



*I desire steadfast love
and not sacrifice*

HOSEA 6:6

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church (NALC)

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 2026

Prelude

Gathering Hymn

“Praise to the Lord ”

G Hymn #543

Announcements

THE WORD

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*The Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise

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*The Prayer of the Day

Insert

Special Music

Tom Bush

First Lesson

Hosea 5:15-6:6

The Psalm

Psalms 119:65-72

The Second Lesson

Romans 4:13-25

*The Verse

“ Alleluia ”

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*The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 9:9-13

Children’s Sermon

Sermon Hymn “There’s A Wideness” Vs.1-2 **G Hymn #290**

Sermon Pastor Andrea Taphorn

Sermon Hymn “There’s A Wideness” Vs. 3-4 **G Hymn #290**

Nicene Creed

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Offering

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THE SACRAMENT

*Great Thanksgiving/Preface

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Hymn

“Lamb of God...”

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Post Communion Blessing

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Post Communion Canticle “Thank The Lord...”

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*Post Communion Prayer

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Benediction

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*Closing Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful...”

G Hymn #551

Postlude

*Stand as you are able

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad to have you worship with us today.

Our prayers include those in nursing homes and home bound: Mary Ann McCallister, Helen Lyons, Susie Leonhardt, Edna Armstrong, Servicemen: Andrew Gendron.

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Dave & Cindy Markley in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Women of the Church invites you to join us for Potluck and Painting on Wednesday, June 10 at 6 PM. Bring a dish to share.

Church Council will meet after worship next Sunday.

God Squad will have their next meeting on June 18 at 7 PM at the church. They will be having their outreach community Picnic on June 25 at 5:30. It will be held at the firehouse in Sulphur Springs.

On June 28 United in Harmony will be singing during worship. Following worship God Squad will be serving lunch. All are invited to stay. United in Harmony will be doing a few songs Downstairs.

Thank you for all the birthday cards. They were appreciated very much.

Helen Lyons

Thank you for letting me share the Mansfield Christian School mission trip to the Dominican Republic that I attended this spring with you. What an amazing experience to see what God is doing through the lives of students and others. Your support and prayers were wonderful. And how can I thank everyone for all of suitcases you gave! 21 of the 44 suitcases we took down there were from St. Paul Lutheran Church of Sulphur Springs!
In His Name,

Janelle Grube

Giving for The Lord's Ministry May 31, 2026

Bell Choir	20.00
Benevolence	120.00
Current	2,794.65
Feed Crawford County	50.00
Filling Home	55.00
Lutheran Home of Mercy	50.00
Missionary	10.00
NALC Seminary	30.00
NALC Disaster Relief	50.00
Orphans and Old Folks Home	15.00
Special Projects	110.00
Women of the Church	5.00
Total	\$3,309.65
Attendance 105	

Anyone wanting to donate to the NALC Disaster Response may mark your envelopes accordingly. Donations aid tornado and other natural disaster victims.

Looking to connect with Pastor Andrea? You're always welcome to stop by during office hours: **Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9:00 AM—Noon.** If another time works better for you, feel free to call the church office or reach out directly to Pastor Andrea (614) 256-4318 to set up an appointment. She'd love to hear from you!

This Week at St. Paul

Sunday Sunday School 9 AM
 Worship 10 AM
Wednesday Potluck & Painting 6 PM
Sunday Sunday School 9 AM
 Worship 10 AM

The St. Paul worship services and sermons are recorded and available to watch on the web page at www.stpaulsulphur.com or on St. Paul Lutheran Church Sulphur Springs, Ohio YouTube. A live feed of the worship service is available downstairs in the high school room.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
4707 Ridgeton Rd. Bucyrus, Ohio
419-562-5858
Pastor Andrea Taphorn
Pastor Brodie Taphorn
Charlie Britt, David Halsey, Jeff Karl Lay Assistants
Organist Kathy Sheets, Assistant Karen Schimpf
Secretary, Joyce Schanzenbach
Choir Director, Roxanne Shipman
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Called from Unfaithfulness

In Hosea 5–6, the people declare their hope in repentance, saying they will return to the Lord. They are confident He will heal them. But Israel’s repentance is short-lived. The words sound right, but they are empty. True repentance is more than words; it’s a heart change. God knows how empty the words are. He desires steadfast love, not sacrifice. He wants us to know Him; or as Luther says, to “fear, love, and trust” in Him (Small Catechism, First Commandment). Hosea proclaims that judgment will come.

