



HE WILL TURN
the hearts of the fathers
TO THEIR CHILDREN
and the hearts of the
children
TO THEIR FATHERS.

MALACHI 4:6

Union Creek Lutheran Church

June 21, 2026 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Father's Day

*Welcome to worship at Union Creek Lutheran Church.
We are happy to have you with us on this Father's Day.
Like Mother's Day, Father's Day is not a "Christian" holiday,
but what could be more Christian than taking a day
to remember the men who helped give us life and helped
shape us into the people we are today?*

Prelude

Announcements

Birthday Wishes

Kyle Kenefick-22; Justin McCrill-23; Becky Kjose-23;
Karen McCrill-25; Missy Bundy-25; Riggs Ericson-26

(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*

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

WELCA News

WELCA Bible Studies will be suspended through the summer months.

Our Prayer Concerns

Family of Ione Lucht, Joann Hedeby, Elaine Swift, Ron Siemers,
Becky Kjose, PeeWee Kincaid, Duane Forslund,
Marilyn Heeren, Dylan Haverhals, Penny & Richard Britt,
Doug Eckmann, and Netti Dunham

Meat Sticks Sale

The youth are selling their remaining meat sticks for \$1.25 each.

Offering & Attendance

Sunday, June 14

Attendance: 35 / Offering: \$1,056

We are always grateful for your continued offerings and support!

Union Creek Communications

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<p>06.21.26 Greeter: Dene/Jean Usher/Bell: Dene Lector: Selene Fellowship: Dene/Jean</p>	<p>06.28.26 Greeters: Garry/Cheryl Usher/Bell: Garry Lector: Cheryl Communion: Need Volunteer Fellowship: Ericson Families</p>
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Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 21

9:00 a.m. Special Father's Day Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

Sunday, June 28

9:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Pastor April
10:00 a.m. Fellowship hosted by the families of
Roger & Roseann Ericson and Arlo & Iola Ericson
11:30 a.m. Committal Service

In loving memory of

Arlo & Iola Ericson and Roger & Roseann Ericson

We invite you to join us on June 28, 2026 for a morning of worship, fellowship, and remembrance as we honor the lives of our parents. Immediately following the 9:00 worship service, please join our family in the church basement for light refreshments and fellowship. At 11:30, the family will move to the church cemetery for a brief graveside memorial service. Please feel free to join us as we say our final goodbyes.

**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,
the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
our sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.*

Amen.

* *Opening Hymn #876* *"Let the Whole Creation Cry"*

* *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.

* *Unison Prayer of the Day*

*Compassionate God,
On this Father's Day, we pray for those who are fathers or wish to be fathers, for those with broken or strained relationships, for those who are missing their fathers, and for fathers who have lost children. We rejoice in your enduring love for all people, and we ask that you bring comfort, healing, and peace to every heart. Amen.*

Responsive Reading

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.*

**As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our
transgressions from us.**

*As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.*

For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

*But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,*

**And his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his
commandments.**

*The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.*

**Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word!**

Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!

**Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!**

** Benediction*

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

** Closing Hymn #812*

“Faith of Our Fathers”

** Dismissal*

*Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!*

Please join us for fellowship following the service

◇ Introduction

◇ 1 Thessalonians 2:10-12

¹⁰ *With God as our witness, you saw how we lived among you—in holiness, in godly relationships, and without fault.*

¹¹ *And you know how affectionately we treated each one of you, like a loving father cares for his own children.*

¹² *We comforted and encouraged you and challenged you to adopt a lifestyle worthy of God, who invites you into his kingdom and glory.”*

◇ Being a good example

◇ Caring for your children

◇ Comforting your children

◇ Encouraging your children

◇ Challenging your children

◇ Ephesians 6:4

⁴ *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, instead bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

◇ Not provoking your children

◇ Bringing up children to believe

◇ Disciplining your children

We give thanks for fathers who, by their own account, have not always been very good fathers. Grant us mercy to forgive and the grace to love these men.

May you work in our hearts to forgive where we need to forgive and love those whom we need to love.

We give thanks for men who, despite separation, or divorce, or family struggles have remained a presence and an influence in their children’s lives.

May your hand be at work with healing and restoration.

We give thanks for the men in our lives who are not our fathers but love, mentor and guide us just the same.

May you remind them how vital those relationships are.

We give thanks for those who are going to be fathers, those to whom you have given the gift of new life. Allow us to surround these new families with love and support to keep them on a path that leads to you.

May you grant them rest when sleep is fleeting and peace when patience wears thin.

We give thanks for those who have suffered the loss of a father. The wound of losing a parent is a hurt unlike any other in life, yet we thank you for an eternal hope that the death is not the end, but the beginning of eternal life with you.

May you comfort them and remind them that one day we will all be raised up.

Father God, you taught us how to love and you showed us that love while we were yet sinners.

May we love as you first loved us. Amen.

◇ Hebrews 12:11

¹¹ *No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.*

◇ Teaching your children

◇ *“A godly father is the unseen spiritual submarine who lurks below the surface of every activity of his child’s life. You may be undetected, but that does not mean you are ineffective.”*
Steve Farrar, author

◇ Focusing your heart on your children

◇ Malachi 4:6

⁶ *He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.*

◇ Conclusion

Hymn of the Day #810

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

** Apostles’ Creed*

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The Offering of Our Gifts

Offertory Response #864 *“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”*

**Angels sing in adoration,
in God’s presence face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation,
all who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!**

Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father,

**We thank you for your endless provision
and for our earthly father, grandfathers,
and mentors who reflect your love to us.
As we present these offerings to you,
we do so with hearts full of gratitude.
Multiply these gifts to bless our community
and advance your kingdom.
May our generosity honor you,
and may our lives reflect the sacrificial love of Christ.
In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

A Father’s Day Prayer

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the men in our lives who have answered the calling to be a father—in many different ways.

May you guide them and strengthen them on this challenging journey.

We give thanks for the men who have imparted knowledge of a love for you to their children and who have modeled your sacrificial love to their families.

May you continue to bless their ministry and may they be a light unto the world around them.

We give thanks for the men who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, children and everything else in this life and have done so with an earnest heart.

May you help them know peace and may you grant them wisdom, that they might model your love to their children.

We give thanks for those men who, lacking a good model of fatherhood in their own lives, work to become good fathers to their own children.

May you guide their paths and may we help strengthen them on their journey.