

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 25, 2025



WELCOME GUESTS!

- **By simply being here, you are a valuable part of our praise, worship, and service.** Thank you for blessing us with your presence! We don't pretend to be perfect, but we believe that God offers us strength, support, inspiration, and joy through one another.
- **If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask anyone.** There's no judgement.
- **We'd love the opportunity to get to know you better.** Please fill out an attendance card from the rack on the chairs in front of you, then place it in the offering plates when they are passed. You may also fill out our guest register at www.hosannatogether.org/guest.

WELCOME KIDS!

We love kids just as God made them, so we don't expect them to be any different here. They are part of our worship, and we have some extra-special ways for them to participate:

- **Children's bulletins** with activities related to today's lessons are located by the front doors to the building where you enter the worship space.
- **Coloring pages, art supplies, fidgets, and selected books** are also available by the front doors to help kids' keep their minds and bodies moving during worship.
- **We hope you'll help your kids join in prayers and songs**, even if it's just dancing or swaying to the music.
- **During the offering, kids may place their gifts in the clear container at the front.** Their gifts are used to help others in our community and the world in a way that's easy to see.
- **Kids take responsibility for offering God's blessing at the end of worship.** Even if they don't know the words, standing there with a smile is all they need to show God's love.
- **Changing stations** are available in both bathrooms on the main level.

WE VALUE NEURODIVERSITY

- **God has made us each differently, so we welcome and value people as they are.** Know that you are welcome among us, even if your brain and body operate a little differently.
- **We have a quiet sensory room off the front hallway.** You are welcome there if you feel overwhelmed or need a break from people. Please respect others needing the same.
- **We have noise-reducing headphones, weighted pads, wobble cushions, and chair fidget bands available in the sensory room.** You are welcome to use these in worship and anywhere else in the building if you'd find them helpful. Feel free to experiment.
- **Learn more about neurodiversity** at www.hosannatogether.org/neurodiversity.

PRAYERS

- **Good and bad things happen.** If you'd like us to pray for you or someone you know, add your request to the sheet on the welcome table in the front hall or call the church office.
- **We care about you**, but we're not always the first to hear what's happening. If there is something significant happening, good or bad, or you'd like Pastor Mike to visit with you, please let us know: 816-781-7991 or pastormike@hosannalutheranchurch.org.

WORSHIP WITH HOSANNA!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We are gathered together in the presence of God--
who is light, who is love, and who is living in us.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove (LBW 475)



1 Come, gra - cious Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, with light and
2 The light of truth to us dis - play and make us
3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing way, nor let us
4 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share full - ness of



com - fort from a - bove. Come, be our guard - ian
know and choose your way; plant ho - ly fear in
from his pas - tures stray; lead us to ho - li -
joy for - ev - er there; lead us to our e -



and our guide; o'er ev - 'ry thought and step pre - side.
ev - 'ry heart, that we from God may ne'er de - part.
ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.
ter - nal rest, to be with God for - ev - er blest.

Text: Simon Browne, 1680–1732, alt.
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters of chaos,
and you watered creation to sustain all living things.
Through the waters of the flood,
you showed your power of renewal,
and through the parting of the sea,
you led your people from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized,
when you united him with us in death, and us with him in life.

**Holy God,
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons.
Shower us each day with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Nourish us, renew us, and give us new life,
through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

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

We greet one another by sharing words and signs of Christ's peace. You are invited to say, "Peace be with you," or something similar. Some people may choose to shake hands, hug, or give a fist bump, but if physical contact would be uncomfortable for you, you are welcome to simply make a peace sign with your fingers.

Whatever the words or gesture, the meaning is the same—a loving prayer and blessing for our neighbors, that no matter what is happening in their lives, they might experience God's peace and wholeness.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL READING

John 14:23-29

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

This is the Good News of our Lord!

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Faithful Women

(ELW 419)



1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in days of old,
We sing of loy - al Lyd - ia who open - ed up her home
We praise the o - ther Ma - ry, who came at Eas - ter dawn
O God, for saints and ser - vants, those named and those un-known,



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.
to Paul and those coming to hear how they such faith could own.
and near the tomb did tar - ry, but found her Lord was gone.
in whom through all the a - ges your light of glo - ry shone,



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.
May we now our wit - ness share, that oth - er hearts be stirred.
As joy - ful - ly she saw him in res - ur - rec - tion light,
we of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing and fer - vent prayer we raise



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro-claimed your pow'r to save.
Let's take cour-age as we dare to dai - ly live God's Word.
may we by faith be - hold him, the day who ends all night.
that, faith - ful in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

Text © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

vs. 3 by Edith Sinclair Downing © 2005, 2009, Wayne Leupold Editions.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends:

Lord of Life,

Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING

*Please fill out an attendance card from the rack on the chairs in front of you.
Place in the offering plate.*

If you give electronically, you may place an e-giving card in the offering plate as a physical gesture of your giving.

