

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

June 21, 2026

10:00 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - POLLINATOR SUNDAY



*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 few steps to the left a staffed nursery for any who wish to use them.
Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.*

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE *Be Thou My Vision* - arr. Jason Krug

Handbell Ensemble: Karen Climis, Roberta Maughan, Sarah Climis

WELCOME

The assembly stands.

INVOCATION

We gather in worship in the name of God the Creator of fluttering butterflies, buzzing bees, and soaring bats, in the name of Jesus Christ ✝ who redeems the broken ecosystems and polluted habitats, and the name of Holy Spirit who heals and restores creation for the sake of all God's living creatures. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *For All Things Worth Praising*

words by David Bjorlin, tune: *The Ash Grove*

- 1. For all things worth praising – the vast and amazing –
the marvelous moments of awe and delight;
The thunderstruck feeling of baffling healing,
the sudden reversal of wrong into right;
The span of creation that sparks inspiration;
the bounty of beauty that nature displays;
For wonders you gave us to stun us and save us,
to you, their Creator, we lift up our praise.**
- 2. For all things worth praising – the vast and amazing –
but also the common, forgotten, and small;
The atoms that form us, the sunbeams that warm us
– invisible forces sustaining us all;
The intricate features of littlest creatures;
the numberless mercies eluding our gaze;
For all things enchanted that we take for granted,
to you, their Creator, we lift up our praise.**

LITANY

Creating God, you abundantly provide sunlight and seasons, waters and soils, plants and animals, some that creep and buzz and flutter:

Great is your love.

Cosmic Christ, you elevate lilies of the field and birds of the air as exemplars of faith in anxious times; your earth-shaking death and resurrection embrace and redeem all creation:

Great is your love.

Renewing Spirit, your brooding awakens us and all creatures with life; you summon and gift a prophetic people to do justice and walk humbly, to build relationships across divisions and generations, and to the ends of the earth:

Great is your love.

For pollinators that reflect your beauty and dance in the laughter of flowers:

Thanks be to God.

For a rainbow of butterflies, monarchs and swallowtails, fritillaries and admirals:

Thanks be to God.

For yellow and rusty-patched, brown belted and bumbling bees, whose busywork is essential for fruitful harvests, whose sweet honey has ever signified a plentiful land:

Thanks be to God.

For hummingbirds, moths, bats, and other pollen carriers that support the fertility of your intricate and interdependent ecological web:

Thanks be to God.

Hear our lament for species in decline, for areas of silent spring, for destructive human practices that endanger so much upon which we depend:

Teach us your way of new life.

Help us to see these small, often overlooked and disregarded creatures as key to the earth's regeneration and ours:

Teach us your way of new life.

Move us to learn from their witness to your cross, your power hidden in weakness, and your promise that includes the littlest ones:

Teach us your way of new life.

In this Kairos moment, O God, empower us as your people to be pollinators of your love:

Grant us your wisdom.

In the groaning of creation, O Christ, enliven us to be partners for hospitable habitats,

Grant us your courage.

In the fullness of your renewal, O Spirit, embolden us to be plotters of resurrection hope.

Grant us your peace. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the sparrow, your care for all that is and your call for us to follow you surprises us when it brings division and not peace. Keep us faithful to your path and empower us as your disciples to be ones who liberate and restore your creation back to health and wholeness for the sake of the wellbeing of all who inhabit your creation and this planet we call home. In the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

FIRST READING Jeremiah 20:7-13

The prophet must speak despite opposition

Word of God.

Word of Life.

SECOND READING Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 (read responsively)

- ¹ Bow down your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
- ² **Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful;
save your servant who trusts in you.**
- ³ Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;
I call upon you all the day long.
- ⁴ **Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**
- ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
and abundant in mercy toward all who call upon you.
- ⁶ **Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,
and attend to the voice of my supplications.**
- ⁷ In the time of my trouble I will call upon you,
for you will answer me.
- ⁸ **Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
nor anything like your works.**
- ⁹ All the nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord,
and glorify your name.
- ¹⁰ **For you are great; you do wondrous things;
and you alone are God.**
- ¹⁶ Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.
- ¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;
because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

Word of God.

Word of Life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL Matthew 10:29-39

The cost of discipleship

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

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 ELW #740 *God of the Sparrow*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 "**flcduluth**" 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 MUSIC *Dona nobis pacem (Grant us peace) - arr. Karen Buckwalter* Handbell Ensemble

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good

and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

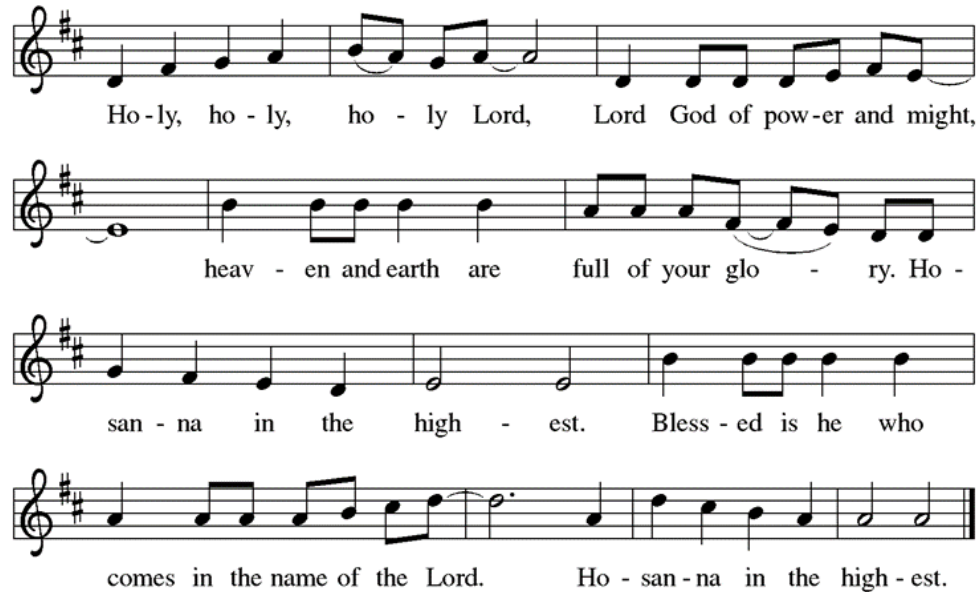
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels, cherubim and seraphim and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught:

**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

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

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.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS **ELW #556** *Morning Has Broken*

ELW #824 *This is my Father's World*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

Welcoming God,

you gathered us to your table

and we drank deeply of your grace.

Send us out by your Spirit

to love our neighbors as ourselves

and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BLESSING

Go from this place of worship, empowered as co-creators with God, into a hurting creation, to bring life where creation has been destroyed, and healing where habitats have been harmed. Go in awe and wonder at the beauty of the earth. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN **ELW #739** *Touch the Earth Lightly*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Pollinate the world with the Good News.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Ministers All People of First Lutheran Church
Pastor The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
Associate Pastor The Rev. Andrea Bonneville DeNaples
Program Staff Karen Sande, Director of Music
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship
Assisting Minister Cindy Monroe
Reader Barb LaMaster
Musicians Karen Climis, Roberta Maughan, Sarah Climis, handbells
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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