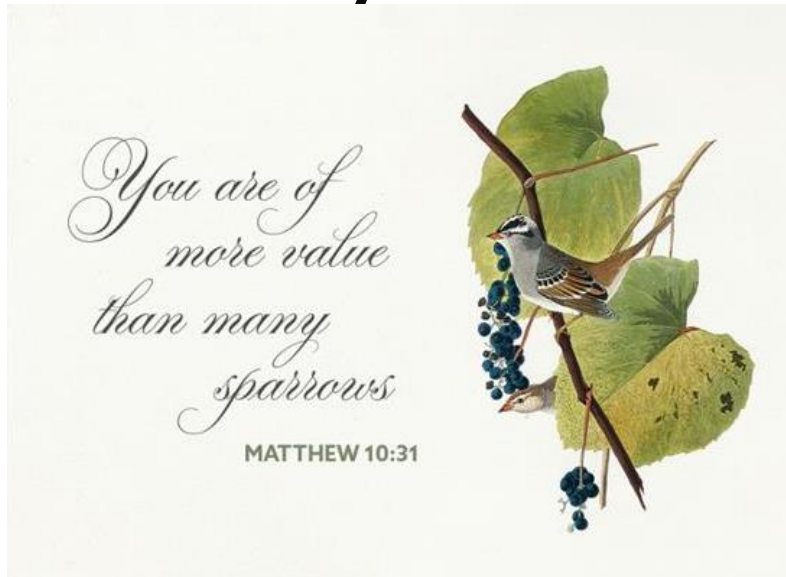

Bethesda Lutheran Church

21590 Hwy 47, Isle, Minnesota 56342

June 21st, 2026

9:00 am

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



We are a community of faith centered in Christ and rooted in God's grace. Through worship, learning, fellowship, and service, we encourage one another in faith and seek to share God's love with our neighbors, our community, and the world.

*We're glad you're here. We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and celebrate the work we're able to do together.
(to learn more about the ELCA visit www.elca.org).*

Those joining worship online, whether live or later in the week, are invited to prepare their worship space by creating a home altar. You might include meaningful linens, candles, a cross, enough bread or crackers and wine or juice for everyone at your table, and anything that helps you engage more fully in worship.

This altar becomes a gathering place for prayers, songs, communion, and a shared sense of God's presence in your home.

‡ **GATHERING** ‡

~ The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God. ~

~ **The gathering responds together with texts in bold print** ~

Good morning and welcome to worship. God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

WELCOME

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

A full list of announcements is near the end of the bulletin.

GATHERING SONG "Ten Thousand Reasons" ACS 1097-Tim McNabb Lutheran Musician

[Chorus]

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship God's holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

[Verse 1]

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes [Chorus]

[Verse 2]

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find [Chorus]

[Verse 3]

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore [Chorus]

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

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

Let us confess our sin to God.

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

Amen.

GREETING

The immeasurable grace upon grace of Christ Jesus,

the rich mercy and unconditional love of God,
and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Teach us, good Lord God, **to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

~ *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.* ~

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

⁷ O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

⁸ For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

¹⁰ For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹² O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³ Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 69:7-18

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 myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.**

¹¹ I put on sackcloth also, and became a byword 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.**

SECOND READING

Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

^{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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

The gospel is announced: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

This is the story of grace flowing down. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So 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, ³³but 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.

³⁵For 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,

³⁶and 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, ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:

This is the story of grace that covers us. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Reverend Christina Kadelbach

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion, reflecting the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world.

Each petition of the prayers ends with these words:

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

*Response to the conclusion of the prayers of intercession: **Amen.***

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

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake.

Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to

oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disability. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints (*like Onesimos Nesib*) who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

May Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, fill you with unconditional love, mend you with mercy, and grant you perfect peace. **And also with you.**

*We are changed by Christ's peace
and now we have the holy opportunity to extend that peace to others.*

‡ **MEAL** ‡

~ God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. ~

OFFERING

We offer ourselves, our time, our talents, and our resources, for the care of our neighbors and the healing of the world. Because of you, we teach and learn, feed and visit, sing and serve, hope and heal. If you'd like to make a financial gift today, you'll find options in the bulletin and by the QR code. Thank you for being here, and for helping us live the resurrection story together. Your gifts support the ministry of Bethesda Lutheran Church and extend God's love into the world.

The offering is gathered and the table is set.

Ways to Give:

- Give electronically through Vanco Services.
- Use the giving app by scanning the QR code.
- Recurring or one-time online options <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/bethesda-lutheran-church-of-malmo>



*The gathering stands when the gifts are brought forward.
Thank you for your faithful and generous support.*

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*The presiding minister continues with the words of institution.
The gathering responds: **Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, holy be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us the wrong we have done
As we forgive those who wrong us.
And do not put us to the test, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
Are yours, now and forever, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Holy Communion is a gift of grace, where we receive the presence of Jesus in bread and wine and are reminded that we are deeply loved. All who hunger for mercy and hope are welcome at this feast. Jesus is the host, and the invitation is wide. Even across time and space, God is present in these gifts, and we, the community, are present to one another.

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

COMMUNION SONG: "Borning Cry"

ELW 732



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
3 "In the mid-dle a-ges of your life, not too old, no lon-ger young,



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold.
you were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord, to whom you now be-long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be-gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: WATERLIFE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John Ylvisaker.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

✠ **SENDING** ✠

~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. ~

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

ELW 810



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

We give thanks for worshipping together today. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, know that you are warmly welcomed here.

Return again to join us in service, prayer, and fellowship throughout the week.

THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA

Monday, June 22nd

9:00-11:00am Crafters
11:30 am Pinochle
2:00 pm Loaves & Fishes
7:00 pm AA/Alanon

Tuesday, June 23rd

9:00 am Chair Yoga
9:00 am Quilters
3:00 pm Choir Practice
4:00 pm Bell Choir Practice

Wednesday, June 24th

9:00 am Women's Bible Study
Thursday, June 25th
 8:00 am ROMEOS (Men's Bible Study)
 9:15 am Chair Yoga
Sunday June 28th | Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion

Acknowledgments: Texts and hymns from sundaysandseasons.com copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SAS028183. New Revised Standard Version updated edition Bible Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. Cover Image: Vintage Trinity sign. Photo by quisp65. Copyright © 2025 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images/DigitalVision. Used by permission. Additional Liturgical texts adapted for Bethesda Lutheran by Reverend Christina Kadelbach.

LIFE TOGETHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Life together announcements reflect the shared life of our congregation by highlighting upcoming events, service opportunities, and ways we continue to grow in faith together. We invite you to read through what's ahead and participate as you are able. Your presence matters.

PRAYER & CARE LIST Jim C., Sherry W.,

As a community of faith, we are committed to holding one another in prayer & care. We invite you to pray for those listed here and offer support as you are able. To request prayers for yourself or someone else (with their permission). Please contact the church office.

WELCOME Friends in Christ, we're glad you're here. Your presence is a gift to this community. If you would like us to be in touch or want to learn more about Bethesda, you're welcome to share your name in the friendship/welcome notebook.

CHILDREN WELCOME Children are a gift we celebrate and are welcome at Holy Communion. We trust that worship belongs to people of all ages. A quieter, unstaffed nursery is available through the double doors to the left when exiting the sanctuary. Children's bulletins and activity bags are available in the narthex.

WELCOME NOTEBOOK Please take a moment to sign the friendship notebook in the black folder at the end of your pew. Passing it along is a simple act of hospitality that helps us learn one another's names and extend the warmth of Christ's welcome to all.

NAME TAGS Help your neighbors, and your pastor, remember your name! Name tags make it easier to connect and grow together in community. Sticker name tags are available near the guest book at the main entrance.