You may give online using a bank account, credit card, or debit card at www.hosannatogether.org/give.

You may give by sending a text with your gift amount to 816-327-2002. Instructions will be sent in a reply.

Cash and check gifts may be placed in an envelope from the chairs racks and placed in the offering plates.

Children may place their offerings in the barn at the front of the worship space to support Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri.

LFCS supports babies, toddlers, and their parents who need a little extra support throughout early childhood with home visits, assessments, counseling, and education. They also offer adoption services and youth counseling. Learn more at <https://lfcsmo.org>.

Kids and teens of all ages are welcome to contribute!



OFFERING HYMN

“As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain

Congregation:



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with-in our midst

2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues . . .

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Congregation:

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

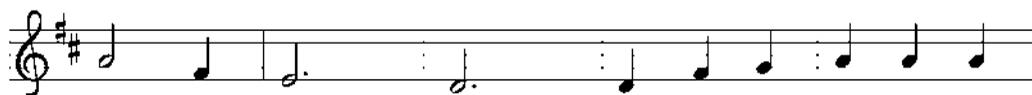
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

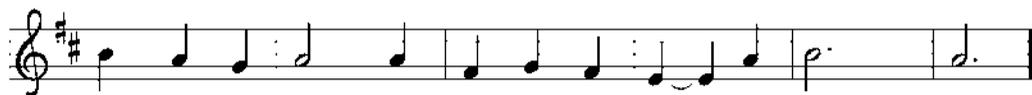
(ELW 815)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness.
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa-tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Be Thou My Vision

(ELW 793)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light,
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.: tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of life, we give you thanks for bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal. Send us from this Holy Communion as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

The kids come forward to offer God's blessing and love to all:

The Lord bless you and keep you, and give you grace and peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Thine the Amen

(ELW 826)



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is risen!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna!

PRAYER CONCERNS

BIRTHDAYS

Tony Belcher, May 25

Don Baken, May 28

Paul Oprinovich, May 31

Emery Hal, May 27

Craig Lantz, May 29

CONCERNS

Angelicka Schmitt - Safe Travel mercies

Patty Pyle (friend of Sarah Read) upcoming knee surgery

Butch Lehman (friend of Mary Kunkel) - emergency health concerns

Charlie Brite (friend of Charlyn Carlson) in rehab after taking a fall

Phyllis Buchholz (Jane Gibbs' sister) - late stage dementia and health concerns

Marion (Angelika Schmitt's sister) healing and recovery from cancer surgery

Craig A Lantz - hospitalized/in rehab since April 3rd, asking for prayers for healing

Cliff Rockhold (Joey Rockhold's father) recovering from back surgery

Adrian & Kristin Hale (Mary & Brad's family) personal struggles

Bobbie (friend of Marjorie Yates) cancer

Bobbi Kral (friend of Bonny Grauerholz) receiving chemo treatments.

Linda Beck (friend of Mary Kunkel) breast cancer

Mary Walters (friend of Mary Kunkel) lung cancer

Robbie Murta's daughter and son-in-law and their surrogate

Frances Jolayemi (Jeanine Stubb's sister) mental health recovery

Capt. Nathan Wilkerson (Marjorie Yates grandson) deployed to Middle East

Capt. Amanda Wilkerson (Nathan's wife) at home with baby Emmett and toddler

Owen

HOSANNA! HAPPENINGS

HOSANNA! GOD SQUAD

Our God Squad will be hosting our first activity get together of the Summer on June 1st, TBD on the time, but we would like to invite all of the recently confirmed youth to come and join God Squad and give us their perspectives on what they think the God Squad should look like for the next few years.

We are also opening this up to any High School students in the area who would like to come and learn about our congregation this summer in anticipation for Rachel Kurtz. More to come!

Please reach out to Sarah Read or Pam Schmidt at hosannatgs@gmail.com for more info.

HOSANNA! GAME DAY

Hosanna! Congregation We are trying to organize a Hosanna! Game Day with either the Royals or Monarchs, but we need your help! In order to get an overall feel for which type of baseball game everyone would rather attend, and which day (s) of the week that your family would be able to attend, please email Sarah Read at sarahfread1980@yahoo.com or call/text 816-294-3819.

