

GREAT THANKSGIVING (around the altar)

- ✝ Words of Institution
- ✝ The Lord’s Prayer - ELW page 112
- ✝ Distribution of the Sacrament
- ✝ POST COMMUNION PRAYER - God of all, *you have gathered us around your table and you have given us abundant nourishment and life. May we be filled with your grace and open our arms to one another, knowing that you hold all in your love. Amen.*
- ✝ BENEDICTION May the God of care hold you. May the God of connection tend you. And may the God of all creation bind us together in love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG “God of Grace and God of Glory” v, 1,3,4 ELW #705

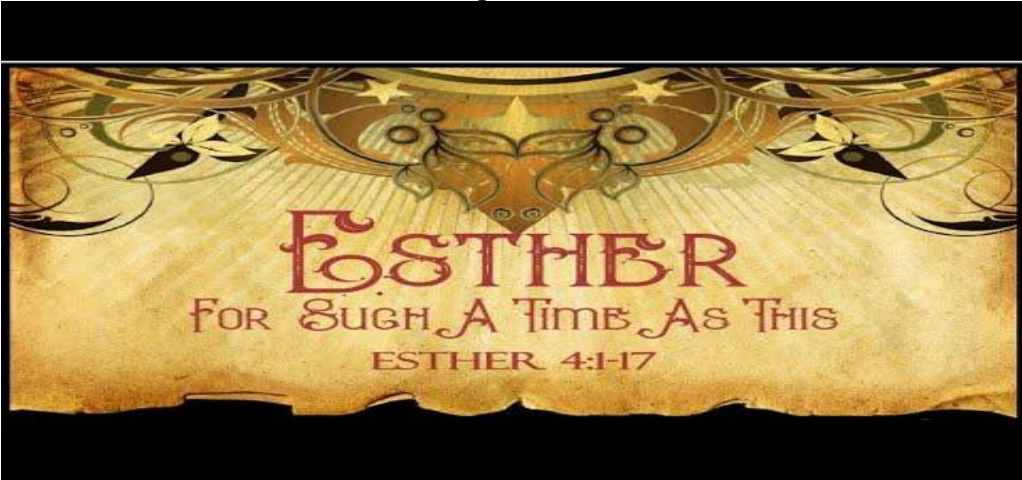
- 1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow’r;
crown your ancient church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.
- 3 Cure your children’s warring madness; bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom’s goal,
lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.
- 4 Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

DISMISSAL L) Go in peace, Serve the Lord and your neighbors. C) *Thanks be to God!*

POSTLUDE



Tenth Sunday After Pentecost



Willow Creek and Benton Lutheran Churches
August 2nd, 2026

Vicar Kendra Kappler and Pastor Renae Boehmer
Accompanist: David Olson, 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 “How Firm a Foundation” v, 1-2 ELW #796

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

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

God of community, ***you grant us the courage to act as vessels of your care and grace. Help us to know the humanity of each person we meet, and help us to see the holy in all of your creation. May we know that we are all bound together in your love and mercy for such a time as this. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.***

FIRST READING Mark 10:42-45

⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.”

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

SECOND READING Philippians 2:3-8

³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

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

CHILDREN’S SONG/MESSAGE “Praise Him, all Ye Little Children”

Praise Him, Praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.
Praise Him, Praise Him, all ye little children, God is love, God is love.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Esther 4

¹ When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; ² he went up to the entrance of the king’s gate, for no one might enter the king’s gate clothed with sackcloth. ³ In every province, wherever the king’s command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

⁴ When Esther’s maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. ⁵ Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king’s eunuchs who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. ⁶ Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king’s gate, ⁷ and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king’s

treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. ⁸ Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and to entreat him for her people.

⁹ Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰ Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai: ¹¹ “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that, if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law: to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.” ¹² When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, ¹³ Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴ For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” ¹⁵ Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, ¹⁶ “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.” ¹⁷ Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

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

SERMON “For Such a Time as This” Pastor Renae Boehmer

HYMN OF THE DAY “Here I Am, Lord” v, 1-3 ELW #574

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

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 “We Give Thee but Thine Own” ELW #686

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION L) Lord in your mercy C) Hear our prayer