



TABLE OF DUTIES GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENS

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church | Seward, NE

July 4, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and personal assisted listening devices are available on request. The service can be heard throughout the building so that you can participate even if you have to take your child out for a while. Restrooms are in the hall between the chapel and fellowship area. If you have any questions please feel free to ask an usher.

CONNECTION CARDS: Visitors or members with changes in contact information, please fill out a connection card online at www.gracesewar.org the member connect tab, or scan this code.



SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

Worship Materials

The order of service and the hymns for today are printed for you in this folder. They are also in "Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal" which is in the hymnal rack on the back of each pew. Watching the theme and passage on the screen may help you prepare for worship.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister
Organist

Pastor Mark A. Haefner
Mr. Quinton Corwin

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A SERVICE EMPHASIZING BIBLICAL TEACHING GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENS

CALL TO WORSHIP (portions of Ps. 33 & 150)

M Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

C **The people he chose for his inheritance.**

M No king is saved by the size of his army,

C **No warrior escapes by his own great strength.**

M But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him,

C **On those whose hope is in his unfailing love.**

M Praise the Lord, Praise God in His sanctuary:

C **Praise Him in His mighty heavens.**

M Praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

C **Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.**

A **Praise the Lord.**

HYMN

Before the Lord We Bow | **618**

1 Before the Lord we bow, The God who reigns above
And rules the world below In boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring; In joy and praise
Our hearts we raise To heav'n's high King.

2 The nation you have blessed May well your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by your care.
For this fair land, For this bright day
Our thanks we pay—Gifts of your hand.

3 May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in your Word's pure light And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise
And join to raise A grateful song!

4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own.
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship him alone.
Cast down your pride! Your sin deplore
And bow before The Crucified!

5 And when in pow'r he comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, And, joyful, sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

M In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

C **Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in your presence, to hear your Word, and to worship you.**

M But who may appear in your presence, heavenly Father, and who may call on you for help?

C **He who has clean hands and a pure heart: he shall receive blessings from the Lord.**

M O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and become worthy of temporal and eternal punishment. But your mercies never end; they are new every day. At your command and promise, therefore, we come to you and confess our sins.

C **O holy and most merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But at your gracious Word I come to you, and for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ I plead: God, have mercy on me a sinner!**

M Having heard your confession, I as a called minister of God's Word assure you that our gracious Father in heaven has heard your prayer, and by the command of the Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you. Amen.

HYMN

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow | 334

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations on the earth. Help us elect trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve you faithfully in our generation to the honor of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Word

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 7:1-10, 17-18, 26-27

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon,^b Daniel had a dream. When he was on his bed, he saw visions in his head. Then he wrote down the dream by recording the main points.

²Daniel said:

During my visions at night, I was watching and saw the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. ³Four large beasts were coming out of the sea, each one different from the others.

⁴The first was like a lion. It had wings like an eagle. I kept watching until its wings were plucked off. Then it was lifted up from the earth so that it stood on its feet like a man, and a man's mind was given to it.

⁵Then another appeared, a second beast that looked like a bear. It was raised up on one side. Three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth. This is what was being said to it: "Arise, devour much flesh."

⁶After this, I kept watching and another beast appeared which was like a leopard. It had four bird wings on its back. The beast had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

⁷After this, I kept watching the night visions, and another beast appeared. The fourth beast was frightening and terrifying and very strong. It had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed. With its feet it trampled whatever was left. Now it was different from all the beasts that came before it. It had ten horns.

⁸I was thinking about the horns when suddenly another horn, a little one, came up among them. Three of the horns that had already been there were uprooted to make

^b About 553 BC, after Daniel had been in exile more than 50 years

room for it. I noticed eyes like human eyes on that horn, and it had a mouth which was speaking boastfully.

⁹I continued to watch until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of Days was seated. His clothing was white as snow, and the hair on his head was like pure wool. His throne was flames of fire. Its wheels were blazing fire. ¹⁰A river of fire flowed out from his presence. Thousands upon thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and books were opened.

¹⁷"These great beasts are four kings who will arise from the earth. ¹⁸But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom, and they will possess the kingdom forever—yes, forever and ever."

²⁶Then the court will be seated, and the horn's dominion will be taken away in order to destroy it and wipe it out forever. ²⁷But the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under all the heavens will be given to the people, to the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an eternal kingdom, and all dominions will worship and obey him. (EHV)

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 146

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

Psalms tone



Praise the LORD, Q my soul.*
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,*
in mortal men, who cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the LORD his God,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

Refrain

The LORD gives food to the hungry,*
the LORD sets prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight to the blind,*
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.

