

SUNDAY- JULY 20, 2025 -9:00 AM

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
KURT BILLINGS



ELC@MHTC.NET - 608-437-5012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 20, 2025 | 6th Sunday after Pentecost | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C** = Congregation)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

*You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude
for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.*

WELCOMING WORD *Perhaps the church, at its best, is “all ears.” God urges the faithful, again and again, to “listen up!”—to heed the word that gives life. So, it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So, it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.*

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: #853 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

CONFESSIONS 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

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.

+KYRIE pg. 138

+HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140 *"This is the Feast..."*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAISE TEAM *My Life is in You, Lord
Here I Am to Worship*

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

¹ The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So, they said, "Do as you have said."

⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."

⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. ⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a} Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28

¹⁵ [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through

the blood of his cross.²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him,²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh, I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church.²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints.²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 10

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

³⁸ Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him.³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things,⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Kurt Billings

MESSAGE Pastor Kurt Billings

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: #810 O Jesus, I Have Promised

NICENE CREED (pg. 104)

THE PRAYERS (pg. 143)

(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

PRAISE TEAM *Live Like That*

OFFERTORY #184 *"Let the Vineyards...."*

MEAL

+ Offering Prayer: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

+Words of Institution

+The Lord's Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Distribution of Communion

Prayer after Communion: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ, we pray, Amen.

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: #793 *Be Thou My Vision*

+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 JULY 20, 2025

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 119:97-104, The Glories of God's Law

Tuesday, 1 John 2:1-6, Christ Our Advocate

Wednesday, John 6:41-51, Jesus, the Bread of Life

Thursday, Psalm 138, Thanksgiving and Praise

Friday, John 20:1-2, 11-18, The Resurrection

Saturday, Esther 4:1-17, Esther Agrees to Help the Jews

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing.” -- Luke 10:41b

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

- What worries and distracts you, pulling you in different directions? (Lk 10:40)
- Hospitality is central to this week's texts. When have you experienced holy conversation at a simple feast? (Gen 18:3-8)

PRAY: Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESS: The God of peace, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. Amen.