# Worship Leader Edition
# The Wonder of Identity

July 12, 2026 8:30 AM

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME *{Front Center} (Rob)*

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

OPENING HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth" **ELW #879/*Screen***
*Verses 1, 2 & 5*

**Verse 1**
For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

**Refrain**
Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

**Verse 2**
For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light:

**Refrain**

**Verse 5**
For each perfect gift of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine,
to our world so freely giv'n:

**Refrain**

GREETING {*Front Center*} *(Mark Roberts)*
L: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
**C: And also with you.**

**ASSISTANT SAY: "PLEASE BE SEATED"**

PRAYER OF THE DAY {*Front Center*} *(Mark Roberts)*
L: God who knows us, you see us more clearly than we see ourselves. When we forget who we are, remind us that we are your beloved children. When we feel unsure help us trust that we have value beyond what we do. Help us discover who we are and who we are becoming in Jesus' name.
**C: Amen.**

## WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *{On Floor Pulpit Side} (Rob)*

FIRST READING *{Lectern} (Bette Gamboni)* Isaiah 55:8-11
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
L: The Word of the Lord.
**C: Thanks be to God.**
L: Please stand as you are able.

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ***(STAND)*** "Alleluia" ELW pg. 124/***Screen***
**C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL *(Rob)* Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

SERMON Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

**PLEASE SAY: "PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE"**

HYMN OF THE DAY "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" **ELW #304/*Screen***

**Verse 1**
Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove, and yet
As urgent as a flame,
As urgent as a flame.

**Verse 2**
God called you, "My beloved Son";
You are God's servant true,
Sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n,
God's holy will to do,
God's holy will to do.

**Verse 3**
Straightway and steadfast until death
You then obeyed the call
To serve with free and willing heart,
To give your life for all,
To give your life for all.

**Verse 4**
Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;
Your cross on us be signed,
That that likewise in God's service we
May perfect freedom find,
May perfect freedom find.

THE APOSTLES' CREED {*Front Center*} *(Mark Roberts)* ***Screen***

**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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} *(Mark Roberts)*

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome one another. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat.

**ASSISTANT SAY: "PLEASE BE SEATED FOR THE PRAYERS"**

THE PRAYERS {*Front Center*} *(Mark Roberts)*

*After each petition:*

L: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Mark Roberts)* ***Screen***

**C: 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 and ever. Amen.**

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE *(Mark Roberts)* ***Screen***

L: During this time of reflection and response please fill out your welcome card with any prayer request and use this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back. To give electronically there is a QR code in the bulletin. For those on-line please go to our website **stlukesbloomington.org** there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Please email prayers to **office@stlukesbloomington.org.** Enjoy this time.

MUSIC *Elena Dant*

## SENDING

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE + MINISTRIES *(Rob)*

**PLEASE SAY: "PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE"**

BENEDICTION *{Front Center} (Rob)*

L: May you remember who you are. May you see yourself with honesty and care. May you trust that you are loved. May you see, then, the way God sees all people. And may you know that God is with you in it all. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" **ELW #445/*Screen***

**Verse 1**
Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,
holy dove and heart's delight.

**Verse 2**
We who bring them long for nurture;
by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking
cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps;
free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying,
by your Spirit, children, heirs.

**Verse 3**
Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us; God, transform!

DISMISSAL *{Back} (Rob)*

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

***Altar Flowers Given Today:***
*Lori Murray*
*In honor of my birthday*