The LORD watches over the outcast*
and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

The LORD remains faithful forever.*
He upholds the cause of the oppressed.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:9-17

You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, the people who are God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰At one time you were not a people, but now you are the people of God. At one time you were not shown mercy, but now you have been shown mercy.

¹¹Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and temporary residents in the world, to abstain from the desires of the sinful flesh, which war against your soul. ¹²Live an honorable life among the Gentiles so that even though they slander you as evildoers, when they observe your noble deeds, they may glorify God on the day he visits us.

¹³Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the king as the supreme authority ¹⁴or to governors as those who have been sent by him to punish those who do what is wrong and to praise those who do what is right. ¹⁵For this is God's will: that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good. ¹⁶Do this as free people, and do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but use it as servants of God. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood.^a Fear God. Honor the king.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. Alleluia.

^a Or family of believers



GOSPEL

Luke 20:20-26

please stand, if able

[M] The Gospel according to Luke chapter 20.



²⁰They watched him carefully and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, so that they could trap Jesus in something he said, and then deliver him up to the power and authority of the governor. ²¹They questioned him, "Teacher, we know that you say and teach what is right and show no partiality to anyone, but you teach the way of God on the basis of the truth. ²²Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

²³But he was aware of their deceit and said to them, ²⁴"Show me a denarius.^b Whose image and inscription are on it?" "Caesar's," they answered.

²⁵He said to them, "Then give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

²⁶They were not able to trap him in what he said in the presence of the people. They were amazed at his answer and became silent.

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.



be seated

^b A *denarius* was worth about one day's wage.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored | 617

1 Christ, by heav'nly hosts adored, Gracious, mighty, sov'reign Lord,
God of nations, King of kings, Head of all created things,
By the Church with joy confessed, God o'er all, forever blest—
Pleading, at your throne we stand: Save your people, bless our land.

2 On our fields of grass and grain Send, O Lord, the kindly rain;
O'er our wide and goodly land Crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be O'er our commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand; Bless your people, bless our land.

3 Give us rulers who will be Known for love and honesty;
Let the pow'rs that you ordained Be in righteousness maintained.
In the people's hearts increase Love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand One wide, free, and happy land.

SERMON

Romans 13:1-8

Everyone must submit to the governing authorities. For no authority exists except by God, and the authorities that do exist have been established by God. ²Therefore the one who rebels against the authority is opposing God's institution, and those who oppose will bring judgment on themselves.

³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to evil. Would you like to have no fear of the one in authority? Do what is good, and you will receive praise from him, ⁴because he is God's servant for your benefit. But if you do wrong, be afraid, because he does not carry the sword without reason. He is God's servant, a punisher to bring wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore it is necessary to submit, not only because of wrath, but also because of conscience.

⁶For this reason you also pay taxes, because the authorities are God's ministers, who are employed to do this very thing. ⁷Pay what you owe to all of them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, and honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Do not owe anyone anything except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments—do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal,^a do not covet^b (and if there is any other commandment)—are

^a Some witnesses to the text add *do not give false testimony*.

^b Exodus 20:13–15, 17; Deuteronomy 5:17–19, 21

summed up in this statement: "Love your neighbor as yourself."^c ¹⁰Love does no harm to a neighbor, so love is the fulfillment of the law.

please stand, if able

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

OFFERING- *We present our gifts to the Lord.*

Offerings may be placed in the plate in the entry. The offerings in the plate will be presented to the Lord at this time. You may place offerings in the plate at any time, or you may give online.

1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV) On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.

^c Leviticus 19:18

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

We offer our thanksgiving to God for all his goodness, mindful that every good and perfect gift comes from above. The hymn verses interspersed throughout this prayer come from CWS 785, “O Lord of Nations”. The author writes the following: “This hymn was written for Thanksgiving 2001, the first Thanksgiving after the terrifying events of September 11th...God had not forsaken us, and we couldn’t help but thank him for what we still held on to. That’s what this hymn is about. We thank him for a land that is lush and beautiful and that affords all that we need (st. 1-2) and for the freedom we have to worship (st. 3). We ask God to forgive us for taking gifts for granted (st. 4), to give our leaders wisdom and strength (st. 5), and to protect our land that it may continue in peace (st. 6). Finally, we look forward to the day when we will join a new glorious nation from every tribe and land, and with the Lord of the nations we’ll make our home. (st 7)

(Sung to the tune of CW 458)

[M] Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

[C] (♫) O Lord of nations, hear our prayer.
***We thank you for this land most fair,
Created by your might.
For mountain sunset, lake at dawn,
For woodland bloom and robin song,
For stars that lace the night,

For farms and fields of golden grain,
For science and for medicine,
For wealth beyond compare,
For leisure time and work to do.
Lord, all these blessings come from you
Signs of your loving care.***

[M] We thank you for the many blessings we receive as members of this nation. Help us to never take for granted the freedom that we have to worship you in truth, and to proclaim your name to the world without fear of persecution. Receive our thanks and bless our ministry, to your glory!

