

Third Sunday after Pentecost



Mark 4: 26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

June 13, 2021

9:30 a.m.

HOLY NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Hope, Minnesota

www.holynativity.net



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to WORSHIP at Holy Nativity!

Holy Nativity Lutheran Church ~ 3900 Winnetka Avenue North ~ New Hope, MN 55427
Phone 763-545-1647 www.holynativity.net Email: office@holynativity.net

Our Mission & Ministry: "Grounded in Christ's love, Holy Nativity Lutheran Church is a welcoming community dedicated to helping all know God's love through worship, service, and fellowship."

Join us for Sunday worship at 9:30am
on Facebook "LIVE"
at [facebook.com/holynativitynewhope!](https://facebook.com/holynativitynewhope)
And sign up for limited in-person slots at
[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b48afad2ca3f49-inperson.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b48afad2ca3f49-inperson)

Staff Members:

Rev. Jason Wahlstrom, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ashley Updegraff, Associate Pastor
Iver Hubert, Director of Music & Worship
Lisa Baker, Organist & Communications Coordinator
Kristen Chamberlain, Sunday School Director
Linda Lien, Congregational Care Coordinator & Funeral Coordinator
Wendy Grimes, Youth Ministry Associate
Tom Wiblishauser,
Custodial Care & Activity Set-Up
Kara Holt, Financial Coordinator
Amy Laite, Sunday Nursery Coordinator
Tawn Hanson, Wedding Coordinator
Brittany Anderson, Director of Week-Day
Childcare Center (hncccc.org)

Worship "Stream Team"

Mark Chamberlain
Andrew Kubly
Chris Daniels
Greg Eklund
Brian Hanson
Mark Eggert

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

*Quote: "What is the kingdom of God like? Are you sure you want to know?
Okay, brace yourself: the kingdom of God is like a sleeping gardener, mysterious soil,
an invasive weed, and a nuisance flock of birds." – Debie Thomas*

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

This is a time to quietly listen, pause to pray, and reflect on why we are here.

GATHERING MUSIC

"Come, Ye Disconsolate"

arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS (P-Pastor, C-Congregation)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

(silence is kept for reflection)

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

WE PRAISE GOD

GATHERING HYMN

"We Walk By Faith"

Hymnal #635



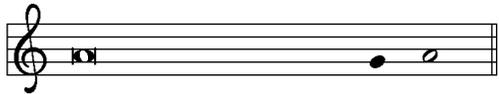
1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



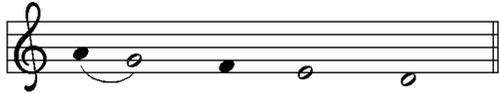
gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



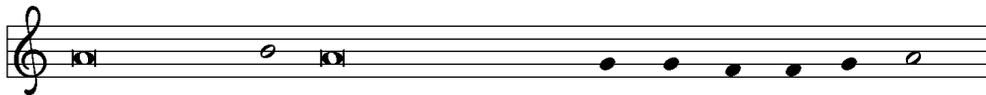
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together:

(unison) **O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GOD'S WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Words... **Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

2nd Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Words... **Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL VERSE

"Alleluia "

Hymnal Pg. 151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 4:26-34

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Mark... Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

*Pastor: The gospel of the Lord... Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.***SERMON***"Intentional Tending"*

Rev. Ashley Updegraff

MOMENT TO REFLECT (*We pause in silence.*)**WE RESPOND****APOSTLES' CREED**

Hymnal Pg. 105

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING/CHILDREN'S TIME

(You are invited to mail or drop off your offering, or donate online – go to our website at holynativity.net and click on "Make Donation." Thank you!)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(After each prayer petition... P: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)

LORD'S PRAYER (unison) **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 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**

