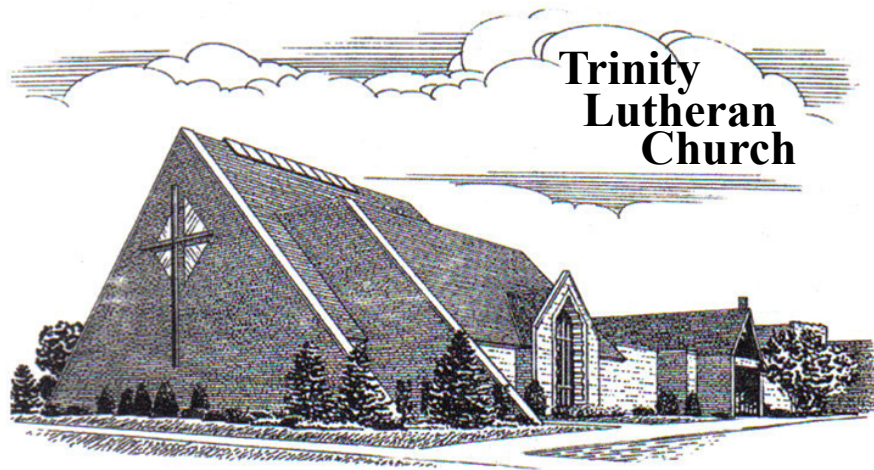


# Proper 5



**June 1-7, 2026**

# Weekly Outline

## **Invocation**

L: In the way of your testimonies I delight.

**C: I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.**

L: O Lord, take away from me all coldness, all wanderings of the thoughts, and fix my soul upon thee and thy love, O merciful Lord and Saviour, in this hour of prayer.

**C: Amen.**

## **Scripture**

**June 1: Hosea 5:15-6:6**

**June 3: Romans 4:13-25**

**June 5: Matthew 9:9-13**

## **Devotion**

### **Closing Prayer**

L: Ever blessed Trinity, to thy mercy I commit this day, my body and soul, together with all my ways and undertakings. I beseech thee to be gracious unto me; enlarge my heart and open my lips, that I may praise and magnify thy name which alone is holy. And as thou hast made me for the praise of thy holy name, grant that I may yield my life a sacrifice to thy honor in humble love and fear.

**C: Amen.**

## **Monday**

It is often the case that pain precedes blessing. We wish that wasn't the case, but it often is. There is often something that must be removed from our lives before we can experience the good things we desire. Think of cancer. The treatment is awful, but without surgery and medicine to remove the cancer, the blessing of health will never come. Think of your spiritual life. All of us are sinners, and unless that sin is removed, we will not receive God's blessing. Not because God refuses to bless us, but because the wages of sin is death.

Hosea writes in our Old Testament lesson, "Come, let us return to the Lord. For he has torn us to pieces, but he will heal us; he has wounded us, but he will bind up our wounds." God is like the surgeon who wounds a patient by cutting out a tumor so that he can bring healing once the tumor is removed. Or even better, God is our true Father, who disciplines us so that we might turn from sin and death to righteousness and life. He tears only to heal. He wounds, but only to restore.

None of us is without sin, which means that all of us require God's discipline if we are to be saved. Hebrews 12:6 says, "The Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." If God allowed us to remain in sin, how could it be said that he loves us? Rather, it is because he loves us that he wounds us. Everyone whom God disciplines, he also restores. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Wednesday

Every human life is composed of two basic relationships. One's relationship with God, and one's relationship with others. Those relationships are very different, and they call for different works.

In our relationship with others, we are called to act. Like the servant with a talent, Christ has entrusted us with various gifts and opportunities—real responsibility. We are to take up what is entrusted to us and act in place of our Lord. But in our relationship with God, God is the one who acts; we are the ones who receive. Consider Abraham. When God promised him a son, Paul reminds us that Abraham was already very old, and so was Sarah. Both were far past the age of childbearing. But the promise given to Abraham did not rest on Abraham's work. It was a promise given by God; God was the one responsible to act. Abraham was responsible for faith. So he trusted God, and God worked, giving him Isaac.

Every life is composed of these two relationships. Toward our neighbor, we are the ones who act, living good and righteous lives, fulfilling the responsibility given to us by Christ. But before God, we are at rest, trusting that forgiveness, life, and salvation belong to us because of Christ. It is his promise. He will work to make it true. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Friday

People tell me that parents aren't supposed to have favorites, which sounds like good advice. When parents pick favorites, they create two classes in the family: those that are loved more and those that are loved less. Ask Jacob how well that turned out when he picked Joseph as his favorite! But I still pick favorites. Throughout the day, each one of my sons is told, "You're my favorite." That way, I can still have favorites but only one class of sons. Each one of them is a full recipient of my love.

God's love in Christ is the thing that holds us together as Christians. Each one of us is received into the Father's family in the same way without distinction. We are equal recipients of God's love. But there is something else that binds us together as well, sin. Just as we are all loved in Christ, we are all sinners outside of him. Keeping that in mind, we can understand Jesus' words to the Pharisees. They are complaining because Jesus is eating with tax collectors, but Jesus tells them, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." Does Jesus mean that he came to save the tax collectors and not the Pharisees? Of course not! There is only one class of people on earth: sinners. Jesus came to save the Pharisees as well. All they needed to do was confess that they too were sinners, and Christ would save them.

Because we all share in sin, we are all people for whom Christ died. Not one person is without sin, and not one person has sinned so greatly that he is beyond salvation. But just as much as our sin holds us together as one class of people, so too does the love of God for us in Christ. Christ came to save sinners, and that includes you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Evening Prayer**

You may pray one or more of the following after dinner or before bed:

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day; and I pray you that you would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.



Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray thee, Lord, my soul to keep; if I should die before I wake, I pray thee, Lord, my soul to take; and this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.



Visit, O Lord, our home, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell in it to preserve us in peace, and may your blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## **A Parent's Blessing**

You may place your hand on the head of your child before kissing them goodnight and say:

My loved one, rest securely,  
for God this night will surely  
from peril guard your head.  
Sweet slumbers may he send you  
and bid his hosts attend you  
and through the night watch o'er your bed. Amen.

# Memory Verse

MEMORY VERSE

**In Christ Jesus  
you are all  
sons of God,  
through  
faith.**

GALATIANS 3:26



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