



Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 17th, 2026
Esther Lutheran Church, ELCA
Making Christ Known Through Faith, Hope, and Love

Introduction:

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

PRELUDE
BELL
WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Please stand as you are able

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

P: We do not know the days and times,

C: The hours and years of God's own ways.

P: But we are given power from above:

C: The Holy Spirit, here among us!

P: We are witnesses to Christ,

C: In this place and everywhere on earth.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: Give us the willingness to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you about the ways in which we have caused harm in this world. Give us the openness to see where our actions or failures to act have led to pain in those closest to us and in those far away. Do not let us sink further into self-harm through self-blame and hatred, but give us the courage to set right our wrongs, and to return to you again and again for forgiveness.

P: The risen God has raised you to newness of life in Jesus' name. You are in Christ a new creation, and God forgives you every wrong. Celebrate with all of creation a world redeemed and lavish the love you have received on all that is.

C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN:**

"Here I Am, Lord (chosen by: Evy Grinager)

(ELW 574)

**1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

**I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

**2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

**3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

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***GREETING:**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

KYRIE: *sung* (ELW pg. 203)

- 1 Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living Word; it saves us from despair.**
- 2 Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole, that new life may begin.**
- 3 Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE: “Come Let Us Join” (ELW pg. 204)**

- 1 Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne;
ten thousand thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.**
- 2 “Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be exalted thus!”
“Worthy the Lamb,” our lips reply, “for he was slain for us!”**
- 3 Jesus is worthy to receive honor and pow'r divine;
and blessings, more than we can give, be, Lord, forever thine.**
- 4 Let all creation join in one to bless the sacred name
of him who sits upon the throne, and to adore the Lamb.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: O God of glory,

C: Your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand.
Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the
world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING: ACTS 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his

disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. Here ends the first reading.

PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35 ~ *Congregation reads the bold*
Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)

¹ Let God arise and let God’s enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I Am is that name, rejoice before God!**

⁵ In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

³³You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

³⁴Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6}Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the

same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power forever and ever. Amen. Here ends the second reading.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Alleluia” (ELW pg. 205)

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”_The Gospel of the Lord... **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S TIME & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“This Is My Father's World” (chosen by: Isaiah Schlosser)

(ELW 824)

- 1** This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

- 2** This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

- 3** This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATING SENIORS AND THEIR FUTURE
PLANS**

Evalynn Tracee Grinager & Isaiah Michael Schlosser

PRESENTATION OF BLANKETS AND SENIOR BLESSING

*At this time we ask the graduates' parents to come forward and wrap their
senior in their blanket as together we speak these words.*

Pastor: Each one of you is a special part of this congregation. No one else, in the whole world, is quite like you. We are proud of you, and we love you.

Congregation: **As a congregation, we bless you to grow in body, mind and spirit, and encourage in you, a growing commitment to Christ. May your hearts and lives always reflect God's love and truth.**

Pastor: We bless you to explore life, to be adventurous in discovering who God has created you to be. May you walk safely along the pathways of your dreams. May God's gentle hand guide the decisions you will make and the passions that you follow.

Congregation: **We promise to support you with our love, counsel and prayers, and will continue to walk with you on your journey of faith. May hope be a light within you that you carry into each new day.**

Pastor: Wherever you wander, no matter how dark the night, may the warmth of this blanket, the love of your parents, the fellowship of this church, the grace of God, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever. Go with God's blessing.

Congregation: **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Last Response Sing: "Hear our Prayer O Lord"

L: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

L: Jesus did his job faithfully; now it is time for us to do ours. Give us his wisdom and spirit, that we might find and fill those places where the world needs your love, light and healing. God of glory,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: You rain upon the earth and tend your flocks with mercy, O God. Fill us with gratitude at your blessings and give us the work of preserving this earth with diligence and care. God of glory,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Sometimes we are frustrated, O God, when we cannot see an end to our suffering or pain. Give your children patience and peace in their hearts when they experience grief, loss, or illness especially Jerry, Bruce, Cheryl, Chris, Kristy, Ricky, Larry, Joan, Dennis, Lois, Dale, Bev, Gary, Shirley, Joyce, Kathy, Allison, Becky, Kim, Cadence, Sara, Barb, Leroy, Karen, and Pete. God of glory,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment and accompany us in our prayers during these times. God of glory,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Your creation knows you, O God, and all things glorify your name. Hear our prayers and add our voices to the choir of all the living, who praise you and your son, Jesus Christ.

C: 
Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; in-


cline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. A – men.