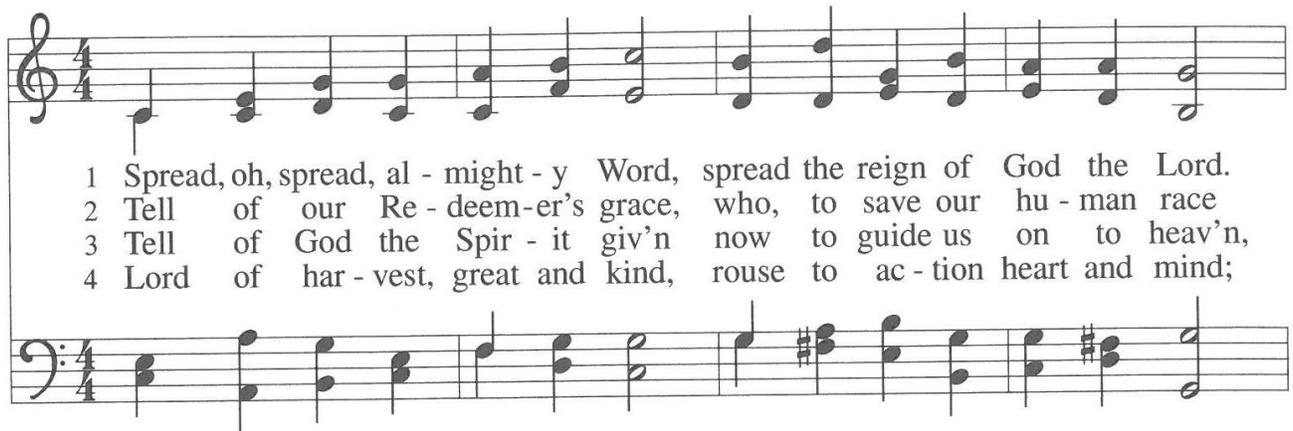
BENEDICTION

P: Now may the light of God surround us, the love of God enfold us, and the presence of God watch over and protect us. For wherever we are, our God is also there. We close as we began, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. C: **Amen**

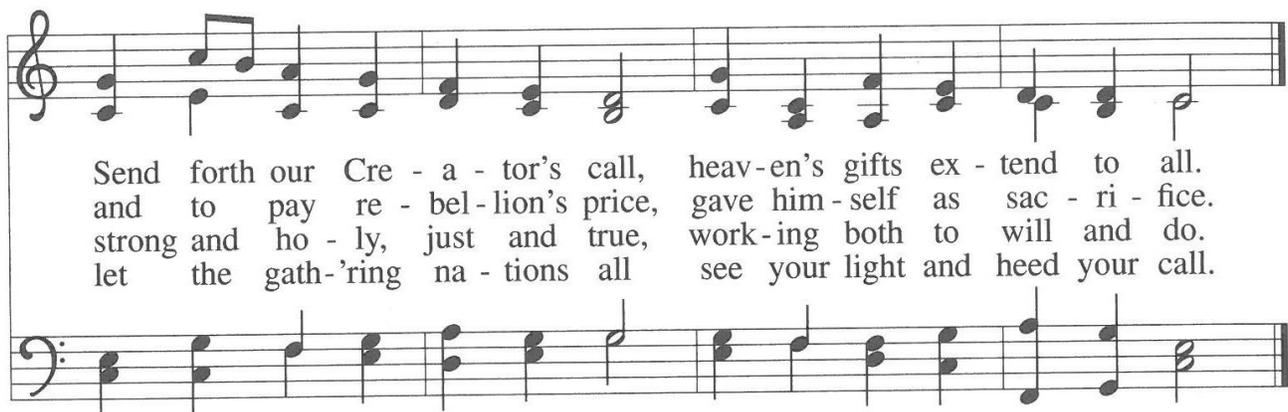
MISSION HYMN

"Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word"

Hymnal #663



1 Spread, oh, spread, al - might - y Word, spread the reign of God the Lord.
2 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, who, to save our hu - man race
3 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n,
4 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Send forth our Cre - a - tor's call, heav - en's gifts ex - tend to all.
and to pay re - bel - lion's price, gave him - self as sac - ri - fice.
strong and ho - ly, just and true, work - ing both to will and do.
let the gath - 'ring na - tions all see your light and heed your call.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING MUSIC

"Fugue in C"

G.F. Handel

Flowers by the altar are given by Curt & Carol Johnson in memory of Carol's dad Bob Aske.

WEEKLY INFORMATION

<p>Sunday, June 13th Third Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship (in-person and online) 1:00pm Word of Life Worship</p> <p>6:00pm Word of Life Youth</p>	<p>Thursday, June 17th Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 9:00am Quilters 9:00am Grounds Group 12:00pm – 6:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved 7:00pm Word of Life Worship</p>
<p>Monday, June 14th 8:00am – 6:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm</p>	<p>Friday, June 18th Office Hours 9:00am – 1:00pm 12:00pm – 6:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved 7:00pm Word of Life Choir</p>
<p>Tuesday, June 15th Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm – 6:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved 2:30pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Council 7:00pm Treble Tones</p>	<p>Saturday, June 19th</p>
<p>Wednesday, June 16th Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm 8:00am – 6:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved 11:15am HNCCCC Chapel</p>	<p>Sunday, June 20th Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Worship (in-person and online) 1:00pm Word of Life Worship 6:00pm Word of Life Youth</p>
<p>PRISM is accepting donations Monday to Friday from 10:00am – 4:00pm. June's Mission Offering is designated to Pine Ridge.</p>	

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS...

