



7th Sunday after Pentecost

12th July 2026

SEA SUNDAY



Peace in the Storm

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the triune God, the Creator of heaven and earth and God's ownership of all things (Psalm 24:1). In God's sovereignty, God has allowed other groups to migrate to these shores. We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nations Peoples and are thankful for the community that we share together now.

Cantor: Thank you for joining our Service today on Sea Sunday! Today we reflect on Jesus' power to bring peace to life's storms and His presence in the lives of those of seafarers worldwide. We welcome those watching via livestream. You're invited to stand to sing our opening hymn.

Opening Hymn: Immortal Invisible

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

3. You give life to all, Lord,
to both great and small,
in all life now living, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,
then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.

4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart
take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.

5. All praise we would render: reveal to our sight
what hides you is only the splendour of light;
and so let your glory, Almighty, impart,
through Christ in the story, your Christ to the heart.

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Minister's Welcome

In the name of the God the Father, and His Spirit who hovered over the primal waters.
In the name of God the Son, the Word of God who parted the waters for earth to appear.
In the name of the God the Spirit, who filled the deeps with amazing designs. Amen.

Holy! Holy! Holy! The oceans are filled with God's presence.

**Praise the Lord of our salvation, according to the will of God our Father
to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Sentence

The words you have spoken are spirit and life, O Lord; you have the words of eternal life.
(John 6: 63, 68)

Prayer of Approach

Assistant: Knowing the goodness of God and His generous love towards us, let us approach His throne of grace,

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister:

Prayer of the Day on Sea Sunday

Almighty God, Creator of the seas and all who sail upon them, on this Sea Sunday, we lift before You the 1.89 million seafarers who navigate the vast oceans to sustain our daily lives. Grant them safety in the face of storms, courage amidst isolation, and comfort during long separations from loved ones. We give thanks for the Mission to Seafarers and their unwavering commitment over 164 years to bring your Word and sacrament to those at sea. Bless their chaplains, volunteers, and supporters who embody Your love through acts of service and compassion.

May we, inspired by the Good Samaritan, move beyond mere charity to unconditional love, reaching out to those in need within our maritime communities. Help us to recognize the sacrifices of seafarers and to support them through prayer, advocacy, and tangible care.

Lord Jesus, be near to defend them, within to refresh them, around to preserve them, before to guide them, behind to justify them, and above to bless them.

In the holy name of Jesus we pray, **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The first reading is from the book of Genesis, chapter 25 verses 19-34.

¹⁹This is the account of the family line of Abraham's son Isaac.

Abraham became the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean.

²¹Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was childless. The Lord answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. ²²The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the Lord.

²³The Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."

²⁴When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. ²⁵The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau. ²⁶After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

²⁷The boys grew up, and Esau became a skilful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. ²⁸Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. ³⁰He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.)

³¹Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

³²"Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

³³But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.

³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm reading today comes from Psalm 119: 105-112.

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.

¹⁰⁶**I have taken an oath and confirmed it,
that I will follow your righteous laws.**

¹⁰⁷I have suffered much;
preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸**Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth,
and teach me your laws.**

¹⁰⁹Though I constantly take my life in my hands,
I will not forget your law.

¹¹⁰**The wicked have set a snare for me,
but I have not strayed from your precepts.**

¹¹¹Your statutes are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹²**My heart is set on keeping your decrees
to the very end.**

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, **as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.**

The second reading is from Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 8 verses 1-11.

⁸¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ²because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

³For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: Lord Your Almighty Word

Lord, your almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day

sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Saviour, who came to give
those who in darkness live

healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide,
let there be light.

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Hearing the Gospel of our Lord

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter 25 verses 31-46.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

⁴⁰"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

⁴¹"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ⁴⁴"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

⁴⁵"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

⁴⁶"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Reflection: Peter Middleton and Bill Gent will share with us today

Assistant: Let us stand and declare our faith:

The Apostles 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 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 from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there 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**

Offertory Hymn: Rejoice the Lord is King

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King!
your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore;

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2. Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when He had purged our stains,
He took His seat above:

Lift up your heart, ...

4. He sits at God's right hand,
till all His foes submit,
and bow to His command,
and fall beneath His feet:

Lift up your heart...

5. Rejoice in glorious hope;
Jesus the judge shall come,
and take His servants up
to their eternal home:

Lift up your heart...

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Giving and Offerings The minister will pray over the offering.

The Prayer of the Week

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for the world and our community.

The intercessor on the roster will prepare prayers for:

A prayer for the world ... A prayer for all in authority ... A prayer for the church ...

A prayer for our community, and those on our prayer list ...

Let us pray together,

Come, Spirit of God, and make within us your dwelling place and home. May our darkness be dispelled by your light, and our troubles calmed by your peace; and may all evil be redeemed by your love, all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ, and all dying glorified by his risen life. Amen.

Prayer at the time of choosing an incumbent.

Bountiful God, give to this parish a faithful pastor who will faithfully speak your word and minister your sacraments;

an encourager who will equip your people for ministry and enable us to fulfil our calling.

**Give to those who will choose, wisdom, discernment and patience,
and to us give warm and generous hearts, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.**

We say together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples:

**Our Father 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.

Assistant:

Confession

Confident of God's goodness and his willingness to forgive us, let us bring the confession of sins before him.

God of mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help.

We have wandered from your way.

**We have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and failed to do what is right. You alone can save us.**

Have mercy on us, wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.

Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit

that we may live the new life to your glory.

This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Assistant: Please stand to hear God's promise of forgiveness.

Promise of Forgiveness

You are blessed by the Lord: your sins are forgiven, your faults have been forgotten by the Lord. The Lord will not count your sin against you, for you have confessed to him your faith in the saving work of his Son Jesus Christ. Rejoice now in the Lord and be glad, for you have been made a holy member of God's family. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

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

Thanksgiving and Communion

The Lord be with you **And also 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 thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By His death on the cross, and rising to new life, He offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and obtained an eternal deliverance for His people.

As we walk by the promised Spirit, poured out at Pentecost, continue to fill us with power and love so we may boldly proclaim your gospel to all peoples,
and serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and this wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

'Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples saying,

'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded;
proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

We who are many are one body, **for we all share in the one bread.**

Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.

Quiet music will play during communion.

Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope. May the power of your love, which we have known in word and sacrament, continue your saving work among us, give us courage for our daily lives and bring us to the joys you promise.

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

Almighty God, you have redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ and raised us to newness of life. You brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom. May the eternal God give you joy and peace in faith and bring you to your eternal inheritance; and the blessing of God Almighty; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you all ever more. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Bind Us Together

*Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken;
Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together,
O bind us together with love.*

There is only one God,
There is only one King,
There is only one Body
That is why we sing:

Bind us together....

Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by His precious Son.
Born with the right to be clean,
For Jesus the victory has won.
Bind us together...

You are the family of God,
You are the promise divine,
You are God's chosen desire,
You are the glorious new wine.
Bind us together...

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