

**Welcome to Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church  
June 21, 2026  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**



*God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.*

**Welcome:** Lord of Life Lutheran Church's long-standing credo is "We share God's Love".

LoL provides a welcoming and safe place for worship, comfort, solace, and reflection. We are called by Jesus to love God and one another: to practice radical hospitality, and to serve all without reservation, stipulations or regard to your race, ethnic background, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities, socioeconomic position, family status, or where you are in your faith journey. You are a unique and beloved child of God. We welcome you to join us in worship and communion and be part of our commitment to anti-racism, social and economic justice and environmental care.

**Worship:** *Communion:* All are welcome to share in Holy Communion. Individual packets available near the entrance to the worship center.

*Passing of the Peace:* It is ok to greet those sitting near you. Please remember people have different levels of personal space which may vary from day to day and situation to situation. You can be respectful by asking, "May I hug you?" or "Would you like a handshake."

*Physical Distancing:* It is still important to be aware of distancing. Pews along the sides of the church near the stained-glass windows are for people who want space; please space yourselves accordingly.

**Children Welcome:** Kids of all ages are welcome in service, and we celebrate their joyful wiggles and giggles! There are kids bags in the back of the sanctuary.

*Information, service & liturgy instructions are shown in italic or **bold italic** type on the following pages.*

*Portions of the liturgy spoken by the leaders are shown in plain type.*

*Portions of the liturgy spoken by the assembly are shown in **bold type**.*

## ***PRELUDE***

### ***Gathering***

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#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins.**  
**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**  
**In your mercy, call us back to you.**  
**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**  
**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**  
**In Christ's name we pray,**  
**Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

**Amen.**

- 1 Faith of our fathers, living still  
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.  
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
whene'er we hear that glorious word.

*Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith,  
we will be true to thee till death.

- 2 The martyrs, chained in prisons dark,  
were still in heart and conscience free;  
and blest would be their children's fate  
if they, like them, should die for thee.

*Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith,  
we will be true to thee till death.

- 3 Faith of our fathers! We will love  
both friend and foe in all our strife;  
proclaim thee too, as love knows how,  
by saving word and faithful life.

*Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith,  
we will be true to thee till death.

***GREETING***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**and also with you.**

## ***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*All are seated*

### ***Word***

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#### **First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13**

*Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.*

<sup>7</sup> O LORD, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.

<sup>8</sup> For whenever I speak, I must cry out;  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the LORD has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.

<sup>9</sup> If I say, "I will not mention him  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,

and I cannot.

<sup>10</sup> For I hear many whispering:

“Terror is all around!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”

All my close friends

are watching for me to stumble.

“Perhaps he can be enticed,

and we can prevail against him

and take our revenge on him.”

<sup>11</sup> But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;

therefore my persecutors will stumble,

and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed,

for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor

will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous;

you see the heart and the mind;

let me see your retribution upon them,

for to you I have committed my cause.

<sup>13</sup> Sing to the LORD;

praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy

from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 69:7-18**

<sup>7</sup> Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,

and shame has covered my face.

<sup>8</sup> **I have become a stranger to my own kindred,**

**an alien to my mother's children.**

<sup>9</sup> Zeal for your house has eaten me up;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup> **I humbled myself with fasting,  
but that was turned to my reproach.**

<sup>11</sup> I put on sackcloth also,  
and became a byword among them.

<sup>12</sup> **Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,  
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

<sup>13</sup> But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set,  
O LORD:

“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

<sup>14</sup> **Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;  
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the  
deep waters.**

<sup>15</sup> Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up;  
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

<sup>16</sup> **Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;  
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

<sup>17</sup> Hide not your face from your servant;  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

<sup>18</sup> **Draw near to me and redeem me;  
because of my enemies deliver me.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 6:1b - 11**

