

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship



"Journey with Jesus" Hi Qi.

Como Park Lutheran Church, ELCA, RIC

Reaching out in Christ to a changing world.

1376 Hoyt Ave W | Saint Paul, MN 55108

(651) 646-7127

www.ComoParkLutheran.org



COMO PARK
LUTHERAN

We welcome all to worship here: those who are strong in faith and those who are seeking, those who are hurting and those who give comfort; all who are drawn to worship, community, and faith.

We acknowledge and celebrate the rich diversity within and around us. As a community rooted in the body of Christ, we commit ourselves to creating a space where people of all races, ages, ethnicities, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions are not only included but deeply valued and seen as essential to our shared journey.

Together, we value human diversity as a divine gift and blessing—a reflection of God’s boundless creativity and love. Because of this, we commit ourselves in ministry to fully embracing all people and advancing racial equity in our ministry.

We recognize that we hold a variety of beliefs, perspectives, and lived experiences; and yet we gather in Christ to worship God together. If you have questions, feedback, or needs for assistance, please ask. We seek to grow together in ministry, community and faith, and we are glad that you are here with us today.

~ The People of Como Park Lutheran Church

**Coffee hour will take place immediately after the service.
Join us in the Narthex for coffee and light snacks.**

Upcoming events and announcements can be found at the back of the bulletin.

This service is broadcast live on YouTube and recorded for later viewing:
www.youtube.com/c/ComoParkLutheranChurch



Regular - Liturgist
Bold - Congregation
☒ - Stand as able



ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude in a Classic Style

Gordon Young

WELCOME, GREETING, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠CONFESSIOIN AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

~ Silence is kept for reflection. ~

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

✠OPENING HYMN

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW 522

✠THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

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

And also with you.

✠KYRIE

ELW 157

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant:

All:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

Assistant:
Help, save and de - fend us, O God.
All:
A - - - men.

✠NOW THE FEAST

ELW 167

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

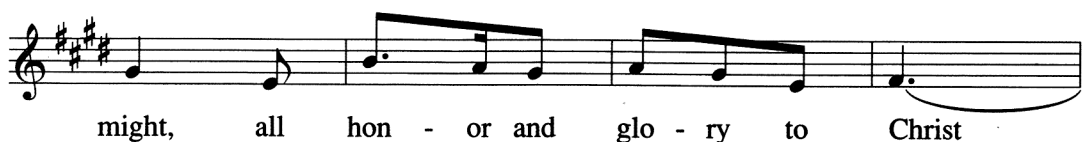
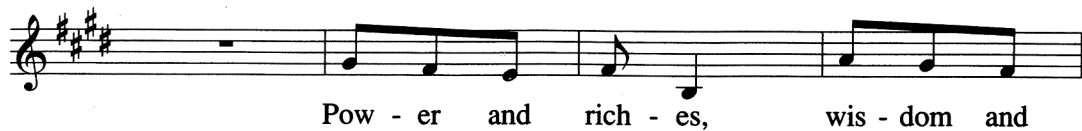
Verse 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great

To refrain



Verse 2



To refrain



Verse 3



To refrain



✠PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

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.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵ Then 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.

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, having once been 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 slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what advantage did you then get 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 advantage you get is sanctification. 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 VERSE

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat optional

✠GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mathew the Tenth Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁰"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever 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; ⁴²and 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."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

David Osterhouse

(Jesus Loves Me! ELW 595)

SERMON

Pastor Emily Rova-Hegener

✠HYMN OF THE DAY

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

ELW 719

✠APOSTLES' 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

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

✠THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(In sharing God's Peace we share with each other our hope for God's blessing by shaking hands, or turning to one another and nodding, or bumping fists and saying "God's peace be with you.")

THE MEAL

OFFERING

Amazing Grace

Faber and Faber

Sofi Duncan, Piano and Siri Lund, Flute

Electronic offerings can be made using smart phones and tablet devices by going to www.ComoParkLutheran.org and clicking on the “donate” button. You may also use the giving kiosk in the narthex located by the staircase.



✠OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠WORDS OF INSTITUTION (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

In the night in which he was betrayed...
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

✠THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13; Revelation 11:15)

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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.

DISTRIBUTION

All who believe Christ is truly present in the sacrament are invited to receive communion. At the server, hold out the flat of your palm to receive the wafer. If you desire gluten-free wafers, simply say to the first server "gluten-free." Then, step to the second server and take the wine in the small cup. The cups hold red wine and grape juice. If you are allergic to grapes, you are free to receive only the bread, knowing that Christ is fully present within each element. Children who do not yet commune will receive a blessing from pastor or first server.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
you break the chains of ha - tred and fear:
you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
you are the way of mer - cy and love:

mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, your take a - way the sins of the world:

grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

✠POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

✠POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us, bringing
heaven to earth in this holy meal. Fill us with your Spirit as we go from
here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek
the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

✠BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

✠CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

ELW 676

✠DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

Please pray for...

Anders N.	Tyler F. (brother-in-law of Ginger F.)
Kathy H.	J.J. K. (great grandson of Bill H.)
Ann L.	Joe (friend of Sandra H.)
Ruth R.	Cheryl & Jim (quilter & husband)
Gina K.	Nichole (friend of Como Connects)
Gary (friend of Deb S.)	Mary C.