Please stand as you are able

***APOSTLES' CREED: (ELW pg. 217)**

**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 Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
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**

***PEACE:**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always

C: And also with you.

Please be seated

OFFERING

We thank you for our gifts of time, talent, and treasure that help this congregation, to continue our ministry together, and to make Christ known in our communities and the world.

OFFERING HYMN: “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” vs. 1&4 (ELW 802)

**1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
through a world that would deceive us
and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading,
trav'lers here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do our Savior's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where you guide.**

**4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
that to life we may awaken.
Jesus, you are now our head,
we are your own living members;
where you live, there we shall be**

**in your presence constantly,
living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be;
life eternal grant to me.**

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Please stand as you are able

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

P: O God,

C: You shower blessings upon us daily. We offer these gifts as small portions of what we have, to share with others and to expand our hearts with your love, which is the purpose of all things, for the sake of Jesus our savior. Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING: spoken (ELW pg. 206)**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift our hearts to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION: sung "Remember Now My Children"**

**The night of His betrayal, our Lord took bread.
He broke it and he blessed it, and then he said,
"My body given for you is what this means,
remember now my children what you have seen."**

**And then He took the chalice, and raised it high.
"My body broken for you, a full supply...
a covenant, a promise, a cleansing stream.
Remember now, my children, what you have seen."
We share this food together, remembering Christ;**

**we share a common treasure and know the price;
we share it without measure, a gift of love;
we share our life forever, with God above.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER:** *spoken*

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

P: Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

COMMUNION

The acolytes, ushers, organist and those assisting with communion should come forward at this time and receive communion. Following the assistants, we celebrate Holy Communion around the altar. The ushers will direct you. We welcome all to the Lord's Table where we experience the unity that God intends for all people.

COMMUNION HYMN:

***"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"* (ACS 966) (purple hymnal)**

**1 Loaves were broken, words were spoken
by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven,
was their food forevermore.**

Refrain

**By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

**2 Loaves were broken, words were spoken
in a quiet room one night,**

**In the bread and wine you gave them,
Christ, you came as Light from Light.**

Refrain

**By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

- 3 Loaves are broken, words are spoken,
as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages:
"I am with you; do not fear!"**

Refrain

**By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

- 4 By the loaves you break and give us,
send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger,
words that tell your love and care.**

Refrain

**By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle 1923-2007
Music: Marty Haugen b.1950

COMMUNION HYMN: “*Thine the Amen*” (ELW 826)

- 1 Thine the amen thine the praise
alleluias angels raise
thine the everlasting head
thine the breaking of the bread**

**thine the glory thine the story
thine the harvest then the cup
thine the vineyard then the cup
is lifted up lifted up.**

- 2 Thine the life eternally
thine the promise let there be
thine the vision thine the tree
all the earth on bended knee
gone the nailing gone the railing
gone the pleading gone the cry
gone the sighing gone the dying
what was loss lifted high.**
- 3 Thine the truly thine the yes
thine the table we the guest
thine the mercy all from thee
thine the glory yet to be
then the ringing and the singing
then the end of all the war
thine the living thine the loving
evermore evermore.**
- 4 Thine the kingdom thine the prize
thine the wonder full surprise
thine the banquet then the praise
then the justice of thy ways
thine the glory thine the story
then the welcome to the least
then the wonder all increasing
at thy feast at thy feast.**
- 5 Thine the glory in the night
no more dying only light
thine the river thine the tree
then the Lamb eternally
then the holy holy holy
celebration jubilee
thine the splendor thine the brightness
only thee only thee.**

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Text © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

COMMUNION HYMN:

“Ten Thousand Reasons/Bless The Lord, O My Soul” (ACS 1097)

(purple hymnal)

Refrain

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

**The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.**

Refrain

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

**You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.**

Refrain

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

**And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.**

Refrain

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.**

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Please stand as you are able

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

P: Holy One,

C: **Through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

***BLESSING:**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✝ bless you now and forever.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

***SENDING SONG: “In Christ Alone” (CLH 390)**

1 In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease;
my Comforter, my All in All;
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone who took on flesh;
fullness of God in helpless babe.

