



# Voices Not Always Heard: Immigrant Voices

*(Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)*

**July 27, 2025**

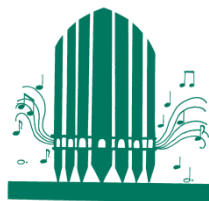
**9:30 AM**

*(You are welcome to share a prayer request to be used in worship today.  
Prayer Cards will be collected during the Sermon Song.)*

## **GATHERING**

*(A time of silence to let go of daily worries and refocus on worshipping God)*

**PRELUDE** *(and lighting of the altar candles)*



## **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Matthew 11:28-30)*

Leader: People of God—

**All: come and worship!**

Leader: Even if you're tired and worn out—

**All: come and worship!**

Leader: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—

**All: come and worship!**

Leader: Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—

**All: come and worship!**

Leader: See if you can discover how Jesus wants to use you—

**All: come and worship!**

Leader: For Jesus is humble and gentle,

**All: and he will give us everything we need to follow him.**

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT PRAYER**

Leader: Lord God,

O Loving Creator, we acknowledge this traditional home of the Duwamish and Muckleshoot peoples on which we live and worship today. We give thanks for their stewardship of this land over centuries. We ask for your guidance in our efforts to care for this place, and to honor the First Peoples' legacy with humility, respect and responsibility.

**Response: Amen**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: Let us pray.

God of love and compassion: may we always recognize your spirit:

- in the refugee family, seeking safety from violence;
- in the migrant worker, bringing food to our tables;
- in the asylum-seekers, seeking justice for their families;
- in the unaccompanied child, traveling in a dangerous world.

**All: Give us hearts that break open whenever our brothers and sisters turn to us.**

**Give us hearts that no longer turn deaf to their voices in times of need;**

**Give us eyes to recognize a moment for grace instead of a threat.**

**Give us voices that fail to remain silent but which decide instead to advocate prophetically.**

**Give us hands that reach out in welcome, but also in work, for a world of justice  
until all homelands are safe and secure.**

**Bless us, O Lord...**

**Amen.**

Musical notation (treble and bass clefs) with lyrics:  
1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

Musical notation (treble and bass clefs) with lyrics:  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

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come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;

Musical notation (treble and bass clefs) with lyrics:  
come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
come now and wor - ship the Lord.

Text: Alexander Gondo; tr. I-to Loh, b. 1936, alt.  
Music: UYAIMOSE, Alexander Gondo  
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## CONFESSION

Leader: Whenever self obscures the needs of others,

**All: forgive us.**

Leader: Whenever we forget who is our neighbor,

**All: forgive us.**

Leader: Whenever we pass by on the other side,

**All: forgive us.**

Leader: Whenever we forget to say 'Well done!

**All: forgive us.**

Leader: Whenever we forget to simply give thanks,

**All: forgive us.**

Leader: Whenever we forget the path that we tread,

**All: forgive us.**

Leader: For all those times we bring a tear to your eye,  
bring us back into your forgiving arms  
and teach us once again, your way.

**Response: Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: We are forgetful people of God.

But, we are forgiven even before our confession reaches your holy ears.

The Holy Spirit is always here to guide us and  
remind us that all people are God's children.

**Response: Amen.**







1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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**DECLARATION OF FAITH** (*inspired by Mark 1:14-20, Matthew 4:18-22*)

Leader: We declare our faith:

**All: I believe in an innovative God,  
 who does not wait for us to find ourselves  
 but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God’s crucial initiative,  
 that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power  
 to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,  
 calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty  
 and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**All:** I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,  
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations  
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.

**Because Christ has called me  
in this I truly believe.  
Amen.**

## **COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**Leader:** In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray  
for the needs of the world.

*(silence for reflection)*

Merciful God,

Give us hearts that no longer turn deaf to the voices of immigrants in times of need. Help  
us now to open our arms in welcome, and reach out our hands in support – that the  
desperate may find new hope, and lives torn apart be restored.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Benevolent God, create in your church a desire to comprehend your love and compassion  
that it may lead to being in stronger union with you. Make all your faithful people powerful  
in weakness and strong in grace. Let this be reflected in our teaching, our praying, our  
healing, and our doing.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Life-giving God, reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your  
Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where  
there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living  
thing.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Generous God, teach rulers of the earth to sing the praises of your ways, caring for the  
lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Open the heart of every person to the  
cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those  
seeking freedom, and those in search of community.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** Gracious God, anoint all who suffer in any way – in body, mind, or spirit – with the oil of  
healing and grant them renewal. Hold them in your loving arms and give them the needed  
strength and courage to cope with their difficulties. Guide and sustain those who are  
tending to their needs, and give support and comfort to their families and friends through  
these trying times.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

