

*As a community following Christ,  
we **LOVE** with an open heart  
**GROW** with a curious mind  
and **SHARE** with a generous spirit.*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

- ) Please turn off all cell phones.*
- ) If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.*
- ) Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.*
- ) Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.*
- ) Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.*

In the order of service, the words  
that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.  
**Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.**

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY 343

# **COUNCIL at JERUSALEM**

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*Sunday, May 18, 2025 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Stand.*

# GATHERING

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

Intro 4 Chorus

Meet me at the ri - ver\_\_ of love,\_\_\_ meet me at the ri - ver\_\_ to

praise our God a-bove.\_\_\_ Meet me at the ri - ver,\_\_ meet me at the ri - ver,\_\_

Verse 1

meet me at the ri - ver\_\_ of love. We'll be washed in the wa - ter, ev'-ry

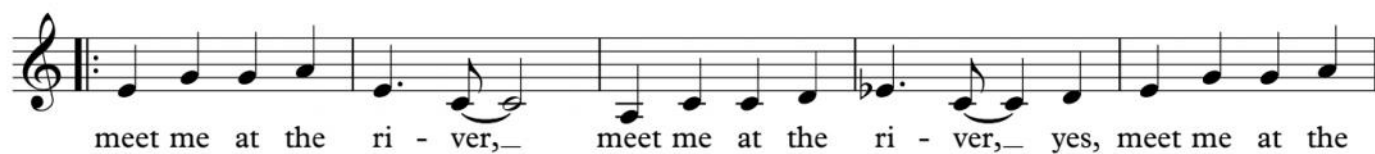
sin-ner, ev'-ry saint. We'll be washed in the wa - ter, so don't you hes-i-tate! We are

washed in the wa - ter, bap tized and set free.\_\_\_ We are washed in the wa - ter, so

to Chorus Verse 2

come and meet me!\_\_\_ All are wel-come at the ri - ver, the

new and the old.\_\_\_ All are wel-come at the ri - ver, the meek and the bold.\_\_\_ All are



## GREETING

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.**

## INVOCATION

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

*Sung by the leader/cantor.*

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

Amen.

# CONFESSION

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

Intro

(hum)

Verse 1/2

Gra - cious God, have mer-cy on us.  
Turn us to you and to your Spi-rit.

We turned from you and we turned to sin. We re - pent, Lord, for-  
We want to live in new life in Je-sus. We re - pent, Lord, for-

give us. We re - pent, for all we have done.  
give us. We re - pent, for-give us\_\_\_\_

1. 2. Lord, A - men.\_\_\_\_

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Christ comes with healing light  
into our locked places and shadowy hurts,  
resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life.

As God's own forgiven people,  
go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

Intro 4 Verse

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of B-flat major (two flats), and 4/4 time. It begins with an 'Intro' section consisting of four measures of a single half note. The 'Verse' section follows, spanning 16 measures across six lines of music. The lyrics are: 'Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, Al-migh-ty God, we praise you. We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your Glo-ry, and Je-sus Christ, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world. Have mer-cy! Je-sus Christ, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, oh Ho-ly one, you are the Lord most high.' The 'Chorus' section follows, spanning 12 measures across three lines of music. The lyrics are: 'You are ho-ly. You are ho-ly You are ho-ly and the Lord most high. With the Spi-rit. With the Spi-rit. With the Spi-rit in the glo-ry of God. A-men! A-men! A-men!' The score uses various musical notations including quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests to create a rhythmic melody.

Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, Al-migh-ty God, we praise you. We  
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your Glo-ry, and  
Je-sus Christ, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, you  
take a-way the sin of the world. Have mer-cy!  
Je-sus Christ, the Son of God, the Lamb of God, oh  
Ho-ly one, you are the Lord most high.

Chorus

You are ho-ly. You are ho-ly You are ho-ly and the Lord most high.  
With the Spi-rit. With the Spi-rit. With the Spi-rit in the glo-ry of God. A-  
men! A-men! A-men!



