

Blue Ocean Church Ann Arbor
2301 Packard, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
a2blue.org

July 5, 2026 Liturgy

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

P: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

P: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

P: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy virtual space, and for all who offer here their worship and
praise, let us pray to the Lord.

P: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

P: Amen.

L: Let us pray the Sarum Prayer together:

**God be in my head; and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes; and in my looking;
God be in my mouth; and in my speaking;
God be in my heart; and in my thinking;
God be at my end; and at my departing.**

L: The first lesson is from the ninth chapter of Zachariah, verses 9 through 12.

The Coming Ruler of God's People

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L: Those who have ears, let them hear.

L: Let us say Psalm 145 verses 8 through 14 together.

**The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The LORD is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

**All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.**

**They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

**The LORD is faithful in all his words
and gracious in all his deeds.**

**The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.**

L: The Gospel according to Matthew, the eleventh chapters, verses 25 through 30.

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

L: Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

L: Now we pray the Prayers of the People. Let us pray for our loved ones.

P: We pray for Shaphan, Naomi, Victor, Sophia, Adeline, Katie, Dan, Ben, Josh, Katie, Abby, Joann, Kinley, Caleb, Erin, Becky, Auggie, Jay, George, Ryan, Peter, the Pritcher family, Raymond, Ezra, Mimi, Everlee, Tim, Kristy, Dark Angel, Joseph, Nicole, Wendi, Constance, Erica, Ashton, Landon, the Sarr family, George, Laura, Haevyn, Mindy, Calob, Bishop Yvette Flunder, Bishop Bonnie Perry, Bishop Darrell Goodwin, Bishop Tim Wolfe, Bishop Lesley Jones, Leah, David, Hope Clinic, JFS, Ozone House, immigrants, the Ypsilanti Youth Choir and those we lift up in silence. Lord, hear our prayers.

L: We pray for gratitude, and for all the things we have to be grateful for.

P: Lord, hear our prayers.

L: We lift up the sick, the homebound, their caregivers, and those who mourn and grieve this week.

P: Lord, hear our prayers.

L: We pray for the poor, the unemployed, the addicted, those in prison, those afflicted by violence, the hopeless, and the heartbroken.

P: Lord, hear our prayers.

L: Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awaken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other.

P: Lord, hear our prayers.

L: We remember that white supremacy is a deep and abiding sin in our nation. We ask God to show us how we can do our part in dismantling it. Let's face this painful reality by remembering some of the names of dear children of God lost from the effects of white supremacy.

P: We remember: Victor Perez, Jawan Dallas, Marie Blaise, Leonard Allan Cure, Gary Jackson, George Floyd, Ryan White-Mountain Soft, Michelle Cusseaux, Antonio Martin, Johnny Hollman, John Crawford III, Tony McDade, Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells, Dijon Kizzee, Genry Ruiz Guillén, Geraldine Talley, Soon Chung Park, Daunte Wright, Jasvinder Kaur, Amir Locke, and those we haven't named. We hold them and their families in our hearts. Lord, hear our prayers.

L: Now we move into a time of corporate confession. Confessing together brings us closer together as a community, as we realize that all of us sin and all of us are forgiven by God.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all wrongdoing and anxiety.

**P: Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are sorry and we repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

L: And now we're absolved and forgiven, together.

P: We absolve each other of all our sins, in the name of God the Creator, Jesus the Child, and the Holy Spirit.

L: The Lord be with you!

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts!

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

L: And so, the Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body given for you, do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is my blood of the covenant poured out for the many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it in remembrance of me. Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim his death until he comes.

L: And now let us pray as we have been taught:

**P: Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kin_dom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And 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 kin_dom, the power, and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.**

Shared Communion Meal: We take communion to remember the story of Jesus and the radical love he embodied. We do this each Sunday to nourish our spirits and to symbolize becoming the Beloved Community God calls us to be. Please use any food and liquid you have available to represent the bread and wine.

L: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food: through Jesus Christ our savior.

L: The service has ended. Go in peace; love your neighbor; do the next right thing. We are not alone. In Jesus' name, Amen.