

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TEMPLE CITY**

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**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

True Wisdom, on the Way

June 22, 2025



**AS WE GATHER**

The season of Pentecost has arrived! With the arrival of the Holy Spirit, this season of the Church Year is marked by growth. We see evidence of the growth the Spirit is seeking in this week's Readings. The Lord and giver of life seeks to see His people grow faithful hearts through faithful worship, resulting in faithful service. When the way ahead isn't as clear or as comfortable as we would like, we rely on the Lord's wisdom, leading us back to His faithful servant, Jesus Christ, who clears the obstacles of our sinfulness and comforts us with His Word and sacramental gifts.

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**HYMN** "All Who Believe and Are Baptized"

Hymnal page 601

1. All who believe and are baptized  
Shall see the Lord's salvation;  
Baptized into the death of Christ,  
They are a new creation.  
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand  
Among the glorious, heav'nly band  
Of ev'ry tribe and nation.

2. With one accord, O God, we pray:  
Grant us Your Holy Spirit.  
Help us in our infirmity  
Through Jesus' blood and merit.  
Grant us to grow in grace each day  
That by this sacrament we may  
Eternal life inherit.

## INVOCATION

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Isaiah 52:10; 48:17; 55:6*

Vicar: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,

People: **and kindle in them the fire of Your love.**

Vicar: The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

People: **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

Vicar: Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

People: **"I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go."**

Vicar: Seek the LORD while He may be found;

People: **call upon Him while He is near.**



## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Isaiah 46:12–13*

Vicar: Seeking our Lord, His wisdom, and His grace, we confess:

People: **Almighty and all-merciful God, in wisdom You have created all things, and in grace, You seek the lost and erring. Yet, through our selfish choices and sinful nature, we ignore Your wisdom and refuse Your grace. We prefer our own way, resisting the Holy Spirit and His work of bringing forth the fruits of faithfulness. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, console and correct us, that we might forsake our wicked ways and unrighteous thoughts and turn to You, the God who has compassion and abundant pardon.**

Vicar: The Lord is gracious, for He declares, “Listen to Me, you stubborn of heart, you who are far from righteousness: I bring near My righteousness; it is not far off, and My salvation will not delay.” The Lord has brought His righteousness in giving His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for you. Through Him, and Him alone, you have forgiveness, life, and salvation. In the stead and by the command of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

### ☩ WORD ☩

## INTROIT

*Psalm 71:20–24; antiphon: v. 3*

People: **Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; You have given the command to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.**

Vicar: You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again;  
from the depths of the earth You will bring me up again.

People: **You will increase my greatness  
and comfort me again.**

Vicar: I will also praise You with the harp for Your faithfulness, O my God;  
I will sing praises to You with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.  
My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;  
my soul also, which You have redeemed.  
And my tongue will talk of Your righteous help all the day long,  
for they have been put to shame and disappointed who sought to do  
me hurt.

People: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; You have given the command to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.**

## KYRIE

Hymnal page 168

Vicar: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glory Be to God the Father”

Hymnal page 506, verses 1 and 4

1. Glory be to God the Father,  
Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit:  
Great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory  
While eternal ages run!

4. Glory, blessing, praise eternal!  
Thus the choir of angels sings:  
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion!  
Thus its praise creation brings.  
Glory, glory,  
Glory to the King of kings!

## SALUTATION

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: Let us pray.

O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Cast out all sins and evil desires from us, and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 65:1–9*

(The Lord who redeems declares to the nations, “Here am I!” seeking their hearts and their faithfulness.)

**65** <sup>1</sup> I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me;

I was ready to be found by those who did not seek Me.

I said, “Here I am, here I am,”

to a nation that was not called by My name.

<sup>2</sup> I spread out My hands all the day

to a rebellious people,

who walk in a way that is not good,

following their own devices;

<sup>3</sup> a people who provoke Me

to My face continually,

sacrificing in gardens

and making offerings on bricks;

<sup>4</sup> who sit in tombs,

and spend the night in secret places;

who eat pig's flesh,

and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;

<sup>5</sup> who say, “Keep to yourself,

do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.”

These are a smoke in My nostrils,

a fire that burns all the day.