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord of all,

in Jesus you have made us all  
sisters and brothers in Christ.

There is no distinction  
between Gentile and Jew.

There is no separation that can remove  
any from fellowship in Christ's community.

Blind us to our differences  
so that in unity we may proclaim your truth to all,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ  
in whom there is harmony and peace.

**Amen.**

*Sit.*

# ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

Intro 4 Chorus

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia to the Lord! Al - le - lu - ia!

Verse

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia to the Lord! Lord, to

whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life! To

Chorus

whom shall we go? We go to you, oh Lord! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia to the Lord!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia to the Lord!

## READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

### Acts 15:1-18

<sup>1</sup>Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” <sup>2</sup>And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. <sup>3</sup>So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. <sup>4</sup>When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup>But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, “It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.”

<sup>6</sup>The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup>After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. <sup>8</sup>And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; <sup>9</sup>and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. <sup>10</sup>Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup>On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

<sup>12</sup>The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. <sup>13</sup>After they finished speaking, James replied, “My brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup>Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name.

<sup>15</sup>This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,  
<sup>16</sup>‘After this I will return,  
and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;  
from its ruins I will rebuild it,  
and I will set it up,  
<sup>17</sup>so that all other peoples may seek the Lord —  
even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called.  
Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things  
<sup>18</sup>known from long ago.’”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sit.*

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

*8:15 a.m.*

*Deacon Traci Vatne*

*10:45 a.m.*

*Children’s Choir • Rock Ministry*

## SERMON

Deacon Traci Vatne.

*Stand.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY • "ALL ARE WELCOME"

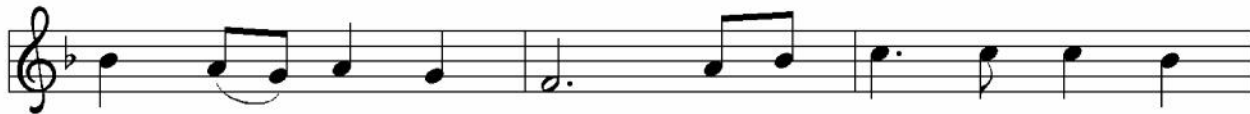
Evangelical Lutheran Church 641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

# **CREED**

Together, let us confess our faith.

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

God of resurrection and new life,  
we come before you in prayer  
for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*At the conclusion of each petition:*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God,  
trusting that you are always with us;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Sit.*

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Offering what we have for the sake of others  
is a discipline of pruning—letting go of our possessions,  
our time, and even ourselves—  
to extend the gospel witness into the world.

Be generous in your ministry of giving.

You need not fear; you abide in the vine.

*You can participate in the Offering electronically  
by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.*



## OFFERING

*MVLC Bell Choir  
“Be Thou My Vision”*

*Stand.*



# OFFERTORY RESPONSE • "PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY"

Worship & Praise 119



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy! Thanks be to you for -  
 2 From of old you loved and sought us! Thanks be to you for -  
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy! Thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: thanks be to you for -  
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us: thanks be to you for -  
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! ev - er! Strong is your faith - ful - ness,



strong is your love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of



life with us. ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

## OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace  
along with these gifts we bring.

Come among us again,  
breathe your life into us,  
and enliven us with this meal,  
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

