

SONG OF THE DAY

“Bind Us Together

WOV #748

Refrain : Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.

- 1 There is only one God. There is only one king.
There is only one Body; that is why we can sing. Refrain
- 2 You are the family of God. You are the promise of divine.
You are God’s chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine. Refrain

SHARING THE PEACE L) The peace of Christ be with you all. C) And also with you.

OFFERING/OFFERING SONG “Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his son. Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his son.

And now let the weak say I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich.
Because of what the Lord has done for us, And now let the weak say I am strong,
Let the poor say I am rich. Because of what the Lord has done for us.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH L) Lord in your mercy C) Hear our Prayer

HOLY COMMUNION (continuous)

- ✝ Words of Institution
- ✝ The Lord’s Prayer
- ✝ 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.

CLOSING SONG “Go, My Children, With My Blessing” ELW #543

- 1. “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”
- 2. “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”
- 3. “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

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

POSTLUDE



Joint Worship, Willow Creek and Benton Lutheran Churches

August 9th, 2026

Vicar Kendra Kappler and Pastor Renae Boehmer
Accompanist: David Olson

OPENING LITANY

Leader: Blessed be the God who calls us together.
People: We come from different places, but we gather as one people in Christ.
Leader: We come with different stories, different traditions, different gifts, and different experiences.
People: Yet there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all.
Leader: Christ is our peace.
People: In him, what divides us is overcome by the love that unites us.
Leader: Like the disciples gathered on the shore, we come at the invitation of the risen Christ.
People: He welcomes us, feeds us, restores us, and calls us to follow.
Leader: We are many members,
People: But together we are one Body in Christ.
Leader: Together we rejoice.
People: Together we bear one another's burdens.
Leader: Together we worship.
People: Together we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.
Leader: We give thanks for the gifts of both our congregations.
People: May our different voices become one song of praise.
Leader: We celebrate the ways God has been faithful in the past.
People: We trust God to lead us into the future.
Leader: As Christ welcomed his disciples to the table on the shore,
People: So Christ welcomes us with grace, mercy, and abundant love.
Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, knit us together in faith, hope, and love.
People: Make us one in Christ, so that the world may know your love through us.
Leader: Let us worship the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who creates us, redeems us, and gathers us into one body through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (Silence for Reflection)

Gracious God, You fill empty nets, renew weary hearts, and send your people into the world to love and serve. You created us for relationship with you, with one another, and with all creation. Yet we confess that we have not lived as people grounded in connection. We have turned inward and chosen isolation. We have built walls where you intended fellowship. We have judged, excluded, and ignored those who bear your image. We have failed to care for creation and for our neighbors. Forgive us, O God. Reconnect what sin has broken. Heal our relationships, soften our hearts, and draw us again into the life of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear the good news: The same Jesus who stood on the shore, welcomed his weary disciples, and restored Peter also comes to us with grace and forgiveness. In his death and resurrection, Christ has broken down the walls that divide us and reconciles us to God and to one another. By grace you have been saved, and all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

“Gather Us In” v-1,2,4

ELW #532

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away—
here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, ***through your risen Son you meet us in the ordinary moments of life, calling us by name, feeding us with your grace, and restoring us in your mercy. Knit us together as one body in Christ, that our worship may reflect your love, our fellowship may strengthen our faith, and our lives may bear witness to your abundant goodness. Empower us by your Holy Spirit to follow where Christ leads and to serve one another with joy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

HOLY BAPTISM and NEW MEMBERS

Please turn to the insert in your bulletin.

FIRST READING **Psalm 145:8-18**

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

¹²to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁶ You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

17 The LORD is just in all his ways and kind in all his doings.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

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

SECOND READING **Ephesians 4:1-16**

¹I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: ⁴there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one

baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

⁹ (When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

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

CHILDREN'S SONG

“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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Backpack Blessing - Bring your backpacks up front with you!

GOSPEL READING John 21:3-19

³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me." L) Word of God, word of life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

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MESSAGE

“Breakfast on the Beach”

Vicar Kendra Kappler