We would like to have the data by June 1st, for the choices of games and ticket ordering!

Hello, after church service on June 8, can we have some hands to help remove items out of Pastor Mike's office to begin the process of giving him a refreshed office look while he is on his sabbatical leave. Thank you.

WE NEED A LITTLE HELP, PLEASE!

After service on June 8, we could use some extra hands to help remove items out of Pastor Mike's office to begin the process of giving him a refreshed office look while he is on his sabbatical leave. The more hands we have, the quicker the task will go. Please consider staying a few minutes after church to pitch in. Thank you.

THREE YOUTH CONFIRMED

Genevieve Grote, Allie Heil, and Rosalyn Rockhold were confirmed on Sunday, May 18. We celebrated the faith we share, recognized their maturity, and offered blessing upon these young women. During worship, they shared a little bit about what they believe. Read what they said or listen to them personally share this wisdom at www.hosannatogether.org/confirmation.



CENTRAL STATES SYNOD ASSEMBLY MEETS JUNE 5-7

At our annual meeting, we elected Hosanna! members Joyce Uber and Richard Moore to attend the Central States Synod Assembly in Olathe. The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative authority of our synod (our region of the ELCA) and is charged with electing people to serve as Bishop and Synod Council, voting on a budget for our shared ministry, and on other resolutions that are presented to the assembly. In addition to conducting the business of the synod, voting members and visitors join in worship and presentations designed to support the ministry we do together as a synod. More information, including reports and agenda items, is available online at <https://www.css-elca.org/assembly>.

GATHERED IN WORSHIP

May 18 worship attendance: 126 (110 in person, 16 online)

Please take a moment to fill out an attendance card from the rack on the chairs in front of you, then place it in the offering plates when they are passed.

MILLER FAMILY MOVING

We are sad to have to say goodbye to the Miller family as they move to South Dakota. Please keep Sarah, Clay, McKenna, and Macy in your prayers during this time of transition. If you would like to send a blessing to their new home, you can mail it to: 1190 S Lake Dr. Watertown, SD 57201.



IN AS MUCH MINISTRY

The following items are the most urgent needs for the clients: Canned fruit (Mandarin oranges, pineapple, peaches), Sloppy Joe Sauce, Rice sides, Pasta sides, Cream of mushroom soup, Ketchup, Graham crackers, Dry pasta, Sugar, Canned chicken, Brownie mix. Please place the items in the red wagon by the fellowship doors. Thank you for your continued support.

PRAYER ASSISTANCE FOR A SABBATICAL TIME - A CALL TO PRAYER

Of course, our hope is that all of us in some way practice daily prayer formally and informally, planned and unplanned. There are times when we want opportunities for prayer to be more intentional and to have the assurance that our personal prayers are joined together with those of other people from our community of faith. We'd like to have someone emphasize prayer for Pr. Mike, his family, and our community of faith on every day during the two months of Pastor Mike's sabbatical.

- Today and at any other time during the sabbatical time, sign up to pray on the sabbatical bulletin board in the fellowship hall.
- Place a sticker on the calendar for the days you intend to pray specifically for these items.
- You can select as many dates as you would like.
- You can pray as an individual, a family, or some other group. You do not need to provide your name.
- More than one "You" can select a particular date, but it would be nice to have everyday covered.
- If you'd won't be in the building for a while, you can also call the church office to sign up.

SINGER RACHEL KURTZ WEEKEND IN RESIDENCE - JUNE 21-22

Minneapolis-based singer/songwriter and storyteller Rachel Kurtz will be an artist in residence with Hosanna! for two days this summer. Rachel has been touring and singing for almost 20 years. She speaks frankly about love, God, parenting, and heartbreak. Her infectious laugh is peppered throughout her concerts, and her songs are rife with emotion that can make you get up and dance. Whether she is singing in a bar or church, her voice can cut through the noise and gives the listener a place to rest. Rachel has sung at 6 national youth gatherings and her song "Make a Difference" is sung nationwide on any given Sunday.



