

HYMN OF THE DAY**“Children of the Heavenly Father” v-1-3****ELW #781**

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.
- 2 God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

APOSTLES CREED**ELW page 105****SHARING THE PEACE**L) The peace of Christ be with you always. **C) And also with you.****OFFERING/OFFERING SONG****“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”****ELW #182**

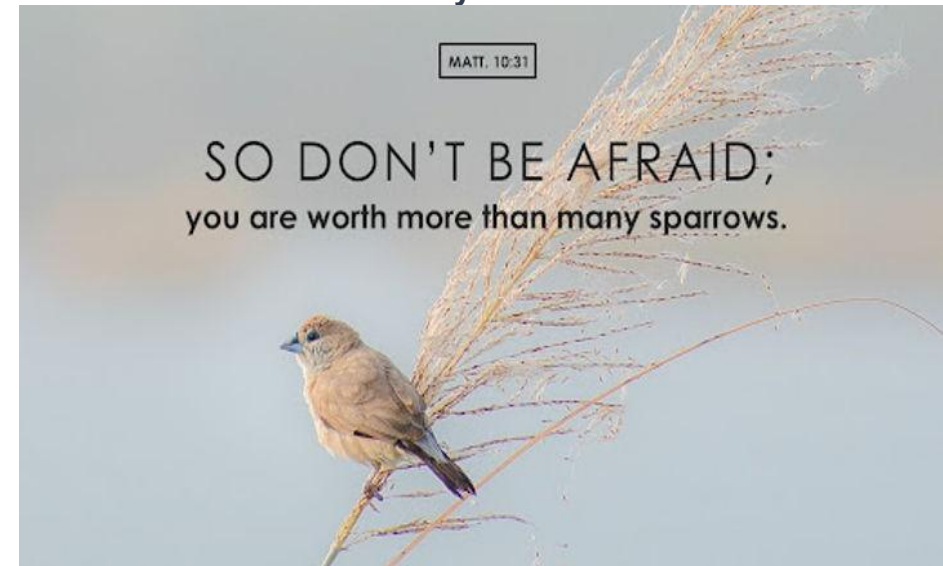
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSIONL) Lord in your mercy **C) Hear our prayer****GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(continuous)*✠ **Words of Institution**✠ **The Lord's Prayer** - ELW page 112✠ **Distribution of the Sacrament**✠ **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG**“This Little Light of Mine”****ELW #677**

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

DISMISSALL) Go in peace, Serve the Lord and your neighbors. **C) Thanks be to God!****POSTLUDE****“Happy Father's Day”****Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

SO DON'T BE AFRAID;
you are worth more than many sparrows.

Willow Creek and Benton Lutheran Churches**June 21st, 2026****Vicar Kendra Kappler and Pastor Renae Boehmer****Accompanist: Lisa Rave, Willow Creek, Kari Vosburg, Benton****WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** **ELW page 94**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Most merciful God, ***we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.***

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG**“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”****ELW #807**

- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

GREETING - ELW page 203, (Setting 10)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE - ELW page 203 (sung) v, 1-3**CANTICLE OF PRAISE – ELW page 204 (sung) v,1-3****PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God our defender, storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your children from fear, and preserve us all from unbelief; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

FIRST READING Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

⁷ Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

⁸ ***I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.***

⁹ Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰ ***I humbled my- self with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.***

¹¹ I put on sackcloth also, and became a by-word among them.

¹² ***Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me.***

¹³ But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD: “In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴ ***Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.***

¹⁵ Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

¹⁶ ***Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.***

¹⁷ Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸ ***Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me.***

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b} Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SONG/MESSAGE**“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”****WOV 775**

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**ELW page 205 (sung)**

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL READING**Matthew 10:24-39**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, ³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE**“Have no fear....but there's so much to be afraid of!”****Pastor Renae Boehmer**