

**Northwest Ohio Synod Office**  
**Sunday Worship**  
**ELW Service of the Word**

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**GATHERING SONG**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Where do you see light in your life and in your community?

**GREETING & RITE OF HEALING**

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.**

The Spirit of God is poured out upon us:  
The Spirit of reconciliation,  
The Spirit of peace to those far off,  
The Spirit of peace to those who are near.

The Spirit of God is poured out upon us:  
To seal us and claim us as God's own.  
To bring joy and hope to the faint-hearted.  
To soothe the sick and comfort the grieving.

Friends in Christ,  
Today we give thanks to God for gifts of healing,  
in our bodies, spirits, and relationships.  
We give thanks for the gift of water,  
a symbol of God's forgiveness and new life.

Blessed are you, God, creator of all. By your hand you cause the land to bring forth abundance. Trees root and grow; they flower and bear fruit. Bless this water, which you have provided to nourish the earth and your children. Restore health to those who seek physical healing. Bring reconciliation to those who seek healing from the wounds of broken relationships in our deeply divided world. Bring the assurance of your grace to those seeking a healing word of forgiveness. Grant us faith to trust your mercy in all circumstances. Bring us joy as you use us to be your body in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

I invite you to form a cross on your forehead and the foreheads of those sheltered with you saying: "Receive this cross as a sign of forgiveness and healing in Jesus Christ."

Anointed by God,  
marked with the cross of Christ,  
and sealed by the Holy Spirit:

The blessing of the triune + God rest upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**READING: Isaiah 43:18-19**

**HOMILY (ELW p. 217)**

**SONG OF PRAISE: Jenny Frantz – “Light the Fire”**

**LOMO Director of Congregation Relations and Camp Luther**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Written and offered by the Synod Staff of Northwestern Ohio.*

*(Bishop Daniel Beaudoin - Bishop)*

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

*(Jennifer Prueter – Executive Administrative Assistant to the Bishop)*

For the stewardship of our time and celebrations,

That your name be glorified in all the moments of our lives and that everything we do reflect your glory. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Jacob Henry – Synod Administrator)*

For good order that supports life, for the rhythm of time, the change of seasons, the progression of the ages, the ever growing and ever-changing creation,

That we live out our lives fully and abundantly in ways that care for creation and for one another. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Diane Stultz – Synod Receptionist)*

For all to receive welcome,

That all people may be welcomed with unconditional love to share in the immeasurable love of Christ. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Brent Gnagey – Technology Specialist)*

For new things to take form to help communicate your love,

That people may be drawn to your mercy, to your grace, to your embrace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Caroline Guy – Coordinator of Communications and Technology)*

For connection the binds us to each other,

That the voices of all of God's children may be heard so that the kingdom of God may be a light for the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Cheryl Sondergeld – Coordinator of Programs and Candidacy)*

For strong leadership,

That you continue to guide our pastors, deacons, S.A.Ms, seminarians, and those who are discerning a call to ministry. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Deacon Sherry Krieger – Director of Leadership Development for Congregational Care)*

For our parishes, rostered ministers, and parish leaders,

That they may be comforted with your presence, find peace, strength, and connection with you and each other and be stirred up by your Spirit to dream new dreams and join you in your mission to renew Northwestern Ohio. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Pastor Sarah Schaaf – Director of Community Engagement)*

For the spaces between our parishes and the people that dwell in them,

That Christ would send us out to share your love with our neighbors and your light with all the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Calla Gilson – Lead Coordinator of the Discipleship Initiative)*

For the formation of new disciples,

That as we walk alongside each other we would grow deeper in relationship encouraging each other to become more devoted learners of Jesus.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us with our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

**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.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**BLESSING**

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.**

**SENDING SONG**

**DISMISSAL**

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.** And we will.

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