

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

October 12, 2025

8:30 & 11:00

a.m.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S SUNDAY



*Many Native American peoples share a legend of how the world was created on the back of a giant sea turtle (some still refer to North America as "turtle island").*

*You are invited to light a candle in prayer on the Tree of Life during the service.*

*The candle-lighter is hanging on the wall; you may need to take a candle out to light it.*

*Please pass the Friendship Notebook along your row and greet those around you that you may not know.*

*We welcome children in worship. There is a family room across from the right front sanctuary doors and a staffed nursery down the hall.*

*Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.*

GATHERING

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

**PRELUDE** *Trio* Connor Chee (b.1987), Brett Linski, oboe; Kerry Van Dusen, bassoon; Karen Sande, piano

*This piece was influenced by elements of Diné (Navaho) songs, and is based on the interval of a fourth, to pay respect to the Diné belief of the sacred nature of the number four.*

**WELCOME**

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to the Anishinaabe, the first people of this land. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of the land. Creator let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, and in the name of Your son the Peacemaker and in the name of the Sacred Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Gathered here on this Holy Ground,

The Psalmist of Psalm 24 reminds us that

**The earth is the Creator's,  
and everything in it –  
this world and all who live in it.**

We confess that many who have come before us

-misrepresented Holy Scripture in order to dispossess indigenous inhabitants of their homes and sovereignty;

-claimed divine authority to take these lands;

-used treaties as tools of imperial exploitation.

They forgot, but we must remember:

**The earth is the Creator's,  
and everything in it –  
this world and all who live in it.**

We confess that the “Doctrine of Discovery” harms all it touches:  
the generations of those it has oppressed;  
the spirits of those who use it to oppress.

Hope of Healing calls us to remember:

**The earth is the Creator's,  
and everything in it –  
this world and all who live in it.**

We confess that as present-day residents  
of our precious Mother Earth,  
we have not been faithful stewards of her care  
nor of the circle of life and all our relations, human and non-human.

All Creation calls us to remember:

**The earth is the Creator's,  
and everything in it –  
this world and all who live in it.**

*moment of silence*

Let us pray together:

**On this day we come, seeking divine forgiveness  
and holding ourselves accountable  
to live in faithfulness and reconciliation  
for the sake of the earth and seven generations to come.**

We believe in the Holy One, Maker of us all, who is faithful  
to forgive us, cleanse us and free us to walk in wholeness.

Friends, trust and receive the good news  
that in Christ + we are forgiven and freed. **Amen.**



1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound - ing God's de - light - ed laugh,  
 2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.  
 3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.  
 Ev - 'ry crea - ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum - ble - bee.  
 cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won - der; e - ven rocks and trees re - jice  
 Spi - der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon - key, chick - en, mouse, and snake  
 In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:



as they join the ring - ing cho - rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.  
 live with - in a sin - gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.  
 born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

## WORD

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

### TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Beth Holst

#### FIRST READING Genesis 1:27-28

Word of God.

**Word of Life.**

#### Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Sing to the Lord, you lands!

**Sing to the Lord; bless God's name.**

**Proclaim God's salvation day after day.**

Tell God's glory among the nations;

Tell God's wondrous deeds to all people.

**For the Lord is great; loud must be God's praise.**

**The Lord is to be feared above all gods.**

All the gods of the nations are as nothing.

The Lord created the heavens;

**Splendor and majesty are in God's presence,**

**Power and beauty in God's sanctuary.**

Families of the nations give all honor to the Lord,

Give glory and praise to God.

**Bring gifts; bear them before God.**

Worship the Lord in the sacred court;

Tremble before the Lord, all the earth!

**Say among the nations, "The Lord is our Rock!"**

**The Lord has made the world unshakeable;**

**The Lord will judge each nation with equity.**

Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice;

Let the sea and all that it holds resound.

**Let the fields and all that is in them exult;**

**Let all the forests cry out for joy**

At the presence of the Lord, for God comes

To judge the earth,

To judge the world with justice

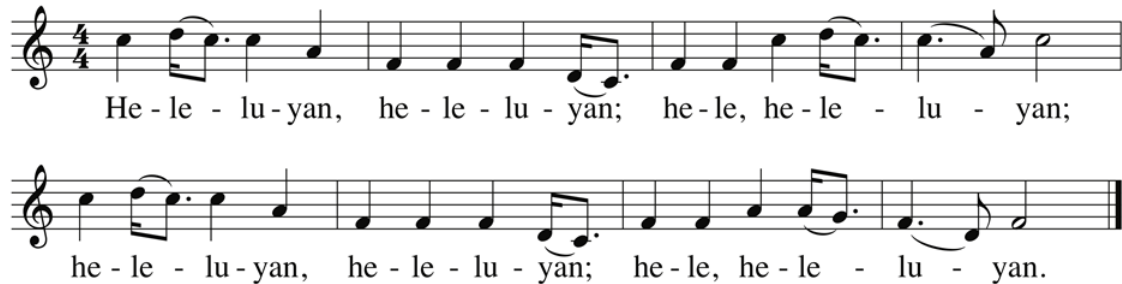
And the nations with truth.

