

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 21, 2026



*Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of
the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.*

Wherever faith clings to the promises of God, doubt is always lingering. Doubt so naturally asks the serpent's question in the garden of Eden, "Did God really say?" People doubt God's care, God's promises, or God's providence.

The answer to our doubt is not found in a loud, dramatic demonstration of power. The true answer to doubt is found in the still small voice of our Savior God. Through Word and sacrament, Christ reaches out to us with nail-scarred hands, proof of his great love.

Hymn #849

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

Please stand for the last verse.



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home.



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
so take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

Text: Julie K. Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860

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In the name of the Father and + of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord Jesus, you were sent to heal the contrite. Lord, have mercy.



Christ Jesus, you came to call sinners. Christ have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you plead for us at the right hand of the Father. Lord have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and + of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gloria! Gloria!

Gloria

*The minister introduces the refrain. The congregation repeats the **Refrain** and sings it after each verse.*

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ry to God in the

high - est. Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! And

peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated
at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen, amen.

Refrain

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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what you want done; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading

1 Kings 19:9-18

The Lord answers Elijah's doubt with the gentle whisper of a gracious promise.

⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁰He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

¹¹The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

¹⁴He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

¹⁵The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram.

¹⁶Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any

who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 73

My Feet Had Almost Slipped

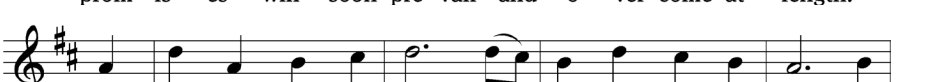
When the wicked prosper and the faithful suffer, faith can begin to slip. But God draws us into his presence and gives us solid ground. The LORD is our strength, our refuge, and our portion forever.



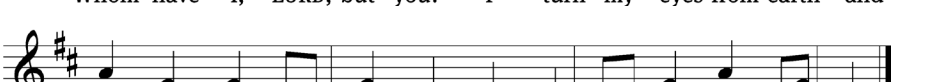
Choir 1 My feet had al - most slipped; I near - ly lost my hold when
All 2 My sanc - tu - ar - y sure, my por - tion and my rest, the
All 3 My flesh and heart may fail but God is still my strength; his



wick - ed lies were on the lips of ar - ro - gant and bold.
LORD re - mains my hope se - cure, the ref - uge of the blest.
prom - is - es will soon pre - vail and o - ver - come at length.



Their un - re - pent - ant mouths caused mis - er - y and fears un -
His pres - ence cheers my soul, his right hand holds me fast; he
Whom have I, LORD, but you? I turn my eyes from earth and



til I en - tered God's own house and wiped a - way my tears.
guides my path with his con - trol, takes me to heav'n at last.
seek those things which, good and true, a - lone have price - less worth.

Text: Paul Prange Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard
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Second Reading

Romans 8:28-39

In all times, good or bad, God carries out his perfect plan for his glory and our salvation.

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

Even where Jesus grants a miracle, doubts arise. Yet Jesus graciously answers doubts as proof that he is the Son of God.

²²Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.
²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.
²⁷But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

²⁸“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”
²⁹“Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

³¹Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

³²And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

Hymn #877

Reformation Song

The hymn served as this week’s Fine Arts Camp: Elijah musical theme.

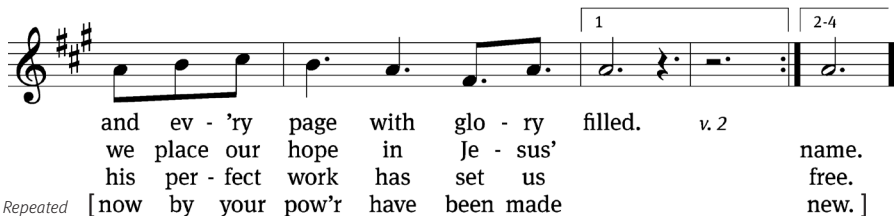
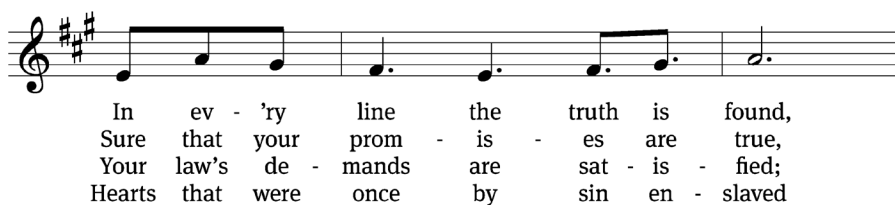
*The children and their camp leaders will sing stanzas 1-2 and the first **Refrain**. The congregation is invited to sing stanzas 3-4 and the repeating **Refrain**.*