... and all in need of prayers

We welcome names of members, family, and friends on our prayer list.



Serving in the Military

Dane Beecham, Jonathan Lund, Kristian Nelson
... and all others who serve



We pray regularly for all members and friends of our congregation.

This week in worship, we pray for:

Ryan & Laura Thilquist, Gavin, Isaac, Ava
Roxane Thode
Heidi Thorstenson
John & Kayla Todd, Brennan, Brady
Tom & Chris Tuft, James, Riley
Neil & Lori Van Eps, Wyatt, Eliza
Jessica & David Vargas, Antonio, Isaiah

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Pastor: Emily Rova-Hegener

Director of Music Ministry: Tom Ferry

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Date	June 28, 2026
Time	9:30 AM
Acolyte	Esben Lund
Communion Prep	Fay Cushman
Assisting Minister	Janice Kragness
Communion Asst 1	Meg Duncan
Communion Asst 2	Mary Sommerfeld
Greeter	Mary Loschy
Coffee Servers	David & Nahoko Person
Children's Message	David Osterhouse
Reader	Polly Heaton
Liturgist	Emily Purdham
Ushers	Family Team Bergstrom
Welcome Desk	Rosemary Johnson
Bus Helper	Shirley Dingman
Bus Driver	Lowell Lundy
Video Tech	Ken Purdham

USHER TEAM

Family Team Bergstrom: Suzy & Drew, Evan and Kyle

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GROW ONE EXTRA ROW

"People say, 'I don't have a garden. I don't have room. I can't do this.' I said that three years ago," says Sue Brogger, Como Park Lutheran's Director of Hunger Ministries. "I can plan and I can lead, but I don't know if I can grow anything."

Now Sue encourages others not to let that stop them. As she puts it, "You don't have to be an avid gardener, and you don't need an acre to plant. You can just make a decision to pick one spot, one pot, and grow something."



That's the idea
behind Como
Grow-a-Row.

Whether you have a backyard garden, a raised bed, or just room for one container, grow something with the intention of sharing it. One tomato plant. A few bean seeds. A pepper plant. Small gifts, shared by many people, make a remarkable difference.

Last year, gardeners throughout our congregation and neighborhood donated more than 2,500 pounds of fresh, locally grown produce to local organizations serving our neighbors. Together, those small gifts became a remarkable impact.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE



- Sign up at the Como Grow-a-Row table in the Narthex.
- Choose what you'd like to grow. Free seeds are available at the table and at participating Little Free Seed Libraries.
- Bring your harvest to church. We'll collect and weigh every donation before delivering fresh produce to local partners, including Keystone Community Services and Peace House Community.

Need help getting your produce to church?
Let us know—we're happy to help.



See the difference we're making together.
Visit our website throughout the growing season for Giving Garden updates and weekly donation totals as our harvest grows.

**JUNE 28, 2026
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



Freed by God's grace.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 10:40-42	Receiving and serving others
Monday	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Hananiah opposes Jeremiah
Tuesday	Romans 6:12-23	Slaves of righteousness
Wednesday	Leviticus 25:35-43	The year of jubilee
Thursday	John 8:31-38	True disciples
Friday	Hebrews 6:1-12	Danger of falling away
Saturday	Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18	God's covenant with David
Sunday	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Rest for the weary

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness 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.

Romans 6:13 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, your love is so complete that we cannot fully grasp it. Help us to enjoy life in your presence and extend your love, mercy, and peace, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food, another example of your constant love and faithfulness, through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 89:2)

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a holy life.



JUNE 28, 2026

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*God, We Gather as
Your People*



taking **+** faith home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When have you been tempted to do something, you knew was wrong? What happened?
- How would you describe a life that is guided by Jesus Christ?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Romans 6:12-23.

Since the time Paul conveyed the radical message “*where sin increased, grace abounded all the more*” (Romans 5:20b), Christians and non-Christians alike have wondered if the Christian faith gave license to live immorally. If our sin leads to God’s grace, should we help God out by sinning all the more so that God’s grace will be extended all the more? Heavens, no, answers Paul. What then? Sin is not simply bad actions. For Paul, sin is a demonic power opposed to everything that is of God. Being baptized into Christ is to die to a life opposed to God. What do we do then? With everything in us, we live “*to God as instruments of righteousness*” (6:13). We gladly participate in God’s saving activity in the world with our words, actions, thoughts, and hopes. A life ruled by Christ is not easy to comprehend. Paul writes, “*I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations*” (v. 19), so just go for it! Give it your all for the sake of all that is holy, just, and full of God’s presence.

Discuss: Does knowing of God’s grace give you a desire to do all you can to love and serve?

Pray: **Gracious God, give us the desire to serve in your kingdom as instruments of your goodness and mercy through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to be hospitable and welcome someone into your home?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Jesus said that anyone who welcomes one of his followers welcomes him, and in turn welcomes his Heavenly Father (Matthew 10:40). Extend a welcome to a new friend or new neighbor to join you for a meal in your home. Think of ways to make them feel welcome. Remember that in serving your visitors you are serving Christ himself!

Pray: **Lord, open our hearts to welcome you each day, and open our hands to serve others in love. Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

**Please visit the Welcome Desk in the narthex
if you have any questions about our facility or upcoming events.**

**Adult Forums, Membership Classes,
Visitations, & General Ministries**

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