

Second Sunday after Pentecost

22 June 2025

HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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PW: highwood

Zoom by Telephone Dial 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #



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### + HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 4 +

#### ORGAN PRELUDE

“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now” arr. G. Boehm

#### GATHERING

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#### CATECHETIC MOMENT

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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#### GATHERING HYMN

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

**No. 843**

#### GREETING

#### KYRIE

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**HYMN OF PRAISE**    *Glory to God*

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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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**P** We pray. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON      A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, 'Here I am, here I am',  
to a nation that did not call on my name.

I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;

a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;

who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

who say, 'Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.'

These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.

See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps  
their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,  
says the Lord;

because they offered incense on the mountains  
and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.

Thus says the Lord:

As the wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, 'Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it',

so I will do for my servants' sake,  
and not destroy them all.

I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,

and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;  
my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

*(Isaiah 65:1-9)*

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM     *Sung*     Psalm 22:19-28**

But you, O LORD, be not | far away;

O my help, hasten | to my aid.

Deliver me | from the sword,

my life from the power | of the dog.

Save me from the | lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

I will declare your name | to my people;

in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.

You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line,  
give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;

neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;

but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.

From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the  
LORD.

The poor shall eat | and be satisfied.

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts |  
live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

For dominion belongs | to the LORD,

who rules o- | ver the nations.

Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit;

as it was in the begin-| ning, is now and will be forever. | Amen.

**SECOND LESSON     A Reading from the Book of Galatians**

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a

disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

*(Galatians 3:23-29)*

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia...

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*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

P The Holy Gospel...

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for

they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.  
(Luke 8:26-39)

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Oh, Praise the Gracious Power **No. 651**

**THE APOSTLES CREED** Inside Front Cover and Page 105

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Please stand as you are able.*

The response to "we pray." is "Have mercy, O God."

A Joining our voices with God's people around the world, let us offer our prayers for those in need.

*A brief silence.*

A For the well-being of creation, for mountains and lakes, for fields and forests, and for plants and animals, that God lift up good stewards to care for the entire earth, we pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

A For the nations and their rulers, for aid workers, and for people in war-torn areas, that God raise up leaders and advocates to work for the equality of all. Bring just peace to Ukraine and to all that are torn apart by warfare and violence, we pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

A For those who are traveling and absent from worship, and all who visit our congregation, that God's love lead them in their daily vocations, we pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

A For all who cry out in need: the hungry and poor, the downtrodden and outcast, the grieving and the sick, that all know that God is near and hears their cries, We pray for: Bruce Beamer, Anna Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Chrystina Cuch, Colleen Dehmke, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Genevieve Janssen, Julie Janssen

Downe, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Barry Michael, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Jerry Rasmuson and family, Jim and Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Ron Sauer, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, Mohini Srivastava, John Watt, those we name aloud... and those we carry in our hearts, we pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

**A** We pray for your holy catholic Church:

- the Synod of Alberta and the Territories staff, pastors, people and Bishop Trish Schmermund
- the Northern Area Leadership Team, pastors, people, and Dean Rev. Erin Thomas
- Grace Lutheran Church in Rancho Cordova, California
- church camp ministries across our synod
- Rainy Hills Lutheran, Idlesleigh
- La Victoria Mission, Villavicencio, Colombia
- all who prepare for the National Convention in Winnipeg
- The National Indigenous Day of Prayer: for healing and reconciliation between Indigenous and nonindigenous peoples
- the pastors and people of the Lutheran Church in Namibia
- the pastors and people of the Pentecostal Churches in Canada, and the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches of Canada

For all these, we pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

**A** For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping, we pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

**P** Merciful God, you hear the prayers of your people even before they are spoken. We commend these and all our prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

Pg. 152

**P** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**C And also with you.**

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY “O Living Breath of God” (#407)

*Setting of the altar and reception of the Offerings.*

*Please be seated.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER (General 1)

Pg. 64

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pg. 152

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (II)

Pg. 154

THE FRACTION

P As the many grains of wheat were once scattered upon the hills, then become one in this Bread of Life,

**C gather your church from every time and place into your eternal reign of love.**

P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Receive them in remembrance that Christ died for you.

