

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

October 11, 2026

8:30 a.m.

TWENTIETH 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. If needed, there is a family room and family bathroom across from the right front sanctuary doors and a self-service 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 *Sunrise, from Scenes from Dinétah (Navaho culture)* Connor Chee (b.1987); Karen Sande, piano

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.**

GATHERING HYMN ACS #1064 *Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom*



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 - joice
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

FIRST READING Isaiah 25:1-9

The feast of victory

Word of God.

Word of Life.

SECOND READING Philippians 4:1-9

Rejoice in the Lord always

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 John 8:54-59 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.

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

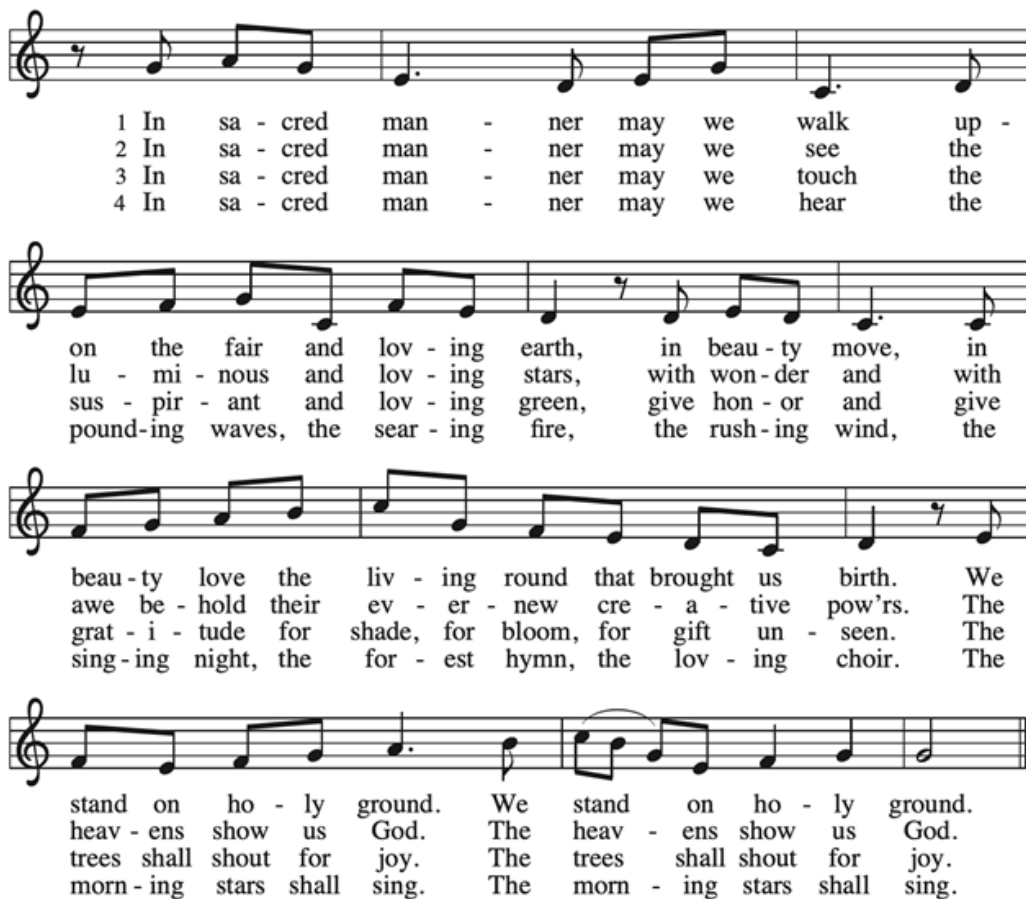
Praise to you, O Christ.

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

BLESSING FOR OUR FAMILY FREEDOM CENTER TUTORS

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 *Prayer Song*

music by Russell Wallace; arr. Sam Dabrusin; Soli Deo Gloria Choir

Xa'xa Kukpi

Highest Chief

Kukw'stum multh kow.

Thank you immensely (for everything you have provided)

Xa'xa Kukpi

Highest Chief

Plee she doo multh kow.

Continue to bless us

Xa'xa Kukpi

Highest Chief

Oolooshen doo multh kow.

Gather us all together (in unity).

Russell Wallace is an award-winning composer, producer and traditional singer (taught by his mother) from the St'at'imc and Lil'wat Nation. His music is heard in film, television and theater/dance across Canada and the U.S.

He works with many choirs and teaches at Vancouver Community College.

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

Nurtured by Jesus' words, we pray:

**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

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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.

ELW #740 *God of the Sparrow*

ACS #1056 *God Bless to Us Our Bread* (sing in English)

Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan, y da pan a los que tien - en
 God bless to . . us our . . bread, and give bread . . to all those who are

ham - bre y ham - bre de jus - ti - cia a los que tien - en
 hun - gry, and hun - ger for jus - tice to those who are

pan. fed. Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan.
 God bless to . . . us our . . . bread.

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*

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Cedar from Scenes from Diné'tah (Navaho culture)* 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.

Ministers

All People of First Lutheran Church

Pastor

The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman

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 Ministers

Readers

Lise Lunge-Larsen

Musicians

Soli Deo Gloria Choir

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

(218) 728-3668 | flcduluth.org | flcduluth@flcduluth.org