

Union Creek Lutheran Church

July 13, 2025

Todd Hakl



## *Union Creek Lutheran Church*

Todd Hakl  
July 13, 2025 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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*To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.*

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\* Indicates congregation stands as you are able

*Italics = Pastor*

**Bold = Congregation**

### *Prelude*

### *Announcements*

### *Birthday Wishes*

Kristen Parrott-13; Chad Ericson-15; Tara Olson-15; Pastor Nancy-19

*(Sung to the tune of Happy Birthday)*

**God bless you today, God bless you always,  
God bless you and keep you, another year through.**

### *Lighting of the Candles*

### *Ringling of the Bell*

### *\* Confession & Forgiveness*

*In the name of the Father,  
and of the ☩ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.***

## **A Note From Pastor Nancy**

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful wreath! It looks wonderful on our front door and couldn't be more perfect. It was so wonderful to see Lancy and Betsy. We are settling in, enjoying the grandkids, missing all of you, and holy cow! Congratulations on the Holy Cow Award! I am grateful for your ongoing commitment to God's people in need and am praying for you in transition.

Any pastor is privileged to serve with you and I am so very grateful for the heartwarming gift and for thinking of us in Lincoln!

*Pastor Nancy and Less*

## **Our Prayer Concerns**

PeeWee Kincaid, Duane Forslund,  
Ron & Gloria Siemers, Dan Haeder's family, Marilyn Heeren,  
Penny Britt, and Dylan Haverhals

## **Offering & Attendance**

Sunday, July 6

Attendance: 55 / Offering \$1,360

*We are grateful for your continued offerings and support!*

## **Union Creek Communications**

Council President, Lance Johnson  
605.934.2737

Council Vice-President, Tom Podzimek  
605.933.0848

Church Secretary, Joni Noble  
712.552.7669 / joni.noble123@gmail.com

<b>07.13.25</b> <b>Greeters:</b> Rob/Deb <b>Usher/Bell:</b> Rob <b>Lector:</b> Deb <b>Fellowship:</b> Rob/Deb	<b>07.20.25</b> <b>Greeters:</b> Garry/Cheryl <b>Usher/Bell:</b> Garry <b>Lector:</b> Cheryl <b>Communion:</b> Garry <b>Fellowship:</b> Garry/Cheryl
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### Calendar of Events

#### Sunday, July 13

9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Todd Hakl  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

#### Wednesday, July 16

6:30 p.m. Joint Call Committee Meeting at Roseni  
*(If we do not get another RMP by Tuesday, we will cancel the meeting)*  
7:30 p.m. Council Meeting

#### Thursday, July 17

2:00 p.m. WELCA Bible Study

#### Sunday, July 20

9:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Pastor David Bentz  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

### Call Process Update

We received one Rostered Minister Profile from the Synod this past week. After a thorough and prayerful review of the paperwork, the committee was unanimous in their decision not to interview this candidate. We are now waiting for additional profiles from the Synod.

### Items for Sale

**Youth Country Meats Fundraiser** (2 for \$3)

**T-Shirt Sales** (New Spring Colors! \$20 each)

**150th Anniversary History Books and Cookbooks**

*Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

*Merciful God,*

**You free us to love others,  
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds,  
and show us the path of life.**

*You belong to Christ Jesus  
and you are God's children through faith.*

*In the cross of ✠ Christ,  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.*

*Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.*

**Amen.**

\* *Opening Hymn #779*                      *"Amazing Grace"*

\* *Pastoral 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*

*O Lord God,*

**Your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care.  
Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our  
neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and  
Lord. Amen.**

*Children's Message with Todd*

*First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:9-14*

*(Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.)*

<sup>9</sup> And the LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, <sup>10</sup> when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

<sup>11</sup> "Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. <sup>12</sup> It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' <sup>13</sup> Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' <sup>14</sup> No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 25:1-10*

<sup>1</sup> *To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

<sup>2</sup> **My God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup> *Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame  
who are treacherous.*

<sup>4</sup> **Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.**

*\* Offertory Prayer*

*Creator God,*

**In your wisdom you bring forth all that is good  
and the harvest is plentiful.**

**Strengthen us with these gifts of the earth and our labor,  
that we may work for the good of all;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*\* Our Lord's Prayer*

*\* Blessing*

*The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit*

*✠ bless you and give you peace.*

**Amen.**

*\* Sending Hymn #817*

*"You Have Come Down From the Lakeshore"*

*\* Dismissal*

*Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.*

**Thanks be to God.**

*Join us for a time of fellowship following the service*

*Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

*Instill in leaders of the world a strong love for their neighbors. Compel them to govern with equity and to give aid and protection to people who are vulnerable, especially strangers, migrants, and asylum seekers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

*Draw near to people in need of help, comfort, and healing, especially PeeWee Kincaid, Duane Forslund, Dan Haeder's family, Ron & Gloria Siemers, Marilyn Heeren, Penny Britt, and Dylan Haverhals. Provide protection and aid to children who are unsafe and undernourished while on summer break. God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

*Go with all who travel, and protect them from harm. Put in their paths people who offer aid. We pray especially for the safety of first responders. God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

*We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

*Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.***

*\* Presentation of our Offerings*

*\* Offertory Response #707*

*“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” verse 2*

**Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you  
gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness  
melt our thankless hearts of stone;  
Till our cold and selfish natures,  
warmed by you, at length believe;  
that more happy and more blessed  
'tis to give than to receive.**

<sup>5</sup> *Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.*

<sup>6</sup> **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup> *Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love  
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.*

<sup>8</sup> **You are gracious and upright, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup> *You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.*

<sup>10</sup> **All your paths, O Lord,  
are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

### *Second Reading: Colossians 1:1-14*

*(The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.)*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup>In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup>for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup>that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup>This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow

servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf,<sup>8</sup> and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,<sup>10</sup> so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.<sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully<sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.<sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,<sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

\* *Gospel Acclamation* "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

**Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;  
joyfully your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore God's praises sing.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praises everlasting ring!**

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 10:25-37*

*(Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.)*

*Spoken response after the announcement:*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"<sup>26</sup> He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"<sup>27</sup> He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself."<sup>28</sup> And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

<sup>29</sup> But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"<sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead."<sup>31</sup> Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.<sup>32</sup> So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

<sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion.<sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.<sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend."<sup>36</sup> Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"<sup>37</sup> He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

*Spoken response after the conclusion:*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The Message*

*Hymn of the Day #770*

*"Give Me Jesus"*

\* *Apostles' Creed* Page 127 ELW

\* *Prayers of Intercession*

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

*A brief silence*

*Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.***