## SECOND READING Colossians 1:15-23

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #171 *Heleluyan*

Muscogee (Creek) Indian



He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan;  
he - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.

### GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19 First Nations version

The story of Jesus is intended to be translated to every tribe, tongue, people and nation. The First Nations Version recounts the Creator's Story-the Christian Scriptures-following the tradition of Native storytellers' oral cultures. This way of speaking, with its simple yet profound beauty and rich cultural idioms, still resonates in the hearts of First Nations people.

*Teaching on wealth and reward*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY ACS #1071 *In Sacred Manner*** text by Susan Palo Cherwien, music by Robert Bucklee Farlee



1 In sa - cred man - ner may we walk up -  
 2 In sa - cred man - ner may we see the  
 3 In sa - cred man - ner may we touch the  
 4 In sa - cred man - ner may we hear the



on the fair and lov - ing earth, in beau - ty move, in  
 lu - mi - nous and lov - ing stars, with won - der and with  
 sus - pir - ant and lov - ing green, give hon - or and give  
 pound - ing waves, the sear - ing fire, the rush - ing wind, the



beau - ty love the liv - ing round that brought us birth. We  
 awe be - hold their ev - er - new cre - a - tive pow'rs. The  
 grat - i - tude for shade, for bloom, for gift un - seen. The  
 sing - ing night, the for - est hymn, the lov - ing choir. The



stand on ho - ly ground. We stand on ho - ly ground.  
 heav - ens show us God. The heav - ens show us God.  
 trees shall shout for joy. The trees shall shout for joy.  
 morn - ing stars shall sing. The morn - ing stars shall sing.

5 In sacred manner may we live  
 among the wise and loving ones,  
 sit humbly, as at sages' feet,  
 by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones.  
 The animals will teach.  
 The animals will teach.

6 In sacred manner may we walk  
 upon the fair and loving earth,  
 in beauty move, in beauty love  
 the living round that brought us birth.  
 We stand on holy ground.  
 We stand on holy ground.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BASED ON CHIEF SEATTLE'S WORDS)**

All is Sacred!

**All is Sacred!**

Every part of this earth is Sacred.

**Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore,**

Every mist in the dark woods,

**every clearing and insect is holy.**

The rocky crest, the juices of the meadow, the beasts and all people;

**all belong to the same family.**

Teach your children that the Earth is our Mother.

**Whatever befalls the earth befalls the children of the earth.**

The water's murmur is the voice of our father's father.

**We are a part of the earth and the earth is a part of us.**

The rivers are our brothers; they quench our thirst.

**The perfumed flowers are our sisters.**

The air is precious,

**For all of us share the same breath.**

The wind that gave our grandparents breath also received their last sigh.

**The wind gave our children the spirit of life, and will continue.**

This we know: the earth does not belong to us;

**we belong to the earth.**

This we know: all things are connected;

**like the blood which unites our family.**

All things are connected.

**Our God is the same God, whose compassion is equal for all.**

We did not weave the web of life;

**we are merely a strand in it.**

Whatever we do to the web,

**we do to ourselves.**

Let us give thanks for the web in the circle that connects us.

**Thanks be to Creator, the God of All! A-Ho or Amen**

Our Prayers continue:

Hear us, O God.

or

Bless we the Lord,

**Your mercy is great.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. All are then seated for the offering.*

### **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

### **OFFERING**

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Text "**fleduluth**" to 73256. You'll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *God Be in My Head*  
1558

words from Sarum Primer,

music by Andrew Balfour (b.1967); Soli Deo Gloria Choir

God be in my head, and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes, and in my looking.

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking. God be in my heart, and in my thinking.

God be at my end and at my departing.

*Andrew Balfour is a Manitoba-based artist who creates choral and orchestral works inspired by his Indigenous (Cree) heritage.*

*The assembly stands.*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together:

Blessed are you, O God,

**source of every gift of your creation.**

**By these gifts and with our lives,**

**help us to serve one another and all in need,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.**

From the place of the rising sun in the East, to the South where the warm winds blow, from the West where soft rain comes, and to the coldness of the North, we unite with all creation from the four directions, to join our voices in everlasting thanksgiving and praise for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. With hearts lifted, we join with angels, the guardian spirits, the saints and all our ancestors as we sing:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, God's  
glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow-er and might.