Choir 1 Your Word a - lone is sol - id ground,
 Choir 2 Thro' faith a - lone we come to you;
 All 3 In Christ a - lone we're jus - ti - fied;
 All 4 By grace a - lone we have been saved;



the might - y rock on which we build.
 we have no mer - it we can claim.
 his right - eous - ness is all our plea.
 all that we are has come from you.



Text: Tim Chester, b. 1967; Bob Kauflin, b. 1955
 Tune: Tim Chester, b. 1967; Bob Kauflin, b. 1955

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Sermon

1 Kings 19:9-18

After the sermon, please stand for the creed.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Living Hope is transitioning to a new giving platform. Online offerings may now be given at subsplash.com/u/-MV95PX/give. Offerings are one way that our members support our gospel ministry. Visitors should feel no obligation to contribute.



Offering Prayer

Lord Jesus, in this world of loss and decay, we will continue to yearn for more and better. Keep from our hearts the temptation to fill our lives and desires with that which cannot save. Bless us with hearts that seek first your kingdom and your righteousness. Use us and these gifts to provide those in need with a living hope that will never fade away.

Amen.

The Sacrament

Please stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

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. Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name, who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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The 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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

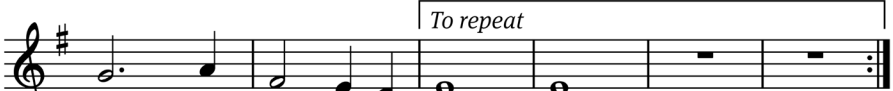
Soloist

All



Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the
Prince of peace
God of love
King of kings

To repeat



world: have mer - cy on us.

Last time

Minister



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



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Please be seated

Distribution

A personal preparation for Holy Communion is on page 19.

In order to preserve our spiritual unity (1 Corinthians 10:17) and protect against anyone's spiritual harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), our congregation and synod follow the historic Christian practice of Close Communion. Confirmed members of Living Hope and those in fellowship with our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod are invited to celebrate the Lord's Supper with us. We ask all visitors to speak with one of the pastors or ushers before joining us at the altar so that all may have a clear understanding of our faith and practice.

Hymn #832

Immovable Our Hope Remains

The hymn is sung during the distribution, according to the instructions.



Choir 1 Im - mov - a - ble our hope re - mains, though shift - ing sands be -
 Choir 2 This is e - ter - nal life: to know the liv - ing God and
 All 3 The Lord ac - quits, who can con - demn? Though Sa - tan's ac - cu -
 All 4 Built in - to Christ, se - cure we stand, for with his Spir - it



fore us lie; the One who washed a - way our stains shall
 Christ, the Son. The Sav - ior will not let us go un -
 sa - tions fly, his pow'r can nev - er reach our names, to
 we've been sealed; by grace we'll see the prom - ised land where



bear us safe - ly to the skies. The floods may rise, the
 til his sav - ing work is done. Our debt was great, as
 blot them from the Book of Life. The Son has sure - ly
 ev - 'ry sor - row shall be healed. To God who gave his



winds may beat, tor - ren - tial rains de - scend, yet
 was our need, but now the price is paid. Who
 made us free, his Word for - ev - er stands, and
 on - ly Son, to Je - sus Christ, our Lord to



God his own will not for - get; he'll love and keep us
 can be - hold Im - man - uel bleed and doubt his will - ing -
 all our joy is know - ing we are grav - en on his
 God the Spir - it, Three in One, be songs of praise for -



till the end. You'll love and keep us till the end.
 ness to save? We trust your will - ing - ness to save.
 wound - ed hands. We're grav - en on your wound - ed hands.
 ev - er - more. We'll sing your praise for - ev - er - more.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778; adapt. Bob Kauflin, b. 1955; Brittany Born, b. 1989