**This gift of love and righteousness
scorned by the ones He came to save;
'til on that cross as Jesus died
the wrath of God was satisfied;
for ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.**

**3 There in the ground His body lay;
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ!**

**4 No guilt in life, no fear in death;
this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
can ever pluck me from His hand;
'til He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!**

Source: Our Great Redeemer's Praise #106

***DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Jerry Anderson	Kristy Fyhrie
Larry Sather	Joan Burquest
Dennis Rosenquist	Lois Rosenquist
Ricky Hart	Sara Skoglund
Leroy Olson – father of Becky Arvidson	
Cheryl Farber – mother of Melissa Schlosser	
Rev. Bruce Miller- father of Karin Wagner	

Barb Peterson -friend of the Thoms
Dale Flemming – father of Laurie Ratajesak
Gary Borst – friend of the Andersons
Shirley Nesges – friend of the Thoms
Bev Lorine – mother of Mandy Arvidson
Joyce Muyres – friend of the Thoms
Bev Guse-Ohlrech – friend of the Pedersons
Allison Dotzler – friend of Kathy Mittag
Cadence Smith – friend of Mandy Arvidson
Becky Yttrie – friend of the Townsends
Kim Casavan – friend of Mandy Arvidson
Kathy Wilkins – friend of the Thoms
Karen Schlosser – mother of Justin Schlosser
Pete Baugh – brother-in-law of Pr. Ken Bowman
Family and Friends of: Sarah Pomeranz, David Anderson, Katie Jahnke, Colleen Burquest, Doug Tvedt, Alma Robinson, Jerry Pogose, Terry Burns, Wayne Lund, Bruce Carter, Inez Nelson, Gary Willie, and Connie Pesta

THIS WEEK AT ESTHER

Sunday, May 17th – *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

9:30 am – Senior Recognition Cake Reception (Ruth Circle hosts)
10 am – Worship w/Holy Communion led by Pr. Preston & Senior Recognition
2 pm – Worship at St. William's
7 pm – Baccalaureate at Immanuel Lutheran Church

Monday, May 18th

6 pm -Worship Committee

Wednesday, May 20th

5:30 pm – Place flowers and crosses on graves

Friday, May 22nd

PPHS Day of Caring

Sunday, May 24th – *Day of Pentecost*

Sunday Fellowship Before & After Worship

10 am – Worship led by Pr. Brigitte
2 pm – Worship at St. William's

SERVING IN MAY

Pastor: May 17 - Pr. Dennis Preston, May 24- Pr. Brigitte,

May 31- Megan Townsend

Organists: Marcia Guenther & Brad Lambrecht

Altar Care: Donna Pederson

Usher: Brady Arvidson

Acolyte: NEED VOLUNTEER

Lay Reader: Terri Grinager

Communion Assistant: NEED VOLUNTEER

Birthday Card Sender: Linda Arvidson

NEWS AND NOTES

**Congratulations to our graduates Evalynn Grinager & Isaiah Schlosser!
God Bless You!**

NOTE - Due to the forecast, placing of flowers and crosses on the graves will be on Wednesday, May 20th at 5:30 pm.

Parkers Prairie High School Student Council is planning for its annual Day of Caring on Friday, May 22nd. The students of PPHS will be ready, willing, and able to help out in the community. If you would like help with spring clean up or have a special project that needs to get done in the Parkers Prairie, Urbank, and Miliona area, contact PPHS Student Council Advisor David O'Brien at dobrien@pp.k12.mn.us.

The Esther Caring Ministry will have packaged meals available in the kitchen freezer for you to take to anyone who could use a meal to nurture their body and spirit.

GIFT OF PLANNING EVENT: Join us at Esther on Tuesday, June 9 at 6:00 pm for an evening of food, fellowship, and thoughtful conversation about planning for the future to provide the ultimate gift to yourself and your loved ones: peace of mind.

What a Mess! VBS at Esther will be held June 14th -18th starting each evening with supper at 5:30 pm with lessons, music, crafts, and worship from 6-8 pm. For more information contact the church office at secretary@estherlutheran.net. Be sure to invite friends, grandkids, cousins, and neighbors to join in the fun!



Vanco online giving platform is a great way to set up a scheduled giving plan for even when you cannot make it to church. Scan the QR code, go online to estherlutheran.com, go to the tab “ways to support Esther Lutheran Church” and click on the link <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZP4R> or download the app Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Any questions please ask Mandy Arvidson.

Check out the Esther Calendar on our website to stay up to date on everything happening!

Go to estherlutheran.com and click on “Esther Calendar.”

You belong here. We believe that each person has unique gifts, are created in God’s image, and is a beloved child of God. We welcome you to join us each week to share in the community of faith at Esther - “Knowing Christ - making Christ known through faith, hope and love”. If you would like to become a member of Esther, please contact Mandy in the church office at 218-338-2171 or secretary@estherlutheran.net or Jewel Townsend at 320-760-2503 or jewellht17@gmail.com.

Esther Lutheran Church, ELCA

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