*The thanksgiving continues with the Words of Institution, concluding with the Lord's Prayer*

We pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*We practice Eucharistic hospitality; all are welcome. Receive the bread and dip it into the wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

**LAMB OF GOD**

1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to  
 2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to

save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -  
 us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from

on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
 all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

**COMMUNION HYMN ELW #740 *God of the Sparrow***

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the swirl - ing  
 2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the trum - pet  
 3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the emp - ty  
 4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the prod - i -

stars How does the crea - ture say Awe  
 blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe  
 grave How does the crea - ture say Grace  
 gal How does the crea - ture say Care

How does the crea - ture say Praise  
 How does the crea - ture cry Save  
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks  
 How does the crea - ture say Life

5 God of the neighbor  
 God of the foe  
 God of the pruning hook  
 How does the creature say Love  
 How does the creature say Peace

6 God of the ages  
 God near at hand  
 God of the loving heart  
 How do your children say Joy  
 How do your children say Home

COMMUNION HYMN ELW #829 *Have You Thanked the Lord?*

*Refrain*



Have you thanked the Lord? Have you praised God's name?



Don't you know that no to-mor-row is quite the same?



Have you thanked the Lord? Have you knelt in prayer,



and re-joiced that, rain or sun-shine, our God is there?



1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Thank the Lord for sun, sand, and sea,  
 2 Hal - le - lu - jah! Par - a - dise we taste where we are;  
 3 Hal - le - lu - jah! Joy and peace the Sav - ior will bring.



ev - 'ry star at night that shines for you and me.  
 sum-mer breez - es, win - ter warmth are nev - er far.  
 Grace a - maz - ing! So we lift our voice and sing,



Bless - ings so man - y come our way:  
 God's love is ev - er on dis - play:  
 grate - ful when clouds are bright or gray:



*Refrain*

have you thanked the Lord to - day?  
 have you thanked the Lord to - day?  
 have you thanked the Lord to - day?

COMMUNION HYMN ACS #1018 *Deep Peace*

Deep peace of the run - ning waves, deep peace of the

flow - ing air, deep peace of the shin - ing stars to

you, deep peace of the qui - et earth. earth.

*To repeat* *Last time*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: God of the abundant table,  
**you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey.**  
**Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy,**  
**for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

#### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

#### OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

*The assembly stands.*

#### BLESSING

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

Walk tall as the trees. Live strong as the mountains.

Be gentle as the spring winds.

Keep the warmth of the summer sun in your heart

And the Great Spirit will always be with you. **A-Ho** or **Amen** (or both!)

(Native American proverb)

SENDING HYMN ELW #837 *Many and Great, O God*



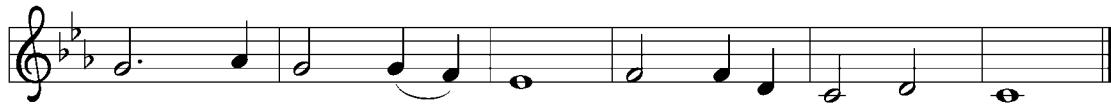
Wa - kan-tan - ka ta - ku ni - ta - wa tan - ka - ya  
 1 Man - y and great, O God, are your works, mak - er of  
 2 Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with you, O Star - a -



qa o - ta. Ma - hpi - ya kin e - ya - hna - ke ca,  
 earth and sky. Your hands have set the heav'ns with stars;  
 bid - ing One. Come un - to us and dwell with us;



ma - ka kin he du - o - wan - ca. Mni - o - wan  
 your fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains. Lo, at your  
 with you are found the gifts of . . . life. Bless us with



ca - sbe - ya - wan - ke cin, he - na o - ya - ki - hi.  
 word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey your voice.  
 life that has no . . . end, e - ter - nal life with you.

**DISMISSAL**

We have honored Christ, our brother. All my relatives, go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Sandpaintings for Piano #16: Northern Mountain* Connor Chee (b. 1987), Karen Sande, piano

Navajo pianist and composer Connor Chee (b. 1987) combines classical piano training with his Native American heritage.

A graduate of the Eastman School of Music and the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music,

Chee's solo piano music is inspired by traditional Navajo chants and songs.

**Pastor** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman  
**Program Staff** Karen Sande, Director of Music  
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship  
**Assisting Ministers**  
**Readers** Molly Burgstahler & Kris Brendle  
**Musicians** Soli Deo Gloria Choir; Brett Linski, oboe; Kerry Van Dusen, bassoon  
**Audio/Video Team** Eric Gatten, Shania Krause, Sam Weston

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities, or where they might be on their faith journey. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We are committed to the work of racial justice. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

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