**C Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD

Pg. 154

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please be seated. Assistants and those in need commune first.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

No. 620

O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

No. 886

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (General 1)

Pg. 65

*Please be seated.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CLOSING OF AN ACADEMIC YEAR SPRING 2025

*Please stand as you are able.*

P All things come to an end, but the teaching of the Lord has no bounds.

**C Lead us in your truth, O God.**

P Everyone will stand in awe and declare God's works; they will ponder what God has done.

**C Lead us in your truth, O God.**

P Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

**C Lead us in your truth, O God.**

P Jesus said, Remember, I will be with you always, to the end of time.

**C Lead us in your truth, O God.**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Almighty God, look with favour upon those who have completed another year of learning and growth. Give them courage, patience, and vision as they go their way; and strengthen us all in our vocation in witness to the gospel of Christ, for the sake of your whole creation and to the glory of your holy name both now and forever. We give you thanks for all whom you call in your church and for our educators who form them for service.

**C Amen**

P We close this academic year in the name of the Father, (+) and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

### THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

**BENEDICTION**

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**SENDING HYMN**

Jesus Shall Reign

**No. 434**

**DISMISSAL**

Pg. 155

P Go in peace...

**C Thanks be to God!**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** "Praise to the Lord" (#858) arr. J.G. Walther

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WELCOME to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today's servants or speak with the pastor.

WE THANK TODAY'S SERVANTS

Usher: Shelley Ford, Nale Poromon,

Lector: Shelley Ford

Assistant: Pat Fedkenheuer

Altar Guild: Clarice Rasmuson, Jennifer Hanson

Refreshments: Al & Pat Fedkenheuer, Mariette Erasmus

Zoom Host: Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Last Week	15 June 2025	Budget 2025
Current	\$ 2,523.70	\$2,911
Benevolence	\$ 0	
Building Fund	\$ 0	
Other	\$ 175	
Attendance	54	

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today	22 June	11:45 PM	Fellowship and Refreshments
		2:00 PM	CFMC
Monday	23 June	7:00 PM	Council
		7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Tuesday	24 June	6:30 PM	S.A.F.E. Place Peer Support
Wednesday	25 June	10:00 AM	12 Step Program
		7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Thursday	26 June	10:00 AM	Knitting Circle
Friday	27 June	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Saturday	28 June	9:00 AM	House of Hope Worship
Sunday	29 June	10:30 AM	3 rd Sunday after Pentecost

HIGHWOOD HIGHLIGHTS is accepting articles until 24 June 2025 for the joint July/August issue. Email items to secretaryhlc@outlook.com

KNITTING CIRCLE – Join us on Thursday 26 June at 10:00 AM as we continue to knit and crochet prayer shawls for the Bethany Care Centre. Beginners are welcome as we will teach you!

TRUSTEE NEWS – We welcome David Richardson in his new role of Head Trustee. Any issues with the building maintenance will now be directed to David. We gratefully thank Vern Schnell for his many years of tireless dedication, service (and uncountable repairs) for Highwood Lutheran Church. Vern will continue with our Council.

SYNOD AND NATIONAL NEWSLETTERS - The Synod of Alberta and Territories has a bi-monthly newsletter called “*Wednesday’s Word*” available on the first and third Wednesdays. Visit abtsynodoffice@elcic.ca. You can sign up on the home page. The National Church has a weekly newsletter “*ELCIC NEWS*” at <https://elcic.ca/news/>. It’s found under the ‘Resources’ tab, select ‘Publications’ from the list and then ‘ELCIC News’.

SHARING THANKS AND BLESSINGS - The National Bishop, Susan Johnson, will soon retire after 18 years of faithful leadership in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. You are invited to join with other congregations across Canada in expressing our gratitude and blessings. A card for the Bishop is available in the narthex for you to sign. You can also add a personal note of thanks and blessings to Bishop Susan as she enters retirement. Please take a few minutes after worship to sign the card. Thank you. Highwood Lutheran Church Council.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – All Highwood men and your guests - come eat and socialize together at our monthly breakfast on Saturday 5 July at 10:00 AM at Ace Casino Airport.

HEADING AWAY FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS? It's time for many of us to plan our summer, with time away from home. Please remember that you can leave postdated cheques for your offering. Unfortunately, our expenses don't take a vacation. Thank you for caring for the needs of our church.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – If you need a ride to church, contact Elizabeth Anderson 587 897 0548 or Bill Strand 403 239 9894

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS	3 rd Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21	Psalm 16
Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62