Tune: Bob Kauflin, b. 1955; Brittany Born, b. 1989

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Following the distribution, please stand.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor + and give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn #513

In You Is Gladness



1 In you is glad - ness a - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 If he is ours, _____ we fear no pow - ers, not of



sun - shine of my heart. By you are giv - en the gifts of
earth or sin or death. He sees and bless - es in worst dis -



heav - en, you the true Re - deem - er are. Our souls are
tress - es; he can change them with a breath. Where - fore the

wak - ing, our bonds are break - ing; who trusts you
sto - ry tell of his glo - ry with hearts and

sure - ly has built se - cure - ly and stands for - ev - er.
voic - es; all heav'n re - joic - es in him for - ev - er.

Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are pin - ing to see your
Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for glad - ness, win o - ver

shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing to you are
sad - ness, love him and praise him and still shall

cling - ing now and for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!
raise him glad hymns for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Thank you to our Fine Arts Campers + six Project Timothy leaders for beautifying our worship with your voices and talents.

You're invited to remain after for light refreshments and coffee in the back gathering area. A 45-minute presentation will take place in the sanctuary shortly after worship, led by our Project Timothy students. Stay and join us!

This week at Living Hope

Today

10am	Refreshments
10:30am	Luther Prep presentation from our Project Timothy students
1:30pm	Project Timothy farewell @ the Saur's

Tuesday

1:30pm	Assisted-living Service at Brandermill Woods
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Next Sunday

9am	Worship
10am	Refreshments
10:30am	Voters' Meeting

Announcements

Project Timothy Farewell Cookout - 1:30 pm

(Time change: start is 1:30 pm, not 3:00 pm)

The Saur family is hosting a cookout send-off for our Project Timothy students this afternoon at 1445 Donavon Mill Ln, Powhatan. Burgers, hot dogs, cake, and drinks provided — please bring a side dish, chips, or a beverage to share. The Project Timothy students will depart around 3:30 pm. Come early and enjoy the afternoon with good food and good company.

Congregational Meetings

Last Sunday's Information Meeting drew 32 attendees. If you missed it, the 20-minute recording is available on our YouTube page — scan the QR code to view the recording and the full Information Meeting packet.



The Voters Assembly meets next Sunday, June 28 at 10:30 am to act on recommendations and elect five positions on the church council.

MLC Financial Assistance - Final Push

Two Living Hope members, Anders Olson and Jonah Seifert, begin their studies at Martin Luther College this fall. We are \$900 away from fully unlocking MLC's matching grant for them. \$2,600 has been contributed toward the \$3,500 goal. Every dollar given is matched by MLC, meaning each student receives up to \$3,500 toward first-year tuition and board.



The deadline is June 30. To give, write Educational Assistance on your check memo or select Educational Assistance on Subsplash online giving.

Preparation for Holy Communion

What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.

What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?

When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.

How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.

What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.

How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

I have his own words spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

I will daily thank and praise him for his love for me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Serving in worship today & next Sunday

Musicians

Morris Hayes
Alex Rathje

Ushers

Greg Six & Mike Saur
Rob Neeley & Jon Krueger

Acolyte

Lauren Nawrocki
Tishann Charles

Church Cleaning

Harrison
still needed

After-worship Snacks

Women of Hope
still needed

Livestream

Seifert
Lacey

Offering Caretakers

Donna Bosma & Morris Hayes
Beverley Henley & Barbara Byrd

Bulletins

Kathryn Haddon
Kristine Gill

Mowing

Pastor Seifert & Dave MacDonald
Brian Lacey & Kyle Rathje

Assisted-living Leader

Livestreamed
Ken Dunaway

Please join us for refreshments after the service. We would love to get to know you better!

To our guests: Thank you for worshiping with us! We would appreciate the opportunity to connect with you. Please share your contact information with us by scanning the code with your phone or speaking with an usher in the back.



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LivingHopeWELS.com

God has given us new birth into a *Living Hope*.

- 1 Peter 1:3

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Pastor Michael Seifert
pastorseifert@livinghopewels.com
cell: 804-239-5206