

# Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

***Preaching and presiding this day: Pastor Todd Bertani***

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***Pastoral Care: Pastor Todd Bertani, 707-688-6411***

Mission Statement:

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church is a community of faith grounded in love for God and love for our neighbors



**July 12, 2026**

***7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***

***Julie Varilek, Accompanist***

***Prelude: "Amazing Grace" by Lorie Line***

## **Welcome, Friends in Christ,**

*To assist in worship, this bulletin includes all portions of our service; prayers, readings, hymns, congregational responses in **bold**.*

*We also provide activity bags for children. You may request these from an usher to use during the service.*

*Whether you are first time visitors or long time friends returning to share in worship with us, we are grateful for your presence today.*

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*Now the Feast: Text and Music: Marty Haugen: ©1990, GIA Publications, Inc.*

## **Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani**

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Let us confess our sin to God.

*(Brief silence for reflection)*

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.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."  
2

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.  
 Rest in God's love.  
 Amen.

### Opening Hymn: "What Is This Place" Hymn 524



1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the  
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in

earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,  
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders

win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives  
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem - ber and speak

when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.  
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem - ing word.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, b. 1906

Text and arr. © 1984 TEAM Publications, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Greeting

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

## Kyrie

*(Congregation sings the highlighted text)*

*Assistant:*  
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Congregation:*  
**Refrain** Lord, have mer - cy.

*3rd time to Coda* ⊕

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assistant:*  
For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the  
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you  
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ *Coda* **Refrain**  
Help, save, and de - fend us, O

\* *Ending for Kyrie*

God.  
A - - - - - men.

# Now The Feast

(Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain)

## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

## Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God. *to Refrain*

## Salutation

*Presider:*  
The Lord be with you.

*Congregation:*  
And al - so with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading: Psalm 139:9-16

<sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

<sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

<sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and night wraps itself around me,"

<sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**



## Grace Talk: Gregg Burch

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

## Gospel: Matthew 3:11-17

The holy gospel according to Matthew Chapter 3.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

## Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani “We Are Claimed, We Are Loved”

Sermon Series “Walking in God’s Image: Living the Way of Christ”

### Sermon Notes:

## Sermon Hymn: “Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters” Hymn 445



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.  
2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.  
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.  
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart’s de-light.  
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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## **Apostle's Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

## **Intercessory Prayer**

Each petition ends: "God of grace"

Response is "**hear our prayer.**"

## **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offertory: "We Walk By Faith" by Mary Haugen**

*Pianist: Julie Varilek*

## Receiving of Gifts

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

### As the Grains of Wheat

**Refrain** *Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

**Verses**



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when  
*to Refrain*  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.



## Offering Prayer

Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
Amen.

## Great Thanksgiving *(Congregation sings highlighted text)*

*Presider:* The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al-so with you.

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Congregation:* It is

right to give God thanks and praise.



# Preface

*Presider:*

It is our duty and de-light that we should everywhere and always offer  
thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...  
who calls us to follow his way of humble service ...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the  
and love,  
host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing

*in rhythm* *To Holy, Holy*

hymn: \_\_\_\_\_

## “Holy, Holy, Holy”

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the  
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God;  
everything is filled with your glory.

We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have  
sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and  
deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal 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.

After the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death,  
his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again,  
even as we cry:

## Eucharistic Acclamation

*Presider:*

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

*Congregation:*

men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord

Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that all of your promises may come to us  
and your whole creation.

*Presider:*

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -

*Congregation:*

men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly

Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.  
And now, make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba  
as we pray:

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily  
bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save  
us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the  
power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

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

*We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice.  
We are **all** guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

*(Please be seated)*

# Lamb of God

*Congregation:*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
you break the chains of ha - tred and  
you are the way of jus - tice and  
you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

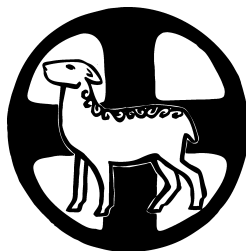
*Congregation:*



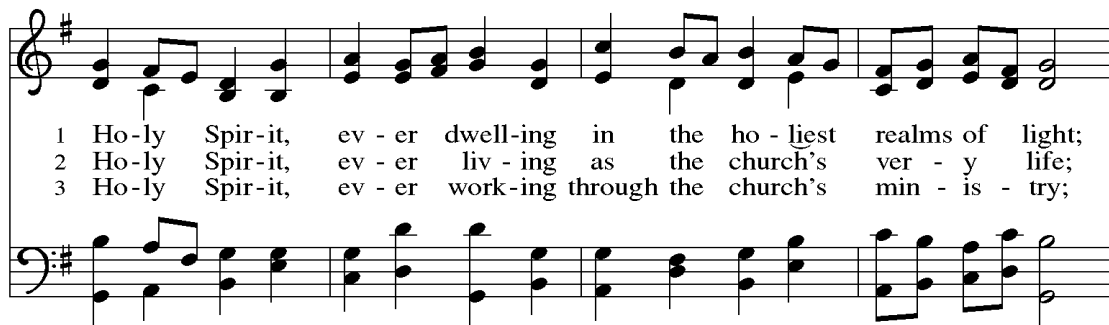
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



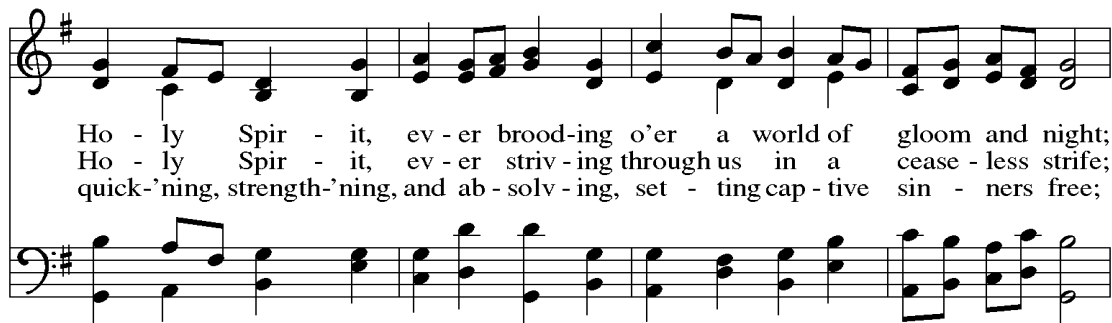
grant us peace, grant us peace.



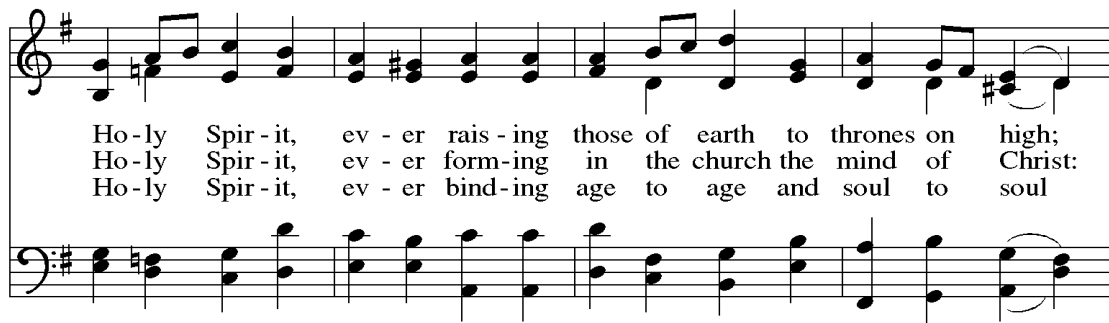
## Communion Hymn: "Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling" *Hymn 582*



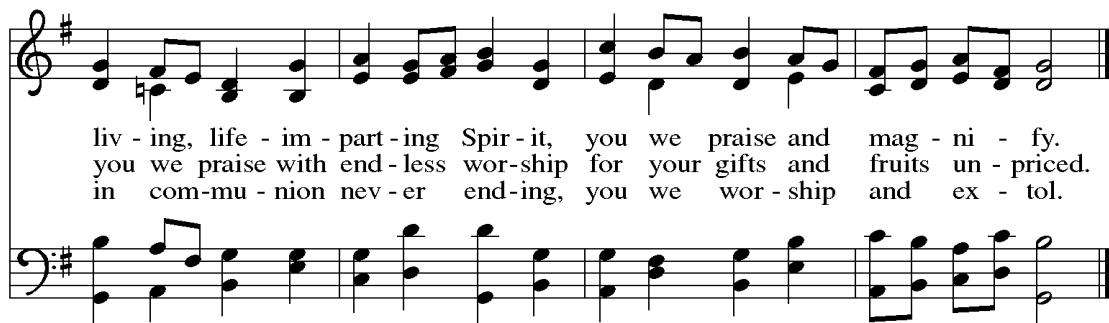
1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er dwell-ing in the ho - liest realms of light;  
 2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er liv - ing as the church's ver - y life;  
 3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er work-ing through the church's min - is - try;



Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing through us in a cease - less strife;  
 quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab - solv - ing, set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er rais - ing those of earth to thrones on high;  
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ:  
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev - er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv - ing, life - im - part-ing Spir-it, you we praise and mag - ni - fy.  
 you we praise with end-less wor-ship for your gifts and fruits un - priced.  
 in com-mu - nion nev - er end-ing, you we wor - ship and ex - tol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874–1939, alt.

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

## Post Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Post Communion Prayer

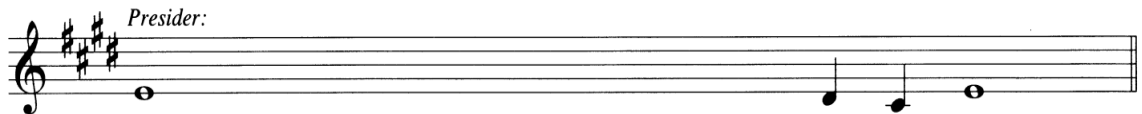
Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## Ministry Highlights *(see insert)*

*(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)*

## Blessing

*Presider:*



May God bless us and keep us.  
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.

*Congregation:*



## Sending Hymn: "On Our Way Rejoicing" *Hymn 537*

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.  
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.  
un - to God the Sav - ior; thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;  
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?  
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

### *Refrain*

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,

hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.  
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

## **Sending**

As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,  
and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you,  
and crown all these things with love,  
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

**Amen.**

*(based on Colossians 3:12-14)*

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude: "Sing Out, Earth and Skies" Marty Haugen**

