on earth, and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy God, how majestic is your name in all the earth. The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

Holy God, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ, you bring life from death. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:  
The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

Holy God, send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Encouraged by your promises, praise you again: The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory. Amen.**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** Gathered around this table by the Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught.  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today 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** *We believe Jesus Christ is present when we share this meal. Here God nourishes our faith, forgives our sin, and calls us to share God's love. Adults and children of any age are welcome to receive communion.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC** 5:00 p.m. - Jon Thompson  
9:00 a.m. - Messiah - Dakota Road  
Someone's shouting from the desert.  
Someone's shouting from the sea.  
Someone's shouting from the mountain.  
Someone's shouting from the valley.  
Messiah, come and be our King. *(repeat)*  
Someone's shouting from the city; I am young and I am cold.  
Someone's shouting from the country; I am lonely, I am old.  
Someone's shouting I am broken.  
Someone's shouting make me whole.  
Someone's shouting come and change me.  
Someone's shouting save my soul.

Step by Step  
O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. *(x2)*  
I will seek you in the morning and I will learn to walk in you ways,  
And step by step you'll lead me and I will follow you all of my days,  
And I will follow you all of my days, and I will follow you all of my days,  
and step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in love to serve.*

**\*BLESSING** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The LORD look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN** 5:00 p.m. - ELW 856 How Great Thou Art  
9:00 a.m. - I Believe, I Do Believe  
*Refrain:* I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it, truly I believe it, truly I believe it. (2x)  
v1: I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator, Mighty Lord Creator, Mighty Lord, Creator (2x)  
v2: I believe in Jesus the Savior of the people, Savior of the people, Savior of the people (2x)  
v3: And I do believe in the power of the Spirit, Power of the spirit, Power of the Spirit (2x)

**\*DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Share the feast. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE** How Great Thou Art - Swedish melody/Mark Hayes  
*5:00 p.m. only*

### **5:00 P.M. WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Pr. David Severtson, preaching & presiding minister  
Melissa O'Rourke, reader & communion assistant  
Mike Ellingsen, piano  
Jon Thompson  
Joe Skoda & Melissa O'Rourke, worship welcome team

### **9:00 A.M. WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Pr. David Severtson, preaching minister  
Pr. Mike Wilker, presiding minister  
Lindy Borske-Hubbard, assisting minister  
Mark Muggli, reader  
Julie Duff, communion assistant  
Mandy Severtson  
Mark Potvin  
Noah Potvin, stream team  
Kara Franke, nursery  
Lane Schwarz, worship welcome team  
Elliott Christen, worship welcome team

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Neal & Nancy Solomonson, from their garden.

