

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 5, 2026

Welcome

P This is the day that the Lord has made!

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God, we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

Greeting

P 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.**

Opening Hymn (next page)

74 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. Col. 3:14



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less let us be;



Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find the prom - ised rest.
 Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave:
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,



Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - men.



WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BEECHER
 8.7.8.7 D.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. **You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

...This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

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

¹²that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Second Reading Romans 7:15-25a

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

...This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Please stand as you are able

***Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.***

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel ***Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30***

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

....The Gospel of the Lord.

(sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

Youth Time

Please be seated

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *(next page)*

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

The Apostles' Creed

A Let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Prayers of the Church

A Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

God our unity, your church flourishes in different languages, cultures, and movements. Grant us wisdom to discern when our yokes are too heavy, that we may live and serve in the freedom of your rest. Show us your will for the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian worshipping community as we serve our neighbors in love.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our life-giver, we grieve the pains placed upon our common home through war and neglect. What you have lovingly crafted, guide us to lovingly tend.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our freedom, you bring peace. As this nation marks its declaration of independence, teach us our part in announcing peace for future generations.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our comfort, liberate all in our community who are captive to fear, who have become isolated or ill, or who are in any need.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those impacted by war and violence, for our men and women in the armed forces, and for all first responders. We also ask for your blessing on Patrick, Pr. Fred, Glenda, and Arlen, and for those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our guide, we do not always have the strength to do the good we wish to do. Free us from the cycles of violence that bind us, that all know your liberation.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our home, you model freedom through the love shared across communities of trust and goodwill. As we remember those now gone to eternal rest, we thank you for the gifts of life together.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving
able

Please stand as you are

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (*sung*):

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to 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.**

{P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!}

Communion Song

Please be seated

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion: *Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come to the communion rail and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. All who share our confession that Christ is present in the Sacrament are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion cup tray. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please let Pastor know.*

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *(next page)*

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea,
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929
 Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848-1903

Dismissal

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation

PASTOR: The Rev. Frederick Kopp

Church Office: 716-836-4868 Office Email:

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Pastor's Study: 716-836-4990 Email: pastor_tol@verizon.net

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Music Minister: Don Grabau Media Minister: Jeff Ward

Worship Assistant: Sharon Wall

Prayer Partner: Don Grabau

Prayers and Announcements

Prayers

Welcome: We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we are delighted to have you here, and we hope you enjoy your worship time here with us.

Prayer Partner Ministry: If you are in need of additional prayer, please come to the Parents' Room in the back of church following worship. Prayers are confidential. Today's prayer partner is Don Grabau.

Today's Altar Flowers: Are given to the Glory of God from Barb and Dick Edwards, and Jayne Freet in loving memory of their parents.

Offering: Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only-please don't mail cash. We also have online giving through tithe.ly, which can be accessed through TOL's website (www.trinityoldlutheran.com) or on your smartphone.

Mission for July: Our mission this month is Lutheran Charities of WNY. For over 40 years, Lutheran Charities' mission has been to support our community with kindness, compassion, justice and generosity. For the past several years, TOL has received grants from them to help with our sandwich ministry. Prior to that, they helped support our Respite Care program. Please use the marked envelopes in the narthex. Thank you.

Grief Support Meeting at TOL: For those who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild. We meet the first Tuesday of each month, next on **Tuesday, July 7**. These summer meetings will be Zoom only. Please see Charlie or Diane Schmidtke for a Zoom link. The meetings begin at 10 am until 11:30.

Pastor's Birthday/Retirement Picnic: Watch your mail for a letter and map with important info about the picnic, which will be **Sunday, July 26 at Emery Park at 11**. We invite you to carpool; the details will be in the letter. Please use the sign up sheet in the narthex. Also, please bring a snack, salad or dessert to share if you can. Sandwiches and bottled water will be provided. If you're interested in being part of the planning, the next meeting will be at TOL this **Tuesday, July 7 at 10:30 am**. There will NOT be a worship service at TOL on Sunday, July 26! Thank you!

Annual Workday at Holy Rest Cemetery: We will meet at the cemetery on **Saturday, August 1** from 9 am till noon. Your help would be greatly appreciated. We will be picking up debris and trimming around stones. Please bring a hand trimmer or weed whacker if you have one, gardening gloves, hats, sunglasses, etc. Cold bottled water will be provided. For more information, please contact Matt Grabau.

Annual Craft Fair and Theme Basket Fundraiser: This year's fund raising event will be held on **Saturday, Sept. 19**. **Theme baskets, gift cards, volunteers and baked goods are needed** to make this year's event a success. Please spread the word about the craft fair and basket raffle to your friends and neighbors! Any questions about the basket auction, please see Debbie Feger or Kelly Barker. Thank you for your help and support!

Adult Education Fall 2026 through Spring 2027: Classes begin on **Monday, Sept. 11**, and the focus will be on Religious Leaders. Details coming soon!

Adult Retreat Coming in September: Please see the article in the July Trinity Tidings about the upcoming Adult Retreat which will take place at beautiful Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center the weekend of **October 2 - 4**. There is a display in the narthex with photos and memories of last year's retreat. If you are interested, there is a sign up sheet on the main bulletin board.

Community Yard Sale: At Augustana Lutheran Church on **Saturday, July 11 from 11 am till 2 pm**. If you'd like to reserve a table for \$20, please contact the Augustana church office at (716) 832-5720.

Weidner's Chicken BBQ at Good Shepherd: On **Saturday, July 18**, starting at 12 noon. Tickets are \$15. Tickets are available online at www.gslctona.org or can be purchased the day of the event. Take-out only (drive through for pickup).

Book Club at Augustana: All are invited to discuss the book *Judge Stone* written by Viola Davis and James Patterson, on **Thursday, July 30**. We will begin with a potluck dinner at 6 pm.

Operation Christmas Child: The suggested donations for **July** are ink pens, pencils or colored pencils, pencil sharpener and pencil cases. Thank you!

Devotionals: If you would like a “Christ in Our Home” devotional for **July through September 2026**, please pick one up in the narthex or call the church office.

Book and Puzzle Sale: Please visit our Book Sale in the Resource Library, which is the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board. Books and puzzles are always being added and are available for a fraction of the cost at retail. No cost for the greeting cards available. Proceeds are used for church building interior improvements.

Thank You for your Continuing Support of these ministries:

- Non-perishable food items for the food pantry at Good Shepherd.
- Grocery store gift cards for individuals in need.
- Aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House – bin in hallway.
- Dash’s Tapes for the Niagara Lutheran Health System – bin in hallway.
- Cans and bottles to be recycled – barrel in hallway.
- Clothing and hygiene items for Friends of Night People– blue barrel.
- Items for Operation Christmas Child boxes – bin in hallway.

This week’s calendar

<i>Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly. Office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 am–12 noon. For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message or send an email.</i>	Sun	7/5	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	7/6	10 am 4 pm 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	OA Meeting Sandwich Team #6 Yoga AA
	Tues	7/7	10 am 5:45 pm 10:30 am 7:30 pm	Grief Support on Zoom Chair Yoga Picnic Planning Meeting at TOL CoDA
	Wed	7/8		
	Thur	7/9	9:30 am 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	7/10	10 am	South Asian Lutheran Community
	Sat	7/11		
	Sun	7/12	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting

*TOL's Free WiFi and Password:
N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig*