**[C] (♫) Most grateful, gracious God, are we
That in this country we are free
To worship you above.**

***We gather here to speak your name,
Then leave this place to spread your fame
That all may know your love.***

[M] Dear Lord, you are the giver of every good and perfect gift. Forgive us for taking our daily bread for granted. Lead us to seek the needs of others, and through our words and actions let your love shine forth, that many more may know your love for us in Christ Jesus.

[C] (♪) ***Forgive us, Lord, when we forget
Your gifts to share, your Word to spread
To those who ache and bleed.
Renew our will to help the weak,
To feed the hungry, and to speak
Your Word to souls in need.***

[M] Lord God, ruler of all, you command us to pray for our leaders and others in authority. Bless our president, the members of Congress, and all officials who serve on our behalf. Give them the gifts required for leadership and wisdom to carry out their tasks. Teach us to honor our civil authorities as your representatives.

[C] (♪) ***And for the leaders you ordained
We pray, O Lord, that they remain
Courageous, honest, wise.
Oh, give them guidance, make them strong
To stand for right, to battle wrong,
That freedom's song may rise.***

[M] You have taught us to pray, "Deliver us from evil." Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare us from disease and terrorism. If you do allow evil into our lives, help us accept it with trusting hearts and a renewed confidence in your goodness.

[C] (♪) ***When storm and terror strike our land,
Remove our fear and help us stand
Against our enemies.
Lord, may no wicked men prevail.
May ev'ry plot of treach'ry fail.
May we remain at peace.***

M Finally, dear Lord, may our love and thankfulness for our nation never overshadow the fact that our citizenship is in heaven, as we eagerly await our Lord Jesus' return. Strengthen and keep us, O Lord, until you bring us safely home to heaven.

C (♪) ***And when at last all nations fall
And you return as Lord of all
To make the earth anew,
Then may we join that shining band
Of saints from ev'ry tribe and land
And make our home with you.***

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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.**

HYMN: O Beautiful are Jesus' Eyes (Tune: America the Beautiful, "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies")

1 O beautiful are Jesus' eyes
That watch o'er all he reigns,
From purple mountain majesties
Through all the fruited plains!
To God be praise! To God be praise!
He shed his grace on thee,

And saved thy life from sin and strife
For all eternity.

2 O beautiful to see the cross,
The price our Savior paid.
For all my righteous acts were loss;
On him my sins were laid.
To God be praise! To God be praise!
He shed his grace on thee;
And now he lives, salvation gives
For all eternity.

3 O beautiful the robe we wear
Washed clean in Jesus' blood.
Freed from our sins, with all we share
The saving Word of God.
To God be praise! To God be praise!
He shed his grace on thee!
His glory sing, let freedom ring
For all eternity!

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- [M]** Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

- [M]** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

God Bless Our Native Land | 619

1 God bless our native land!
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night!
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do thou our country save
By thy great might.

2 For her our prayers shall rise
To God above the skies;
On him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To thee aloud we cry,
God save the state!



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: 8:00 AM Bible Class, 8:45 AM Worship

Sunday: 8:00 AM Bible Class, 8:45 AM Worship with Communion

Pastor and Jane will be on vacation visiting family July 9 through July 18. If you need pastoral care during that time you may call Pastor Stellick from Rising City at [\(402\) 542-2526](tel:4025422526) or 920-306-0826.

July 25th is the date for our Quarterly Voters and Ladies meetings. We will meet for a joint devotion at 4 PM in the fellowship hall.

July 31 NELHS Tee It Up for Tuition Golf Outing at Crooked Creek Golf Club in Lincoln. Sign up to golf, gather a team, sponsor a hole, just attend the meal. See Pastor Haefner for forms or call Vickie at 402-728-5236, vhimmelberg@nelhs.org.

In Our Prayers:



Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranSeward



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

Given to the Lord: Attendance: Worship 47, Facebook Live 3, Clicks , Podcast and YouTube . Bible Class 10. Offerings: For Home 1,515.00, WELS 85.12, NELHS 444.93, Trinity 500.00, New Beginnings 50.00. **To God be the glory!**

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