- **Parent Connection - Saturday 10:00am-Noon** - Join Rachel for a guided conversation designed for adults exploring the challenges of parenting in today's world. This interactive session also includes simple, DIY massage techniques to help parents ease stress and find moments of calm. Childcare will be provided. The event is free and open to anyone, but RSVP is required at hosannatogether.org/Kurtz.
- **Youth Connection - Saturday 3:30-6:45 pm** - Youth (Grades 6-12) from Liberty-area churches and ELCA congregations are invited to a free special event with Rachel, featuring an engaging mix of art, conversations, and live music. It's a unique opportunity to connect, create, and to be inspired in a welcoming atmosphere for a time of inspiration, fun, and faith-building community! Pizza and games will be shared 5:30-6:45 with youth and families staying for the concert. The event is free and open to youth and sponsors, but RSVP is required at hosannatogether.org/Kurtz.
- **Concert for the Whole Community - Saturday 7:00- 8:30pm** - Rachel performs a full concert featuring her rich vocals and heartfelt lyrics. Blending gospel, blues, and folk influences, her music creates an atmosphere of inspiration and connection. You will enjoy her authentic presence and moving storytelling. Free and open to all. No RSVP required.
- **Worship Together - Sunday at 9:30am** - Rachel will lead our congregation in song and offer God's message during our regular worship service.

Share the invitation to these events by downloading a poster at hosannatogether.org/Kurtz, then give it to someone or post it in the places you work and play.

VBS VOLUNTEERS AND DECORATIONS NEEDED

HOSANNA! is excited to present a FREE 3-day VBS from 5 pm to 8 pm on July 9-11. We will start with dinner and an opening assembly each night. Then, we'll begin our fun as we explore Camp Firelight. We will wrap up our VBS with our worship service on Sunday, July 13th, where we will share with the congregation what we learned, along with some camp songs.

We need several adult volunteers for the following lead positions: Science, Recreation, Music, Dinner, Crafts, and Lessons. All lead positions have a script to follow, and readings/projects/activities will be provided to you. We will also need a teen volunteer for each youth section to be our Camp Counselors to help stay energized and to lead them to their sessions. Many hands make light work, and we'll need all your hands! If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about VBS, please contact Chris Marple at chrismmarple@gmail.com. During our VBS, John Kreidler will lead an adult bible study during each VBS session.

We will also need some camp/outdoor-themed decorations. We could use items such as a kayak, small tents, sleeping bags, lanterns, or anything you can think of that would be fun to bring in for decorations.

Register your campers (ages 5-12) today! Please think about bringing your grandkids, nieces and nephews, neighbors, and anyone looking for a great time this summer! The registration is open now! <https://tinyurl.com/H-VBS-25>

**JOIN THE FUN AT
HOSANNA! LUTHERAN CHURCH
FOR A FREE 3-DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**Camp
Firelight**
A SUMMER CAMP *Psalm 56:3*
ADVENTURE WITH GOD

**KIDS
AGES
5-12**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Games and Experiments
- Arts and Crafts
- Dinner Every Night
- Bible Lessons & Stories
- Fun with Friends
- Kids Grouped by Age
- Adult Bible Study
- Helpful Volunteers
- Music and Dancing

JULY 9-11, 5PM-8PM
EVENING CAMP SESSIONS & ADULT BIBLE STUDY

JULY 13, 9:30AM
WORSHIP & CLOSING CELEBRATION

SCAN QR CODE OR
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

2800 N. CHURCH RD. (ACROSS FROM LIBERTY NORTH HS)
EMAIL VBS@HOSANNALUTHERANCHURCH.ORG FOR MORE INFO

Frequently Asked Questions About Sabbatical...

When is sabbatical?

Pastor Mike will be out of the office and unavailable June 2 through August 3.

Why is Pastor Mike taking sabbatical?

Being a pastor is a 24/7 job--Pastor Mike cares for you even when he's not in the office. He does so willingly and joyfully, but it can be exhausting. 17 years in non-stop ministry (9 years at Hosanna!) can lead to bad habits, loss of focus on the big picture, and a routine that stifles creativity and excitement. Sabbatical is a way for pastors (who don't change jobs or positions often) to be renewed and reenergized for ministry without having to change churches. It also allows pastors to spend time on what they are *passionate* about, not just what we *need*. In the end, the goal is a happier, healthier, more hopeful pastor who will serve us and the wider church for many more years.

What happens to us this summer?

Pastor Mike isn't leaving us high and dry. He is confident in our care for one another and our ability to fulfill God's calling without him. He may lead Hosanna, but the ministry is our work together. We don't plan to just hold down the fort and endure until Pastor Mike gets back. We've made plans for exciting and faith-enriching events and activities, as well as some that will just be fun. Nonetheless, our Sabbatical Committee has made arrangements for other pastors to lead worship and offer us care and support.

Can I contact Pastor Mike?

