

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Service

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Divine Service 3

(LSB – Page 184)

Hymn 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

- 1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling
In the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding
O'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising
Those of earth to thrones on high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit,
You we praise and magnify.

Hymn 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

2 Holy Spirit, ever living
As the Church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving
Through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming
In the Church the mind of Christ;
You we praise with endless worship
For your gifts and fruits unpriced.

Hymn 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

3 Holy Spirit, ever working
Through the Church's ministry;
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,
Setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding
Age to age and soul to soul
In communion never ending,
You we worship and extol.

Confession and Absolution

L In the name of the Father and of the † Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a
true heart and confess our sins unto God our
Father, beseeching Him in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Confession and Absolution

L Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **who made heaven and earth.**

L I said, I will confess my transgressions unto
the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Confession and Absolution

L Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed.

Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins;**

Confession and Absolution

and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins.

Confession and Absolution

To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 125)

L We know that, for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

C **Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore.**

L For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 125)

**C Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and
to those who are upright in their hearts!**

**L But those who turn aside to their crooked ways,
the Lord will lead away with evildoers!**

**C [sung] Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the
beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.**

Kyrie

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis

L **Glory be to God on high:**

C **and on earth peace, good-will toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship
Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to
Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God,
heav'nly King. God the Father Almighty.
Oh Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus
Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of
the Father, that takest away the sin of the
world, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis

**Thou that takest away the sin of world,
receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the
right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou
only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost, Art most high in the
glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

L Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C [sung] **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson – Deuteronomy 7: 6-9

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the Earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set His love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that He swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand

Old Testament Lesson – Deuteronomy 7: 6-9

of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know, therefore, that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps His Covenant and keeps His steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His Commandments, to a thousand generations.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

L Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements and how inscrutable His ways!

C **For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

Epistle Reading – Romans 8: 28-39

And we know that, for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom He predestined, He also called, and those whom He called, He also justified, and those whom He justified, He also glorified. What, then, shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He, who did not spare His own Son but gave

Epistle Reading – Romans 8: 28-39

Him up for us all, how will He not also, with Him, graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that, who was raised– who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be

Epistle Reading – Romans 8: 28-39

slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all Creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia & Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

**L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the
13th chapter.**

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 13: 44-52

Jesus said, “The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then, in his joy, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and

Holy Gospel Luke 13: 44-52

throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all these things?" They said to Jesus, "Yes." And He said to them, "Therefore, every scribe who has been trained for the Kingdom of Heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

**C 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.**

Apostles' Creed

C 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.**

Hymn 651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

- 1 I love Your kingdom, Lord,
The place of Your abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved
With His own precious blood.

Hymn 651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

2 Beyond my highest joy
 I prize its heav'nly ways,
 Its sweet communion, solemn vows,
 Its hymns of love and praise.

Hymn 651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

3 I love Your church, O God,
Your saints in ev'ry land,
Dear as the apple of Your eye
And graven on Your hand.

Hymn 651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

4 For them my tears shall fall;
 For them my prayers ascend;
For them my cares and toils be giv'n
 Till toils and cares shall end.

Hymn 651 I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

5 Sure as Your truth shall last,
 To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield
 And brighter bliss of heav'n.

Sermon

Offertory and Offering

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence,
 and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
 and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Amen.**

The Prayers

- L Lord God, almighty Father, You have called us to be Your Holy people. Thank You for calling each of us into Your family through faith in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Encourage us through Your promise that, on account of the salvation that He won for us, nothing will be able to separate us from Your love.
- C Preserve us so that the difficulties of our lives do not tempt us to withdraw from You, but instead humble us so that we rely ever more on Your mercy.**

The Prayers

L We thank You for all that You have done to show us the abundance of Your mercy and Your grace. You have provided us with all that we need to support this body and life. Even when there are times when natural disasters, and pandemics, and drought, and floods, and economic hardship strike, we know that You have promised to sustain our faith so that these difficult times do not turn us away from You.

C **Lord God, keep us always grateful for the material things that we so often take for granted. Move us to use them and to enjoy them to our benefit, but also to Your glory.**

The Prayers

- L Lord God, we know that there are times when our emotions betray us and we can be filled with many doubts spiritually. Direct us during these times to focus not on ourselves, but on Your loving kindness.
- C **Lord, keep us always grateful for Your spiritual gifts to us. Protect us from being selfish with our compassion and our love, and move us to be kind and gracious to others for the sake of Jesus Christ.**
- L Lord God, move us to manage our time and our money wisely. Make us generous in supporting the leadership of our congregation with our encouragement and gratitude when we see that they

The Prayers

are serving You faithfully. Give us patience and wisdom for those times when the people who serve in Your name need correction, but guide us always to correct them with gentleness and respect and a genuine desire to build them up in Your service and in the ministry that we share.

C Move us to be courageous in helping those who lead us, especially during times when controversial decisions need to be made that might put our congregation under a spotlight. Move us to be strong in our faith and hope for the future

The Prayers

as we give our offerings of time and money to do Your work. Move us to trust that You will continue to provide for us so that we can excel in the grace of giving.

L Lord God, because You have given us all things for the sake of Jesus Christ, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve and obey You.

C: **Lead us to give ourselves to You first as the most important work of the saving faith You won for us. Protect us so that we do not allow a pressure to conform to our society to override our duty to respond Your Word and promises.**

The Prayers

Bless us to witness with actions that Your Will has a priority even over secular authorities. Then, in keeping with Your Will, move us to give ourselves to anyone who is in need of the support that we have the opportunity to offer.

L Bless us to grow in faith and fellowship as Your Kingdom comes and Your Will is done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

C We bring these petitions to You, O Father in the name of Your Son, who taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Blessing

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the
Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us.

C **Amen.**

Hymn 645 Built on the Rock

- 1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;
Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest,
But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

Hymn 645 Built on the Rock

2 Surely in temples made with hands
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands,
All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above
Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.

Hymn 645 Built on the Rock

3 We are God's house of living stones,
Built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.

Hymn 645 Built on the Rock

4 Here stands the font before our eyes,
 Telling how God has received us.
 The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice
 And what His Supper here gives us.
 Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
 Christ yesterday, today, the same,
 And evermore, our Redeemer.

Hymn 645 Built on the Rock

5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
Where Christ His message is bringing:
“I know My own; My own know Me.
You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen.”