



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

OF SOUTH BURNABY, BC

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA

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Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

ACS Holy Communion, Setting 12

The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

We at Grace Lutheran Church strive to reflect and proclaim the love of God shown to us by Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit by providing an inclusive and supportive environment through loving care and community service.

A warm welcome to those who are here worshipping in-person and on-line with us today! Here at Grace Lutheran we believe God is active in your life. Even you being here now is testament of God's calling and leading in your heart, which you have faithfully heeded. So we welcome you, and pray that today you will be nurtured and that the gifts that God has graciously given you will be stirred for the sake of God's mission in the world.

Grace Lutheran worships, prays, and serves on the traditional and unceded lands and territories of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əŋəm (Musqueam) and Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) peoples.

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in worship, to sing of God's steadfast love and to proclaim God's forever faithfulness, firmly set in the heavens. For our God has made a covenant with us, that we be blessed, loved, and saved and welcomed into the presence of our Lord forever. So we rejoice and are jubilant and are strengthened by the glory and favour of our God, the Holy One of Israel. **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

GATHERING SONG: Build a Longer Table (ACS #1062)

GREETING

The unending grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the everlasting love of God, and the eternal welcome of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

SONG OF PRAISE (ACS p. 31)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Steadfast God, we are greeted by your love as you welcome us into your presence. May our own love and welcome for others be a faithful reflection of yours, knowing that your grace extends to all people of all times and places, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5-9

A reading from Jeremiah.

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

⁵ The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. ⁷ But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

¹ Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

² **For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

³ "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴ **I will establish your line forever,**

and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”

¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

¹⁶ **They rejoice daily in your name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.

¹⁸ **Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

SECOND READING: Romans 6:12-23

A reading from Romans.

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

¹² Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!

¹⁶ Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.

²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ACS p. 33)

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet

will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous,⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table (ACS #977)

CREED

Together with all of God's people welcomed into God's community, let us confess the Christian faith with the 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called to graciously welcome and serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Each petition will end with, "Lord, in your steadfast mercy," and you are all invited to respond with **hear our prayer**. Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O God, we sing of your love throughout our lives and we recognise your hand at work throughout the world. May we constantly be strengthened by your grace and mercy, that our care for our community be welcoming and genuine. Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O God, we proclaim your faithfulness throughout our worship and ministry, and we commit to reflecting your shining light out into the world. May the work that you call us to do be a blessing on all whom we encounter. We remember in prayer our neighbouring faith communities; those who use this building for worship, work, and play; our partners Anglican Church of Canada and Moravian Church in Canada; and our bishops, rostered ministers,

congregations, and ministries of the ELCIC. In particular, we pray for Christ Lutheran Church in Kelowna and their pastor Barbara Groote (GROO-tay); and all the shared ministries with our various partners throughout the country. Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, your faithfulness is set firmly in the heavens and your love is established forever in all of creation. May our stewardship of this planet be pleasing to you and our care for all that you have made be a testament of the grace that you give us. Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, you have made a covenant with us, promising to save us and welcome us into your community of love. May this promise touch the lives and hearts of all the nations, that we might be able to collectively see the value and worth of every person and learn to live in peace. We also pray for the continued support of those that we've sponsored to come into our country: Abraham Barhane; Solyana Amanuel; and Filimon Abraha; as well as for those who have not yet arrived: Maekele Kiflu, Selam Haile, and their children; and Meri, Surafiel, Nohom, and Elita Gabramikael. Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, you welcome us to walk in the light of your presence and we rejoice daily in your name. Be with those among us who are ill, who mourn, or who feel lonely, that your love always shine in and around us. Especially we pray for Kathy and family; Bryan and Chona; Ron, Tess, and Mineko; Greg and Aikiko; Bev and family; John and Betty; Sukhwant; Pastor Kristen; Pastor Carol; Laura; Kandie; Will; Chris; Larry; Walter; Piet; Kelly; Betty; Ngan Kew (nan CUE); Matt; Patty; Sarasawathi (SAR-ah-sa-WAH-tee); and all those we name aloud or quietly in our hearts at this time...

Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, you strengthen us with your glory and exalt us as your people in the world, as you include us in your kingdom with all the saints of all times and places. May our connection to you and each other always be on the forefront of who we are, that we might faithfully proclaim your love and grace to all. Lord, in your steadfast mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your gracious welcome and inclusion, shown to us by Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, to at all times and places give thanks and praise to you, O God, through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who comes to us with welcome and grace, and joins us

together with the choirs of angels, the hosts of heaven, and the whole church on earth in praising your name with this unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ACS p. 36)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Lord you are indeed holy and mighty, and in you we put our trust. You reveal to us how we are all connected to you and each other, lifting us up in grace and redeeming us with your love. And you send to us your son, Jesus, to lead and guide us in your ways of truth and righteousness.

For on the night that he was betrayed, your son Jesus sat with his friends for a meal, where he took some bread, gave thanks, broke and shared it saying, "Take and eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And then after they ate, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them to drink from 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."

It is in this bread and cup therefore that we see how we are all joined together as we are, equally welcomed and included in God's family, moving us to live inspired by this foundation of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

So it is to you, O Lord, that all honour and glory belong, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (ACS p. 39)

**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

Taste and see, God blessing us with relationship and love.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS: Lamb of God (ACS p. 40)
In Christ Called to Baptize (ELW #575)
Just As I Am, without One Plea (ELW #592)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have again fed and nourished us with your love and truth and you fill our hearts with the promise of gracious new life. Be with us as we go from this place, and move us to live lives of faith empowered by the glory of your name, through Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer grant you the joy of new life, the peace of forgiveness, and the welcome of an eternal community, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Drawn to the Light (ELW #593)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, blessed by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

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