We are often like the Israelites. We half-heartedly mumble, “I’m sorry,” with no aims to change our behavior. We confess, but we are just going through the motions. We fail to put God first.

With His Spirit, God calls us to be faithful. He feeds us with His Word. He gathers us and fellow believers into His presence. He reminds us of our Baptism. Opportunity comes daily when we drown the old Adam (see Hosea 6:7) or old _____ (insert your name). Our unfaithfulness is met by God’s faithfulness. He leads us to renounce sin, to turn from our ways. In Christ, we repent. The hope in Hosea 6:2 is made true in Christ’s resurrection on the third day. God is merciful.

Lord God, thank You for calling us from unfaithfulness. Keep us in the one true faith. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Catechism quotation: © 1986 Concordia Publishing House.

PORTALS of PRAYER

Adapted from *Portals of Prayer* © Concordia Publishing House
cph.org/magazines



About the Cover: The Lord is extending His hand of mercy through the prophet Hosea. Even in the midst of impending judgment, the Lord promises to lift up His people. Christ Jesus has fulfilled this promise by being raised up on the third day, having already passed through God’s judgment against our sin on our behalf. Now, our Lord, in His love, extends His hand to us with the promise that He will raise us up on the Last Day.

Altar Flowers

We have been quite spoiled for decades with Steve Auck and his exceptional services, but Steve is retiring, and a new vendor must be selected. Steve will continue to be our vendor until the middle of August. Pricing from several vendors reflect a steep increase in the weekly cost of flowers plus delivery. The lowest estimate came from Norton's Flowers. Estimates were for basic arrangements of carnations, baby's breath and greenery. As always, a more elaborate arrangement can be called in, but the increase in price should be added to the base price and the total paid to the WOC as the bill comes to us. Please let us know what you think:

_____ \$55.00 per week for two vases

_____ Hold flowers for two Sundays (take to basement, water, bring back up) with the use of silk flowers if needed

www.nortonsflowersbucyrus.com

419-562-2816

Summer Store Hours Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm Saturday 9 am-NOON

The Word of God



Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 2026

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the protector of all who trust in you, and beside you, nothing is strong or holy. Multiply your mercy and guide us that while using the good things of this fleeting life, we do not lose hold of the things that endure forever. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Hosea 5:15-6:6

¹⁵I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

¹"Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth." ⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. ⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Psalm 119:65-72

⁶⁵O LORD, you have dealt graciously | with your servant,*
according | to your word.

⁶⁶**Teach me discern- | ment and knowledge,***
for I have believed | in your commandments.

⁶⁷Before I was afflicted I | went astray,*
but now I | keep your word.

⁶⁸**You are good and you | bring forth good,***
instruct me | in your statutes.

⁶⁹The proud have smeared | me with lies,*
but I will keep your commandments with | my whole heart.

⁷⁰**Their heart is | gross and fat,***
but my delight is | in your law.

⁷¹It is good for me that I have | been afflicted,*
that I might | learn your statutes.

⁷²**The law of your mouth is dear- | er to me***
than thousands in | gold and silver.

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring – not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness

of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." ²³But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13

⁹As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. ¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

For Obedience and Repentance

Loving God, you rule over all creation. We thank you for establishing law and order among us and for revealing to us your will in our lives. Help us to hear your Word and obey your commandments. Show us those places in our lives where we fall short of your glory, and by the power of your Holy Spirit, lead us to true repentance and faith. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For Witness to the World

Mighty Lord you have promised to always be with us. Give to your people the faith to trust in your daily presence among us, that we may serve you as your witnesses to those around us. By remaining faithful to your Word, may our lives proclaim the promise of our Lord and Savior to all the world. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

For the Outcast and the Marginalized

Life-giving Spirit, transform our communities into places of welcome for those who have been shunned or marginalized. Help us to see in them the very presence of our Lord Jesus. Then, by your power, send us forth with greetings of grace and peace on our lips and compassion and mercy in our hearts. Lord in your mercy..

C. Hear our prayer.

For Healing

Great Physician, we pray that all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit may know your healing presence. We especially lift up those we name before you aloud or in our hearts. Send your Spirit upon them to make them whole, and give them hope and strength in you. Lord in your mercy...

C. Hear our prayer.

Lessons for Next Week: Exodus 19:2-8; Psalm 100;
Romans 5:6-15; Matthew 9:35-10:8 [9-20]