**Amen.**

# 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.

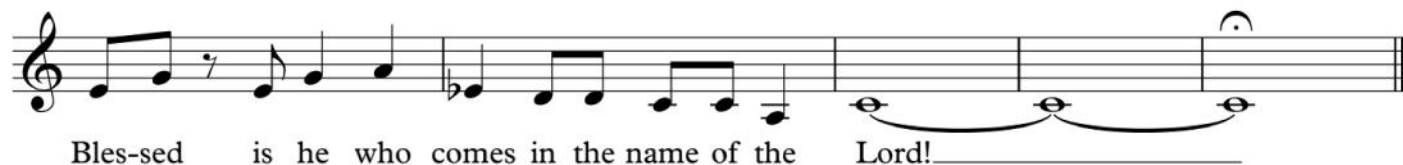
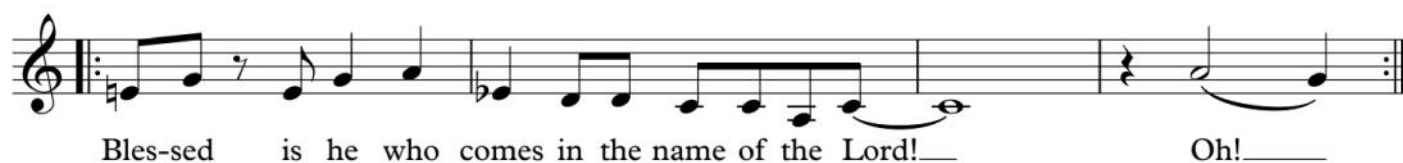
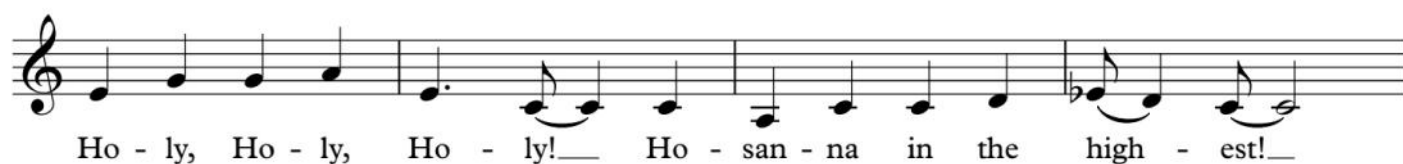
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and joy,  
that we should at all times  
and in all places give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection  
of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself  
to take away our sin,  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter  
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels,  
cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:

# SANCTUS

*Meet Me at the River of Love*



# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

## COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace.  
Receive the gift of new life.

*Sit.*

## DISTRIBUTION

*At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)*

*If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.*

*If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.*

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ.  
It is made ready for those who are loved by God,  
whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often  
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow  
and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

Come, not because the Church invites you;  
it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God

**because the gifts of God are free.**

# LAMB OF GOD

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

Intro Verse

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world. Have

1. 2. 3.

mer-cy on us. Lamb of mer-cy on us. Lamb of\_ mer-cy on us,\_ mer-cy on us,\_

mer-cy and grant us peace. Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

Detailed description: The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, using a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piece begins with an 'Intro' section consisting of a single 3-measure rest. This is followed by the 'Verse', which starts with a repeat sign. The first line of the verse contains the lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world. Have'. The melody features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracketed group of notes). The verse concludes with three distinct endings, numbered 1, 2, and 3. Ending 1 leads back to the start of the verse. Ending 2 includes a triplet and leads to the final line of the score. Ending 3 is a short phrase. The final line of the score contains the lyrics 'mer-cy and grant us peace. Grant us peace. Grant us peace.' and ends with a double bar line.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "BY GRACE WE HAVE BEEN SAVED"

All Creation Sings 1006

*Refrain*



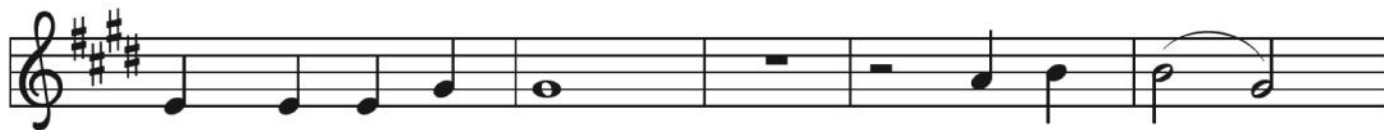
By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the  
2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the  
3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,  
still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,  
nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



young or old, just lis - ten to the song.  
pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.  
there is hope, and love will take you home.