Leader: Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries, and community partnerships. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

Leader: Eternal God, we give thanks for all who have gone before us, who opened our ears to your voice, and made your steadfast love known to us. Confident in the promise of the resurrection, we wait with anticipation and certainty that we will be reunited with them again at your heavenly banquet. Until that time, comfort those who are mourning the physical loss of their loved ones, including the family and friends of .... Be with them as they struggle to find a path through their grief back to joy.

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

Leader: Listen now to the prayers of your people, spoken aloud or silently...

*(pause for personal prayers)*

*(special congregational prayers are lifted up)*



*A more complete list of all whom the congregation is praying for this week is in the announcement insert in your bulletin.*

God of grace,

**Response: hear our prayer.**

Leader: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayers and hopes in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Response: Amen.**

## MEAL



**(Note: Receptacles for your offerings are available on stools at the front on either side of the center aisle as you come forward for communion)**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Our offering prayer:  
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

**All: Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:  
our selves, our time, and our possessions.  
Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,  
through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: We join in the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

**All: Our [Father | Mother | Heavenly Parent | Creator] 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.**



## ABOUT COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. Please wait in your pew until the usher indicates that it is your turn, then come forward using the center aisle. You may choose either the rail side or the side where there is no rail. If you and/or your children are not comfortable participating in the Rite of Communion, **know that all are still welcome to come forward for a blessing – just let the presider know your preference when you and/or your children are in front of the first Chancel step.** When you are at the front, please fill in a vacant spot. **If you would like a gluten free alternative to the bread, or if you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please indicate that to the presider.** After you have communed, please discard the empty cup to be recycled in the trash can by the side wall before returning to your seat.

## COMMUNION INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Leader: The kingdom of God is set before you.  
Eat and rejoice.



## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

ELW 535

*Refrain— sung twice each time*

Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your  
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness. *End*

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.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*

English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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*(when all in the sanctuary have been fed)*

Pastor: Those joining us online – pick up your bread and hear these words:

*This is the body of Christ given for you.*

Eat and receive saying, "**Amen.**"

Lift up your cup of wine or juice and hear these words:

*This is the blood of Christ shed for you.*

Drink and receive saying, "**Amen.**"

## COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Response: **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

Leader: May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy,  
Go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness.

May the Son who teaches us to care for strangers and foreigners,  
Go with us as we try to be good neighbors in our communities.

May the Spirit who breaks down our barriers and celebrates community,  
Go with us as we find the courage to create a place of welcome for all.

Response: **Amen.**





May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,  
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.  
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,  
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.  
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our  
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,  
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Text: Alvin Schutmaat, 1921–1988, alt.

Music: ARGENTINA, Argentine folk melody

## WE GO

Pastor: Let us go now, to follow Jesus, to serve our neighbor,  
to stand with the oppressed, to proclaim and live God's grace,  
and to share God's peace with one another and our world!

Response: **Thanks be to God!**

*(As we pass the peace, **ALL** people have the right to choose if they would like a verbal greeting, a handshake, or a hug.)*

## POSTLUDE









## ***KENT LUTHERAN CHURCH***

*lives and celebrates the accepting love of Christ*

### **CORE VALUES**

We affirm the following values:

- \* We value the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus;
- \* We value God's love as a gift to be shared with everyone;
- \* We value everyone as a child of God, and invite all to be embraced by God;
- \* We value providing a loving, caring environment supporting spiritual needs;
- \* We value that all people are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God and community.
- \* We value the participation of people of all ages, ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, educational background, different abilities, and economic conditions.

### **OUR VISION**

**Kent Lutheran Church**, a Christ-centered, sacred place  
for spiritual, cultural, and community enrichment.

**Kent Lutheran Church** is an **RIC (Reconciling in Christ)** congregation.

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Visit us on Facebook: Kent Lutheran Church, Kent Lutheran Youth, KLC South Sudan

Other KLC related web sites: [www.KentGrandOrgan.org](http://www.KentGrandOrgan.org), [www.klcsouthsudan.blogspot.com](http://www.klcsouthsudan.blogspot.com)

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