

# *Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*



*Lakeside Worship  
July 2, 2023 | 9:30 a.m.*

*Big Bend, Borgund, Immanuel, Kviteseid,  
Minnesota Valley, and Zion Lutheran Churches*

*Milan Beach Resort - Lac qui Parle Lake*

*Welcome to worship at the lake...* As our nation prepares to celebrate its independence, we praise God for the freedom to gather for worship.

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OPENING HYMN**

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

1. O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain:  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.
2. O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life:  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine.
3. O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears:  
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

### **EXHORTATION AND PRAYER ON A NATIONAL HOLIDAY**

P On July 4, 1776, our forefathers bravely advanced the cause of freedom and liberty by declaring this nation's independence and sovereignty and that all her citizens possessed the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness given by our Creator. It is appropriate therefore as we celebrate our nation's 247<sup>th</sup> birthday that we give thanks to that Creator for our liberties.

P The earth is the Lord's,

**C And all who dwell in it.**

P God is king over the nations:

**C God sits on his holy throne.**

P He rules by his might forever.

**C His eyes keep watch on the nations.**

P Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**C For God judges the peoples with equity and guides the nations upon earth.**

P May your ways be known upon the earth,

**C Your saving power among all peoples.**

P Lord of the nations, guide our people by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Above all things, give us faith in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## HYMN

“God Bless our Native Land”

1. God bless our native land; firm may it ever stand through storm and night.  
When the wild tempests rave, Ruler of wind and wave, do thou our country save  
by thy great might.
2. So shall our prayers arise to God above the skies, on whom we wait.  
Thou who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye, to thee aloud we cry:  
God save us all!

## INDEPENDENCE DAY LITANY

### OPENING PRAYER

*Romans 6:12-23*

P God of grace, you have brought us from slavery to freedom, from despair to hope, from death to life! Holy is Your name!  
We gather together in Your presence with gratitude and praise for all that You have done for us. May the presence of Your Holy Spirit inspire our worship. May our words and music, our thoughts and prayers, even our very lives, bring honor and glory to You.  
This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection have brought us everlasting life.

C **Amen.**

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Matthew 10*

P Jesus said, “Anyone who receives you, receives me, and anyone who receives me, receives the Father who sent me.”  
We gather together in the presence of the God who receives us with open arms, who loves us unconditionally, and who bids us do the same to one another.  
Let’s worship God together!

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Romans 6:12-23*

P Sisters and brothers, let’s not let sin control the way we live. Let’s not give in to sinful desires. Rather, let’s offer ourselves to God, who through his mercy has brought us from death to life.

*Time of silent reflection*

C **God, we confess that we have sinned in your sight.  
Despite our best efforts and intentions,  
we have failed to consistently live in ways that bring honor to your name.  
Forgive us.  
Through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit,  
set us free from the grip of sin—  
from attitudes and actions that do not lead to life. Amen.**

P Once we were slaves to sin, living lives that led only to death.  
But thanks be to God!  
In his mercy, he has set us free from the power of sin and death,  
and has offered us forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord!  
Now you are free to choose life,  
and to use your life to bring honor and glory to God. Amen.

**HYMN** "This Is My Song"

1. This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
3. This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,  
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.  
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;  
myself I give you; let your will be done.

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

**C O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: Genesis 22:1-14**

*Rich Isder*

*Abraham was prepared to obey God's command amid extreme contradiction: the child to be sacrificed is the very child through whom Abraham is to receive descendants. God acknowledged Abraham's obedient faith, and Abraham offered a ram in the place of his son Isaac.*

## PSALM 13

Rich Isder

- L <sup>1</sup>How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?  
How long will you hide your face from me?
- C <sup>2</sup>**How long shall I have perplexity in my mind, and grief in my heart,  
day after day? How long shall my enemy triumph over me?**
- L <sup>3</sup>Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God;  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- C <sup>4</sup>**lest my enemy say, "I have defeated you,"  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.**
- L <sup>5</sup>But I trust in your unfailing love;  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- C <sup>6</sup>**I will sing to the LORD, who has dealt with me richly.**

## SECOND LESSON: Romans 6:12-23

Rich Isder

*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.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42

*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.*

- P The Gospel of our Lord.
- C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

Pastor Linda Estling

## HYMN OF THE DAY "Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"

1. Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let us seek your straying children, lost and lone.
2. Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;  
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.
3. Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the precious truths which you impart;  
and wing our words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.
4. Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord, until our very hearts o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**C** We believe in God - the Creator of all things - the source of all goodness and love. He is our God and we are His people.

We believe in Jesus Christ - the Son of God - true God yet true man. He was crucified, died, and was buried for our sin, that we might be free and know the joy of life. He was raised on the third day and ascended to heaven. He will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit - the power of God at work inside of us. We believe in the church of God - His people of faith throughout the world. We believe that our sin is forgiven and that we will live together with God for now and throughout eternity. Amen.

## **PRAYER FOR THE NATION**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**C** 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.

## **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

1. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Make us thankful every day, O God, for the gifts that alight upon us from your bounty. Guide us to use these offerings to your glory for the health of your people and this creation.

**C** Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

P God of peace and mercy, send us into your world with confident joy.  
Help us to reach out to others and care for them as you always care for us.

C **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

“God of Our Fathers”

1. God of our fathers, whose almighty hand  
leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:  
our grateful songs before your throne arise.
2. Your love divine has led us in the past;  
in this free land by you our lot is cast;  
oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;  
your word our law, your paths our chosen way.
3. From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence,  
make your strong arm our ever sure defense.  
Your true religion in our hearts increase;  
your bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
4. Refresh your people on their toilsome way;  
lead us from night to never-ending day;  
fill all our lives with heav’n-born love and grace  
until at last we meet before your face.

## **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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— WELCOME —

*to all those joining us today for Lakeside Worship*

**Serving You Today**

Pastor Kristine Isder — Kviteseid and Big Bend Lutheran Churches

Pastor Linda Estling — Immanuel Lutheran Church

**Today's undesignated offering**

will be given to food shelves in Chippewa, Lac qui Parle and Swift counties.

*Please join us following worship for coffee and fellowship.  
Free will donation for coffee and goodies provided by Randall's.*

Please mark your calendars and join us again on

**Sunday, September 3** (Labor Day Weekend)

at 9:30 a.m. at the Milan Beach Resort

*Remember to bring a lawn chair!*



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