PASTORAL CARE Caring for one another is part of who we are. If you are hospitalized or going through a difficult time, please let Pastor Christina or one of our parish nurses know. We would be honored to support you.

COFFEE HOSPITALITY Coffee and conversation are part of how we care for one another. If you'd like to help serve coffee or share a treat, your presence makes a difference. Sign-up information is available, and contributions for the freezer are always welcome.

WORSHIP AT BETHESDA Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:00 am. Holy Communion is celebrated most Sundays.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP Flowers help to bring beauty and life into our shared worship space. If you would like to provide fresh flowers in celebration, in memory, or in honor of someone or something, please let the office know in advance or simply let us know the day of worship so we can share your dedication.

PARKING NOTICE To those using our lot as a carpool meet-up spot: please park along the outer edge near the shed/garage. This helps keep the lot clear in case emergency access is needed for a medical helicopter landing.

GRIEF SHARE Due to several road construction projects the start of our Grief Share group has been postponed until August. We look forward to gathering then. Contact Dennis H. for more details.

CRAFTERS Projects are simple and fun: painting base coats on wood items, beading, cutting, and more. Every little bit helps! Watch the bulletin for updates. Future Crafter Dates: June 22, July 6 & 27, Aug. 17, Sept. 21 & 28, Oct. 19th. Oct. 31 — Holiday Bazaar

LET'S GO FISHING Let's Go Fishing provides free fishing and nature excursions for older adults, veterans, and people of all abilities. These outings offer an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors, fellowship with others, and a relaxing time on the water. June Fishing Trips: June 30 at 1:00 p.m. Sign-up sheets are located in the Narthex. Additional fishing and nature trip dates for July and August are also listed. Come enjoy a peaceful day on the water!

VINTAGE MARKET New this year! Our Holiday Bazaar will feature a Vintage Market, and we're collecting donated vintage items now. "Vintage" means prior to 1970, think jewelry, art glass, vinyl records, old books, Pyrex, ashtrays, embroidered linens, advertising pieces, costume brooches, cuff bracelets, toys, and more. Items can be dropped off by the craft room. Or contact Judie B.

BETHESDA GARDENS Thank you to everyone who has helped plant, weed, water, and care for our gardens. The beauty of these spaces is a reflection of many caring hands. As the growing season continues, there is always more tending to be done. If you would enjoy helping care for the gardens, please contact Dianne J. We'd love to have you join us!

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS Communion is the heart of our community, a place where all are welcomed and fed. As a communion assistant you help embody that welcome for everyone who comes to the table. If you feel a nudge toward this ministry, please reach out to Pastor Christina. An informational session is being planned to support you in this role, and we would love to have you join us.

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK

Sunday, June 14th, 2026 In Person: xx Online: xx

Bethesda Lutheran Church blcmalmo.org

Office: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123)

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E-mail address: blcmalmo@gmail.com

A member congregation of the NE MN Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Ministers: All People of Bethesda Lutheran Church

Pastoral Ministries: Reverend Christina K.

blc.reverend@gmail.com 320-684-2123

Church Secretary: Mary B.

Custodian: Ari D.

Music & Sound Technician: Jim C.

Parish Nurses: Darlene C., RN, Kathy B. RN ANP

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char B. or Darlene C.

Praise Choir: Darlene & Jim C., Sherry W., Sheila P.

Choir Director: Sheila P.

Hand Bell Choir Director: Donna M.

May Altar Care: Barb F., Dianne J.
June Altar Care: Patti S., Winnie Z.
Communion Assistants:
Ushers: Darrell Kelly & Dick Stebbins
Greeters: Jenny Schuett
Lector: London Feland
Hospitality Hosts: Need Volunteers

Serving on June 28th, 2026

Communion Assistants:
Ushers: David & Libby Brown
Greeters: Larry & Carol Pantsari
Lector: Darlene Christensen
Hospitality Hosts: Need Volunteers