Introducing the Holy Nativity Grounds Upkeep Team! We meet at the church every Thursday morning from 9:00-10:00am June through August to beautify our church grounds. Whether pulling weeds, raking leaves, collecting branches or trimming bushes, working Together Everyone Achieves More. If you are available and interested in fresh air, exercise and working with your fellow church members, you are encouraged to attend. Any questions, contact Tom Wiblishauser at 763-656-8850.

Holy Nativity Flocking Frenzy! This popular youth fundraiser is back! Support youth summer trips to the boundary waters & Camp Wapo! Should you wake up one morning in a sea of pink flamingos on your lawn, our own highly trained Holy Nativity Youth professionals will remove them...for a small service fee, of course! Protection is possible! If you want to protect your home from this ornithological rarity, feel free to purchase flocking insurance for only \$30 to guarantee that the flock doesn't make a stop at your yard. Feeling fiesty? You can spread some flocking fun and help set the migration pattern for these birds. For just \$25 you can sign up to FLOCK-A-FRIEND! Sign up to Flock-a-Friend or to purchase flocking insurance online via [this GoogleForm](#).

The Results are In! The Outreach Committee is thrilled to announce that we exceeded our goal for Honduras: With your outpouring of generosity, along with the matched donation, we raised enough money for 281 water filtration kits for Yoro, Honduras! We're also sending the following items:

1. Six soft-sided suitcases with wheels: two large ones and four carry-on size, along with two other smaller carry-on bags.
2. Bags and bags of diapers – at least one for each filtration kit.
3. One laptop to leave with a school for their students to use.

We sent notes of appreciation to all donors who we knew of, but for those of you who donated cash, a big “THANK YOU” to you, also. A special debt of gratitude goes to **Kara Holt**, who kept track of all the donations (cash, check, and online) and provided us with weekly updates along with addresses to send those notes. She did this work in addition to the weekly offering tallies she does for the church.

Three women from Not for Sale are travelling to Yoro the last week of July. When they return – with photos and stories – we'll have a celebratory gathering in late-August. Please watch the bulletin for that announcement, as all will be welcome to attend. We feel honored and blessed to belong to such a caring, generous congregation. The members of the Outreach Committee.

Coffee and Conversation with Pastor Ashley continues! It takes place in the church parking lot or inside if the weather is rainy or too hot. Bring your own chair, and your own coffee or beverage of choice! No sign-up required. We will meet on the following Mondays from 3:00pm – 4:30pm: June 28, July 19, August 2, and August 23.

Women, Save the Date! The 2021 Women's Summer Book Study will meet on Wednesday, August 18, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. We'll be reading “A Children's Bible,” by Lydia Millet. This dystopian novel will lead us into lively conversation around biblical themes, all while exploring climate change and other issues of our day that threaten to unravel us. You can order it on Amazon here: https://www.amazon.com/Childrens-Bible-Novel-Lydia-Millet/dp/0393867382/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=.

We need musicians for Sunday special music this summer! If you would you be willing to share your music, either by singing or playing an instrument, as a soloist or in a small ensemble, please sign up [online here](#). Please contact Iver at ivercrest@gmail.com with questions.

Drivers are needed to bring some members to church and back home on Sundays. Can you help? Let us know in the office. Thanks!

The quilting group started up again and continues through the summer. They meet every Thursday from 9:00-noon in the Fellowship Hall. No sewing skills required...and they serve treats!!

Thank you for your continued financial support! If you are worshiping with us at home, there are still many ways you can financially support Holy Nativity!

1. **Mail your offering** (you may use your offering envelopes or mail checks to us at Holy Nativity, 3900 Winnetka Avenue N, New Hope, MN 55427).
2. **Give online** via [our link](#). Or just go to our website at holynativity.net and click on “Make Donation.”
3. **Ask the office to send you a Simply Giving form** for automatic withdrawals.

*Cantor: Kari Johnson
Scripture Reader: Nancy Hanson*

*People & needs to keep in your prayers this week:
Michelle Hanson*

*If you have a prayer request or update, or wish to be added to our prayer group,
please contact the church office at 763-545-1647 or office@holynativity.net.*