

(Please stand)

STATEMENT OF FAITH *Apostles’ Creed*
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

(Please sit)

NYG PARTICIPANT COMMISSIONING *(see insert)*

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P. Together let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us...
C. **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**

BENEDICTION

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ + and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C. **Amen.**

(Please sit)

CLOSING SONG “I’ve Got the Joy” *(stanzas 1-4)*

1. I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart!
I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart.
Down in my heart to stay!

And it’s the greatest, grandest feeling,
And it’s a feeling here to stay!
And it’s a joy that needs revealing,
So I just want to say:

(continued...)

2. I’ve got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart!
I’ve got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
down in my heart,
Down in my heart to stay!

And it’s the greatest, grandest feeling,
And it’s a feeling here to stay!
And it’s a love that needs revealing,
So I just want to say:

3. I’ve got the peace that passes understanding,
down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart!
I’ve got the peace that passes understanding,
down in my heart,
Down in my heart to stay!

And it’s the greatest, grandest feeling,
And it’s a feeling here to stay!
And it’s a peace that needs revealing,
So I just want to say:

4. I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart!
I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart,
Down in my heart to stay!

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!
C. **Thanks be to God!**

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

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CONNECTION SERVICE

July 13, 2025
10:30am

PRELUDE / WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(please fill out Friendship Pads)*

WORSHIP SONG “They’ll Know We Are Christians”
(sts. 1-4)

1. We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

3. We will work with each other, We will work side by side,
We will work with each other, We will work side by side,
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

(Please stand)

4. All praise to the Father, From whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

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INVOCATION

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

C. Amen

CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

P. Almighty God, have mercy on us for Christ’s sake.

C. **Almighty God, I am unworthy of You and Your grace and mercy. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. And I cannot free myself from this condition. Therefore, I take refuge in Your loving-kindness; and I ask for Your forgiveness. We ask for Your forgiveness.**

P. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, and on His behalf, I say to you, “You are forgiven.” In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

(Please sit)

FIRST READING *Leviticus 18:1-5, 19:9-18*

¹ The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, I am the LORD your God. ³You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. ⁴You shall follow my rules and keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the LORD your God. ⁵You shall therefore keep my statutes and my rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the LORD. . . .

⁹“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. ¹⁰And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.

¹¹“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. ¹²You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.

¹³“You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.
(continued...)

¹⁵“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

¹⁷“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”

L. Here ends the first reading.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING *Colossians 1:1-14*

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, ⁶which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf ⁸and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

L. Here ends the second reading.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL READING *Luke 10:25-37*

²⁵Behold, a lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” ²⁷And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” ³⁷He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.

C. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please sit)

TITHES & OFFERING

(While the music is playing, please bring your offerings forward and place them in the plate.)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE SONG “Praise the Lord, the Almighty”

LSB 790, sts. 1-5

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

“GETTING GOD WRONG” *(Text: Acts 7:39-50)*
The Rev. Peter Gueldner