<sup>6</sup> Behold, it is written before Me:

“I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their lap

<sup>7</sup> both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together,

says the LORD;

because they made offerings on the mountains

and insulted Me on the hills,

I will measure into their lap

payment for their former deeds.”

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“As the new wine is found in the cluster,

and they say, ‘Do not destroy it,

for there is a blessing in it,’

so I will do for My servants' sake,

and not destroy them all.

<sup>9</sup> I will bring forth offspring from Jacob,

and from Judah possessors of My mountains;

My chosen shall possess it,

and My servants shall dwell there.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalm 3; antiphon: v. 8*

**3** <sup>1</sup> O LORD, how many are my foes!  
Many are rising against me;  
<sup>2</sup> many are saying of my soul,  
“There is no salvation for him in God.”  
<sup>3</sup> But You, O LORD, are a shield about me,  
my glory, and the Lifter of my head.  
<sup>4</sup> I cried aloud to the LORD,  
and He answered me from His holy hill.  
<sup>5</sup> I lay down and slept;  
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.  
<sup>6</sup> I will not be afraid of many thousands of people  
who have set themselves against me all around.  
<sup>7</sup> Arise, O LORD!  
Save me, O my God!  
For You strike all my enemies on the cheek;  
You break the teeth of the wicked.  
<sup>8</sup> Salvation belongs to the LORD;  
Your blessing be on Your people!

**EPISTLE** *Galatians 3:23-4:7*

(The baptized have put on Christ, becoming sons and heirs, with hearts that are home to the Holy Spirit.)

**3** <sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. **4** <sup>1</sup> I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup> but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup> In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman,

born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**      *Luke 8:26–39*

(Jesus travels beyond Galilee to break the bonds of darkness, transforming a demoniac into a missionary.)

Vicar: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup> Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met Him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before Him and said with a loud voice, “What have You to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me.” <sup>29</sup> For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged Him not to command them to depart into the abyss. <sup>32</sup> Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged Him to let them enter these. So He gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned. <sup>34</sup> When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with Him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

Hymnal page 717

**1.** Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

**2.** O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain,  
O'er which our traffic runs amain  
By mountain pass or valley low;  
Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,  
Protect them by Thy guarding hand  
From ev'ry peril on the land.

**3.** O Spirit, whom the Father sent  
To spread abroad the firmament;  
O Wind of heaven, by Thy might  
Save all who dare the eagle's flight,  
And keep them by Thy watchful care  
From ev'ry peril in the air.

**4.** O Trinity of love and pow'r,  
Our people shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad praise from air and land and sea.

## SERMON – Galatians 3:23–26: “A counter Gospel”

### CREED *Apostles' Creed*

**People:** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Vicar: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the faithful of every nation, that they be so called by the Gospel and equipped to declare to their communities how much God has done for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For Your one holy Christian and apostolic church, that believers might be united in sound teaching and a clear confession of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For those in the grip of darkness, ruled by the demons of grief, addiction, anxiety, and chronic disease, awaiting Your deliverance, and those hurting among us, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For those growing in their faith, especially those preparing for Baptism, Confirmation, or training for the ministry, that they be encouraged in the way and defended from evil, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For our homes, that parents and caregivers be guided by Your wisdom to lovingly serve their neighbors and all in their care, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For the fruit of the Spirit to blossom in the lives of all believers, to the glory of God the Father, and pointing hearts to Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Vicar: For all this, and whatever more Your fatherly mercy would grant to us, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY “The Lord, My God, Be Praised”

Hymnal page 794, verses 1 and 3

**1.** The Lord, my God, be praised,  
My light, my life from heaven;  
My maker, who to me  
Has soul and body given;  
My Father, who will shield  
And keep me day by day  
And makes each moment yield  
New blessings on my way.

**3.** The Lord, my God, be praised,  
My hope, my life from heaven,  
The Spirit, whom the Son  
In love to me has given.  
His grace revives my heart  
And gives my spirit pow'r,  
Help, comfort, and support  
In sorrow's gloomy hour.

## LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

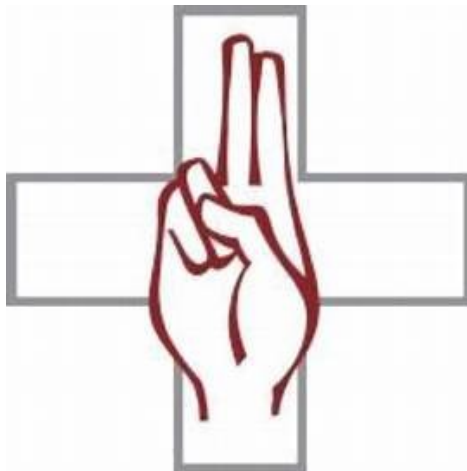
**People:** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we  
forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

**Vicar:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People:** Amen.



1. Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us  
To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
The tasks of our ev’ry-day life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,  
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.  
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Pastoral Care:

    Please contact –

        Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613

## **BLESSED TO BE SERVING TODAY**

Leader:	Vicar Les Shaefer
Greeter:	Sharon Corey
Reader:	Christine Geltz
Musician:	Christine Geltz
Ushers:	Craig Boehne, Donald Lammerts, & Dave Lassanske

**APPRECIATION:** We would like to extend our thanks to Vicar Les Shaefer in helping us with the worship today.

## **PRAYERS OF CARE & CONCERN FOR OUR FLC FAMILY**

Please pray for the people that visit First Lutheran and are searching for a church home. Pray that they would be faithful in their search and find a place where they can consistently worship God and participate in Christian fellowship. Pray that we would be welcoming to visitors and that we ourselves would be comfortable and bold to invite people to worship with us.

### **Psalm 95:6–7**

*Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*  
**7** *For He is our God,  
and we are the people of His pasture,  
and the sheep of His hand.*

Judy Gunther: Continuing prayer for the healing of her knee as she deals with the pain.

Joanne Rostek (Former Missionary – Anna Rostek’s mom): Pray for healing from RSV and Pneumonia

Patricia Grabowski: Pray for a successful new Physical Therapy program.

## **BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK**

**Diane Oberlander**

**June 23**



## **ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK**

**Elizabeth Yu & Kian Ti Yu**  
**(Church Staff) June 23**



## **Sunday Worship at Home**

Recently, Lutheran Hour Ministries provided the following information: As good stewards of the resources God provide, Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) works to be strategic in the allocation of those resources. The final broadcast of The Lutheran Hour® on KBRT 740 AM was on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. To find other airings near you, check the broadcast guide at: [lhm.org/guide](http://lhm.org/guide).

These are some of the more modern ways to be nourished by The Lutheran Hour: American Forces Network, Sirius XM satellite radio, Amazon Alexa, Spotify, iHeartRadio, YouTube, and more. Listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are. Also available are the daily devotions which come in a daily email to read or listen to.

The Lutheran Hour is no longer broadcast on KBRT 740 AM but is available on American Forces Network, SiriusXM satellite radio, Amazon Alexa, Spotify, iHeartRadio, YouTube, and more. For example, you can listen to 'The Lutheran Hour' on: [Sirius-XM Family Talk 131](http://Sirius-XM Family Talk 131) Sundays at 7:00 am PT. Just go to: <https://familytalktoday.com/programguidedaily>. Or you can listen to Lutheran Hour podcasts any time by going to: <https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranHourMin>.

If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. For those people who have a computer, the Worship Anew worship service can be viewed via the internet at any time.

You may also access or review the sermons online by going to: <https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>

## **Annual Voters Meeting – June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025** **(Sunday) at 11:00 a.m.**

Here are the names on the Board of Directors' slate of officers for approval at the June 29<sup>th</sup> Voters meeting:

President – Judith Gunther;

Vice President – Norma Boehne; Secretary –

Vicki Trepanier; Treasurer – Kathy Janetzke; Members at Large-Pat Grabowski; Diane Oberlander; and Sharon Corey.



Our sincere thanks to the Nominating Committee: Connie Kean, Dave Lassanske, and Norma Boehne as well as to those who have agreed to serve another year.

## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

### **SUNDAY**

9:30 a.m.

9:45 a.m.

### **TODAY – JUNE 22**

Fellowship time

Bible Study and Sunday School

## **NEXT WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

### **SUNDAY**

9:30 a.m.

9:45 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

### **JUNE 29**

Fellowship time

Bible Study and Sunday School

Voters Meeting with a luncheon in the Fellowship Room

## **2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

