

SATURDAY- JUNE 21, 2025 -5:00 PM
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*



WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

MINISTERS
GUEST PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JIM LYNCH



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Saturday, June 21, 2025 | 2nd Sunday after Pentecost | 5:00 p.m.

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE – Ruth Heinecke

WELCOMING WORD *This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L - Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: #673 God, Whose Almighty Word

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also, with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: 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 Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING - Isaiah 65:1-9

¹ 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. ² 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; ³ a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; ⁴ who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; ⁵ 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.

⁶ See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps ⁷ 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 lap's 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. ⁹ 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.

SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ 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. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

+L: The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 8

+C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ 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"—²⁹ 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.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. ³² 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. ³³ 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. ³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ 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. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "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.

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE Pastor Jim Lynch

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: #607 *Come, Ye Disconsolate*

+APOSTLES' CREED pg. 105

OFFERING

OFFERTORY #186 - *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.*

THE PRAYERS (pg. 143)

(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:

"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: **Hear our prayer.**")

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER pg. 145

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #595 *Jesus Loves Me*

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***"I am God's child, deserving of love and respect,
and God will use me to change the world."***

***If you would like more information about ELC of Mount Horeb
please fill out the visitor cards in the pew pads
which are passed during offering.***

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 22, 2025

SHARE: What are your highs/lows for today?

READ: Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Acts 11:19-30, The Church in Antioch

Tuesday, Hosea 8:11-14, Israel's Unfaithfulness

Wednesday, Psalm 140:1-8, Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

Thursday, Exodus 4:18-23. Moses Returns to Egypt

Friday, Exodus 4:27-31, Aaron Sent to Moses

Saturday, Mark 7:1-13, The Tradition of the Elders

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.”

– Matthew 9:25

Jesus demonstrates God's mercy and power, accepting the unacceptable and curing the incurable. Even the dead receive new life.

- Have you ever felt the call to return to the Lord? (Hosea 6:1)
- Can we share Abraham's "hope against hope" that God will do what God promises, even when it seems unlikely (Romans 4:4)
- What do you think Jesus means by: "I desire mercy, not sacrifice"? (Matthew 9:13)

PRAY: O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESS: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed /bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. Amen