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

<sup>1b</sup> Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not

know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

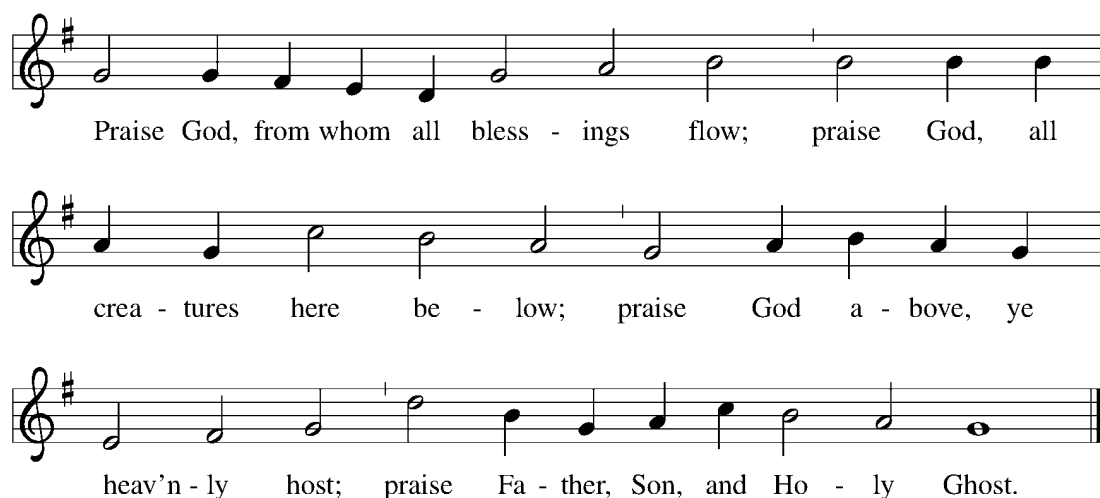
<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***

*The assembly stands as they are comfortable*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*Alleluia.* Jesus says, The Spirit of the Lord will testify on my behalf, **and you also are to testify.** *Alleluia.* (John 15:26, 27)

## ***THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 10:24-34***

The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the tenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup> “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup> it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup> “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup> What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup> Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup> So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup> “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup> “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

<sup>35</sup> For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,

<sup>36</sup> and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

<sup>37</sup> “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, <sup>38</sup> and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Those who find their life will lose it, and those who

lose their life for my sake will find it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All are seated.*

***SERMON***

***Pastor Adam Dowd***

***(Leave Blank)***

***HYMN OF THE DAY***

*Music by Paul Sheik*

***Response to the Word***

*The assembly stands as they are comfortable.*

***THE APOSTLE'S CREED***

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

**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 power of 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**

*All are seated.*

## ***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH***

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

Life-giving God, you have called your people to lose their lives for Jesus' sake. Strengthen your church to follow you in the face of difficulty. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Creator God, you know every sparrow that falls to the ground. Protect migrating birds, endangered species, and their natural habitats. Empower us to care for your creation. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, you call us to act justly and love mercy. Protect those with marginalized identities to whom we have not shown the abounding love of Jesus. Bring an end to oppression and bigotry in all forms. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Sustaining God, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disabilities. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering especially Leeann, Jenna, Art, Vernetta, Roberta, Judy, Linda, Paul, Toni, Kerry, Jim, Caryl, and Gale. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Empowering God, strengthen us to live out our diverse callings. We pray especially for fathers and father figures, that they show your compassion and care. We pray for all for whom this day is difficult or painful. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, we give thanks for saints who have claimed their baptismal promises. May we follow their example of faith and service. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.  
**Amen.**

### ***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE***

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord with phrases like “**Peace be with you.**” If you have your phone available, text a word of peace to someone who is worshiping alones*

### ***OFFERING AND PRAYER***

*The offering plate is brought forward as a sign of the good gifts, ourselves included, God has given us.*

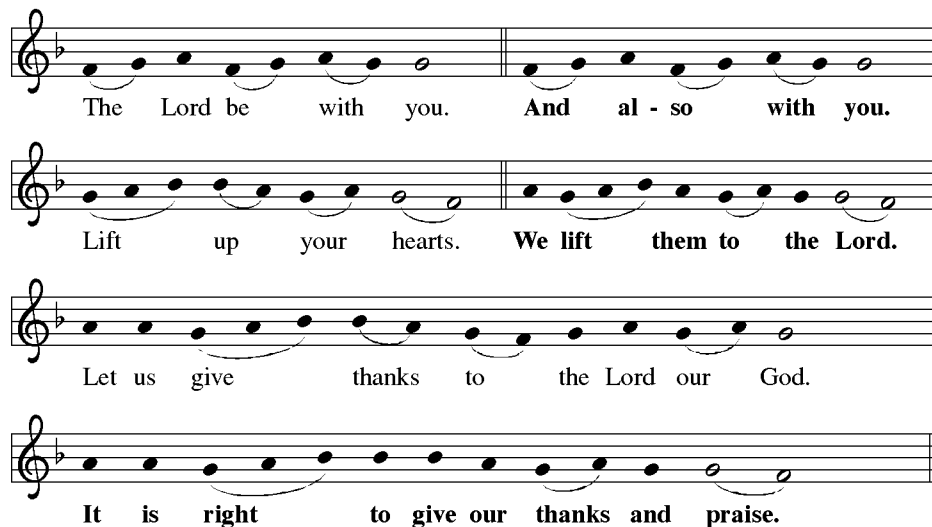
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Loving God,  
 we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
 Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
 so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
 We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
 through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## *Meal*

