

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 16, 2024



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: “For the Beauty of the Earth” - arr. Laurence Lyon
Emily Dalthorp, Piano Lois Theesfield, Organ

Welcome

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,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life,
you are shown God’s mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

Gathering Song: "As Rain from the Clouds" - ELW #508

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22—24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart.

¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for

themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:26—34

The Gospel according to Mark
Glory to You, O Lord

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “For the Fruit of All Creation” ELW #679

Apostles 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *“Air”* from *“Water Music Suite”* - G F Handel
Lois Theesfield, organ

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.

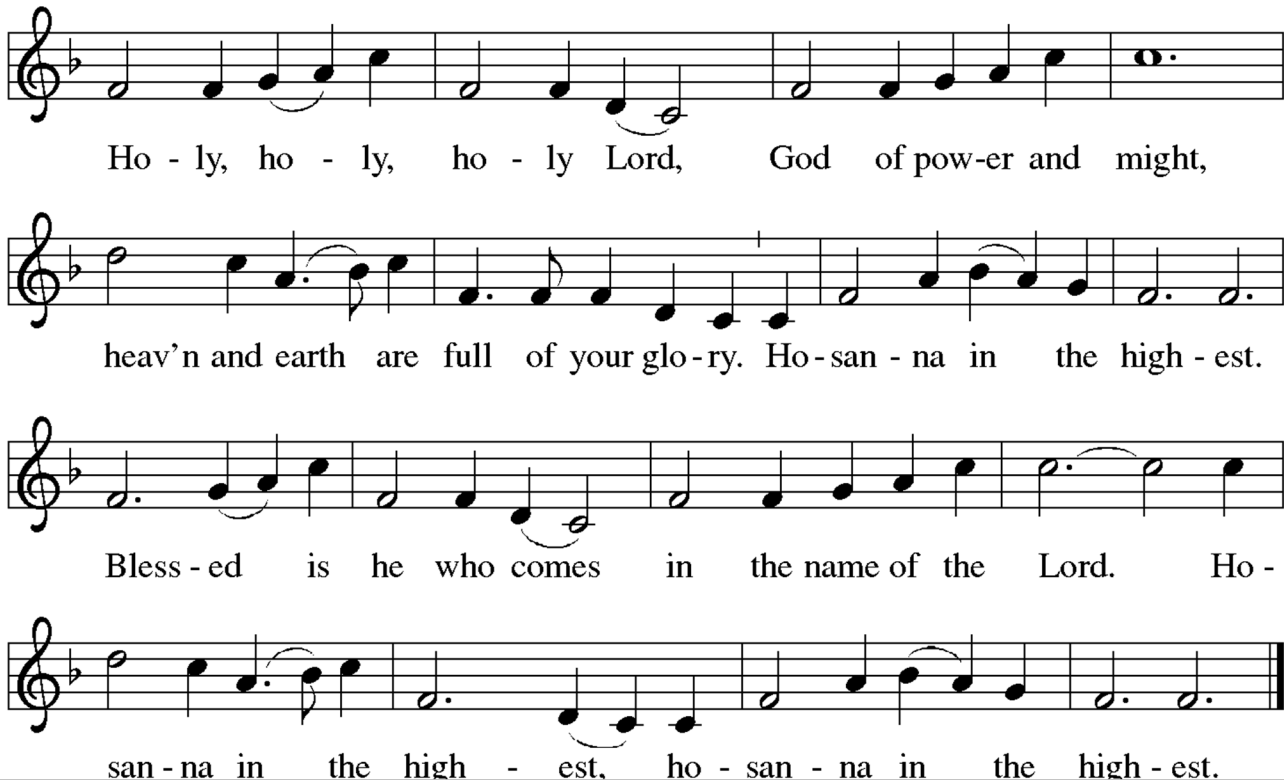
The Great Thanksgiving

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 our 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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come!

Communion Hymns

"Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 10
"We Walk by Faith" - ELW #635

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Prayer After Communion

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" ELW #547

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "*Allegro Maestoso*" from "*Water Music Suite*" - G F Handel
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep Jo Rod and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, +Bob Rod

Please keep all those impacted by recent severe weather including Memorial families and other community members

Please keep Julie and Brad Samson and their family in prayer following the death of Brad's father

Please keep the family of +Brett Anderson in your prayers following his death

Prayers for Bonnie Storey and her daughters Mindy Farmer, Amanda DeMoss, and Tina Skei following the death of her brother, +Doug Harrison

Please keep Linda Mjelde and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, +Gregg Mjelde