We ask you to help us give Pastor Mike the space he needs to focus and tend to his own soul and relationships for these few weeks. For this reason, we ask you not to call, text, or e-mail him (he won't be checking e-mail).

Who do I call if I want

pastoral support?

Whether you are facing an acute crisis and would like support ASAP, or you just need someone to talk to sometime, Pastor Jealaine Marple is here for you. She is a member of Hosanna! (along with Chris and EJ), but serves the wider church as an interim pastor. ***Do not hesitate to reach out to Pastor Jealaine at (563) 663-5598 or jealainemarple@gmail.com.*** Seriously.



What if I need ____?

Pastor Jealaine will walk with you through any crisis and conduct any (hopefully non-existent) funerals. Your Hosanna! family is also here for you. They are great supports and conversation partners. ***If you need something and you really don't know who to contact, call the church office at 816-781-7991 and Cathy will help you get connected with the right person.*** If no one answers when you call, leave a message and someone will get back to you. If your question is sabbatical-related, you can also talk with the Sabbatical Committee chair, Beth Schoening.

Who's will lead the church?

Our Congregation Council is very capable, and so is our Administrative Assistant Cathy Baker. They will all have the support of Pastor John Kreidler, another Hosanna! member and retired pastor, prison chaplain, and synod staff member. We also have people in place to do some of the routine jobs Pastor Mike takes care of, including following up with visitors.

Who's leading worship?

The pastors who will lead worship won't just be filling holes. They have been invited because their unique styles, talents, and perspectives are different than Pastor Mike's, giving us a different perspective on God and the church for a little while. We've scheduled some for multiple weeks so that we have some consistency in worship. They include:

- June 8 - Deacon Dave Mareske, director of the Hollis Renewal Center
- June 15 - Bishop Susan Candea, our Central States Synod bishop
- June 22 - Singer/storyteller Rachel Kurtz and Pastor John Kreidler
- Jun 29, July 6, 13 - Pastor Alena Vaughn, resident at Second Baptist Church
- July 20, 27, Aug. 2 - Retired and creative Pastor Paul Hegele, from Lee's Summit

What will Pastor Mike be doing?

Sabbatical isn't an extended vacation. There is a purpose and a plan. Here's an overview:

- Spending quality time with family (who live with frequent late nights and weekend commitments) through intentional activities and a little travel.

- Seeking spiritual direction (like a faith therapist), reading the Bible, and praying (not just for study or sermons).
- Taking online classes about creative and visual storytelling, as well as leadership and delegation.
- Reading and studying topics of interest to Pastor Mike, not just what is needed to accomplish a ministry goal.
- Honing his woodworking skills so that when he is back, he can take better care to relax and renew on an ongoing basis.
- Visiting the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, learning from people with vastly different life experiences.
- Hiking and writing in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Pastor Mike will work to retell several Bible stories in a way that connects with people who are neurodivergent. The stories will be illustrated to create videos that will become freely available online.
- Trying not to do so many things that he comes back tired instead of renewed.

Thank you.

Thank you for the financial support you've given so we can take care of business, schedule special events, and fund Pastor Mike's continuing education with a minimal impact on our operating budget. Unused funds will go toward our 25th anniversary celebration in the fall.

Thank you also for your time, talents, and energy this summer, especially for the Rachel Kurtz event and Vacation Bible School.

Because we'll have guests leading worship, it will be really important for us to have all of the worship volunteer positions filled before Sunday morning.

SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS WEEK AND NEXT

Please consider serving. Sign up through Breeze or on the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall by the kitchen window.

Roles	May 25	Jun 1
Acolyte	Aiden Noel	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Altar Guild	Pam Schmidt	Katharine Fairchild
Audio/Video	Scott Schmidt	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Blesser	Olivia Noel	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
	Easton Noel	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Communion Assistants	Joyce Uber	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Counters	Don Summers	Scott Schmidt
	Karen Orrill	Dan Prom
Crucifer	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Greeters/Ushers	Max Willett	Charlynn Carlson
	Justin Noel	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Lector	Janeen Bollhoefer	Colten Marshall
Fellowship Host	Sue Tonks	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
	Jeanine Stubbs	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>



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Pastor Mike Kern | 402.741.2957 | pastormike@hosannalutheranchurch.org

Dr. Chris Marple, Choral Director | chrismmarple@gmail.com

Andrew Stephens, Accompanist | andrew@hosannalutheranchurch.org

Cathy Baker, Office Administrator | cathy@hosannalutheranchurch.org