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*The assembly stands as they are comfortable.*



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### ***PREFACE AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER...***

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## ***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE***

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
 You are most holy,  
 and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
 so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
 but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
 to fulfill for us your holy will  
 and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and  
ascension,

and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### ***LORD'S PRAYER***

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us "*PRAY*" the prayer that  
Jesus taught us:

**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. Amen.**

### ***INVITATION TO COMMUNION***

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

### ***COMMUNION***

*All are seated. Please take time to prepare yourselves and your communion elements.*

*We prioritize people with mobility issues. We invite you to come forward in your own time and take a position at the altar that is most accessible for you.*

### ***SONG DURING COMMUNION***

### ***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION***

Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

**Amen.**

## *Sending*

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### ***BLESSING***

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy,  
The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**Amen**

### ***SENDING HYMN***

### ***O Jesus, I Have Promised***

***ELW 810***

- 1 O Jesus, I have promised  
to serve you to the end;  
remain forever near me,  
my master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle  
if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway  
if you will be my guide.
  
- 2 Oh, let me feel you near me;  
the world is ever near.  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me,  
around me and within;

but, Jesus, then draw nearer  
to shield my soul from sin.

3 Oh, let me hear you speaking  
in accents clear and still  
above the storms of passion,  
the murmurs of self-will.  
Now speak to reassure me,  
to hasten or control;  
now speak and make me listen,  
O Guardian of my soul.

4 O Jesus, you have promised  
to all who follow you  
that where you are in glory  
your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised  
to serve you to the end;  
oh, give me grace to follow,  
my master and my friend.

## ***DISMISSAL***

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
**Thanks be to God.**

## ***POSTLUDE***

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Litanies of Welcome and Farewell-Interim Ministry Network, Baltimore, Maryland

We thank you for your ministry here today:

**Presiding Minister**

**Assisting Minister**

Lector

Pianist

Guitarist

Greeters

Ushers

Acolyte

Video

Pastor Adam Dowd

Bob and Elsy Eggert

Judy Padera

Jim Eckwall

Christopher Vincent and Pastor Adam Dowd

Connie Allekian

Art Kardatzke and Alice Tangorra

Alex Kerfin

Roberta Sejnost and Sherry Sejnost

## **Announcements**

**6-21-2026**

**Wine and Candles** this month are provided by **Debbie McNichols** in memory of her husband **Randy**.

**Flowers today** are provided by **the Oldham's children** in memory of their dad, Bill.

**Outdoor Worship** Join us as we take our worship outside on **Wednesday, June 24th at 6:30 pm**. We'll gather under the open sky to celebrate God's presence in His creation. Invite your friends and family to this special time of praise and fellowship.

**Movie Night** The RIC committee invites you to participate in a movie night **after Outdoor Worship on June 24th!** We are going to watch the documentary **Come See Me in the Good Light** - a poignant and unexpectedly funny love story about poets Andrea Gibson and Megan Falley facing an incurable cancer diagnosis with joy, wit and an unshakable partnership. Through laughter and unwavering love, they transform pain into purpose, and mortality into a moving celebration of resilience.

**Congregational Meeting** On June 28, 2026, after service, we will be having a congregational meeting to vote on whether Lord of Life Church will officially become a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation.

**Last Week's Giving – \$4990.00**

**Electronic Donation for the month of May - \$1124.62**

**THIS WEEK AT LORD OF LIFE**

Sunday	6/21	<b>Happy Father's Day</b>	
		<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
		12:00 PM	Loving Word
Tuesday	6/23	5:00 PM	Overeaters Anonymous
		6:30 PM	Darien Arts Council
Wednesday	6/24	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
		<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Outdoor Worship</b>
		<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Come See Me in the Good Light</b>
		7:00 PM	One Day at a Time
Friday	6/26	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Cards</b>
Saturday	6/27	9:00 AM	SDA
Sunday	6/28	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
		12:00 PM	Loving Word