*Refrain*



# COMMUNION HYMN • "THIS IS CHRIST'S BODY"

*All Creation Sings 967*

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in B-flat major (two flats). The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,  
with mer - cy and love.

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. There are melisma lines (horizontal lines with dots) under "love." and "mer - cy" in the treble staff, and under "mer - cy" in the bass staff.

bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

The third system of musical notation, which concludes the hymn. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The system ends with a double bar line in both staves.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "BREAD OF LIFE, HOPE OF THE WORLD"

Gather 590

## Refrain



Bread of life, hope of the world, Je-sus Christ, our broth - er:



feed us now, give us life, lead us to one an - oth - er.

## Verses



- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. As we pro-claim your death,  | as we re - call your life,    |
| 2. The bread we break and share | was scat-tered once as grain: |
| 3. We eat this liv - ing bread, | we drink this sav - ing cup:  |
| 4. Hold us in u - ni - ty,      | in love for all to see;       |
| 5. You are the bread of peace,  | you are the wine of joy,      |



we re-mem-ber your prom - ise	to re - turn a - gain.
just as now it is gath - ered,	make your peo - ple one.
sign of hope in our bro-ken world,	source of last - ing love.
that the world may be - lieve in you,	God of all who live.
bro-ken now for your peo - ple,	poured in end - less love.

*Stand.*

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,  
**in this feast you have made yourself known to us.**  
**Send us now to tell of your wonders,**  
**sing of your glory,**  
**and proclaim your risen life**  
**to a wounded and weary world.**

**Amen.**

## DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to “make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example.” (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Gracious God,

**bless those who go forth to share  
your word and sacrament  
with our sisters and brothers.**

**In your love and care, nourish and strengthen  
those to whom we bring this communion,  
that all may feast upon your abundant love  
made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

*Meet Me at the River of Love*

*Sung by the leader/cantor.*

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
and give you peace.

Amen.

# SENDING HYMN • "HALLELUJAH! WE SING YOUR PRAISES"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 535

*Refrain— sung twice each time*



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -  
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.  
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

*Repeat stanza, then sing refrain*



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

## SENDING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

*Flowers on the altar  
are given to the glory of God  
by Tom and Molly Fairchild  
in celebration of their 35th wedding anniversary.*

## NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

***Join us for a “unified” worship service  
at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 25, 2025.***

# WORSHIP NOTES

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## Worship leaders include:

- J PREACHER: Deacon Traci Vatne.
- J PRESIDER: Deacon Traci Vatne.
- J ASSISTING MINISTER: Karin Weberg.
- J DIRECTOR of MUSIC: Amy Boers.
- J VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- J ALTAR GUILD: Janice Harrison, Diksha Knierim, Sandy Knierim, Karen Lonn.

## 8:15 a.m.

- J USHERS: Corie Adams, Walt Freed, Ken Swanson (head usher), Terry Wolfe.
- J GREETERS: Terry Freed, Julie Williams.
- J ACOLYTES: Penelope Neptun, Grace Seigny.
- J LECTOR: Pat Clement.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Connie McCrossin, Sandi Swanson.
- J SOUND: Henry Peck.

## 10:45 a.m.

- J USHERS: Julie Kibler, Mark Kibler, Diksha Knierim, Erik Knierim (head usher).
- J ACOLYTE: Emilia Olson.
- J GREETER: Marlene Wright.
- J LECTOR: Scott VanderLey.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Terry Jensen, Deborah VanderLey.
- J SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.

## MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA 98372  
www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171

# Register for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

[myvbs.org/mvlcvbs2025](https://myvbs.org/mvlcvbs2025)

**Monday, July 14 through Friday, July 18, 2025**  
**9:00 a.m. to 12 noon each day**

for kids entering kindergarten through those entering sixth grade this fall

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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