Kathy Larsen	Christina King	Janet Jacques
Eric Forsyth	Sherry Kluever	Easton Farrington
Ardith Forsyth	Kim Elliott	Janice Hartz
Crystal Vines	Marsha Kane	Jackie Byers
Chuck Ray	Pr. Marcia Kisner	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Katie Bass	Marlene Waddell	Donna See
<i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	Norma Dannan
Wayne Johnson	John Bass	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Steve Halverson	<i>son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson</i>	Fred Samuelson
Troy Vincent	Carol Vincent	Jaylee Bartleson
Kati Stieler	Cassie Harrell	George Forsyth
<i>sister-in-law of Dan Stieler</i>	Jean Smith	Janeen Driscoll
Johann Thiel		Julie Sutherland
Mike Neal		Jan Cook

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Announcements

Good Samaritan Fundraiser June 19—Volunteers Needed

We're looking for volunteers for the annual Good Samaritan Fundraiser meal at St. Patrick's on June 19. Volunteer opportunities include prepping and serving food, cleaning tables, and bringing food donations for the meal. Sign-up sheets can be found on the bulletin board on your way to Fellowship Hall. *Thank you!*

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School - "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light" June 30—July 3, 6-8 PM at St. Patrick's

Nevada's Central Presbyterian, Memorial Lutheran, and St. Patrick's invite all kids who have completed preschool through 5th grade to join us in Vacation Bible School at St. Patrick's this summer! Cost is \$10 per family.

We want your project to succeed! Apply today for a grant from the Ministry Endowment Fund.

We are now accepting applications for 2024 grants from our Ministry Endowment Fund! We are interested in supporting creative and innovative projects to serve the community and world. Following the example of Jesus of Nazareth, we have a bias for projects that serve the overlooked and the neglected. We also value:

- small projects, (because they are often seeds of change);
- projects that are built on collaboration with others;
- projects that draw diverse people together;
- and projects that evoke simplicity and self-giving generosity.

Applications are due Friday, August 9, 2023, by 12 Noon (CDT). For more information and to apply, see the details and application here: <https://bit.ly/MLCEndowmentGrants2024> or by using the QR code. There are also printed applications available in the Narthex.



Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code.



Help Wanted!

Do you have musical gifts to share? Our Faith Formation Team is looking for a flexible volunteer or a team of flexible volunteers to teach and lead simple Christian songs and music activities with students in preschool - 6th grade during Wednesday Night Live. Wednesday Night Live meets on Wednesday evenings during the school year from 6:30 - 7:30 pm with some exceptions. If you would be willing to either help or lead in any way please contact Pastor Kathleen at Pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org. Thank you for considering!

Card Shower for Johann Thiel

Johann Thiel is turning 90 on June 29, and he would love to receive some birthday cards! Cards can be mailed here:

Attn: Johann Thiel
Bethany Life
Christine's House, Room #18
212 Lafayette Ave.
Story City, IA 50248

Congratulations, Lutheran schools of the ELCA scholarship recipients!

Each year, Memorial awards \$500 scholarships to students attending Lutheran colleges and universities of the ELCA. These scholarships are funded from our Doris Feight Scholarship fund, and are matched by the recipient's school. Students can apply each year up to four years. For 2024/2025, we congratulate the following scholarship recipients:

Ayden Rhodes, Augustana University

Ella Check, Augustana College

Sarah Miller, Luther College

Help Needed for Iowa Storm Victims

We continue to pray for all those affected by the recent storms. If you would like to help, donations can be given through the Lutheran Disaster Response website, as well as through the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and food and water drop-offs near Greenfield. Links with details can be found in the KCCI article here: <https://bit.ly/3wLeRb9>

Share Your Favorite Hymns

We all have a favorite hymn or two (or three or four...). Be sure to add your favorite(s) to the Music Notes bulletin board on your way to coffee and donuts. We hope to use this list in future worship hymn sings.

Donations Needed for Crisis in Middle East

A word from our wider church body: *“Due to escalating conflict in Gaza and Israel, a severe humanitarian crisis is rapidly unfolding in the Holy Land. The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital. Lutheran Disaster Response has a history of providing support for our partners and will be prepared to answer calls for assistance when the time comes.*

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts designated for “Middle East Crisis” will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters in the region.”

Please go here to donate: <https://community.elca.org/middle-east-crisis>

A Special Note Regarding Tithe.ly Fees

We so appreciate all that give using the online/mobile giving platform Tithe.ly! If you haven't already, please consider including Tithe.ly processing fees as part of your one-time and recurring gifts. To do this, simply check the “Cover Fees” box when setting up your gift. If you have already set up a recurring gift and would like to start including the fees, you'll need to delete this gift and set it up again with “Cover Fees” checked.

Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as “A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place” (heating and cooling) and “Drive for the Drive” (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place (heating and cooling project), or the Drive for the Drive pavement project!***



Save the Date

Caregiver Workshop

When: Monday, June 17, 5:30—8:00 PM

Where: Central Elementary

Good Samaritan Fundraiser (volunteers needed!)

When: Wednesday, June 19

Where: St. Patrick's

Vacation Bible School - *"Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light"*

When: June 30—July 3, 6-8 PM

Where: St. Patrick's

Memorial Lutheran Church
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Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian