

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

August 2, 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 fifty-fifth chapter of Isaiah, verses 1 through 5.

An Invitation To Abundant Life

Hear, everyone who thirsts;

come to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread

and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

Now you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

L: Let us say Psalm 145 verses 8 to 9 and 14 through 21 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.**

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

**The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.**

**You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

**The LORD is just in all his ways
and kind in all his doings.**

**The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.**

**He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.**

**The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.**

**My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.**

L: The Gospel according to Matthew, the fourteenth chapters, verses 13 through 21.

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick people. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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 Katie, Dan, Ben, Josh, Sophie, Philip, Jack, Brad and Desirae, Seong-Guk, Junior, Patrick, Lisa, Shaphan, Naomi, Victor, Sophia, Adeline, Katie, Dan, Ben, Josh, Katie, Abby, Joanne, Tim, Kristy, Dark Angel, Joseph, Nicole, Wendi, Constance, Erica, Ashton, Landon, Aine, 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.

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: Juan Alexis Tineo-Martinez, Robert Brooks, Sonya Massey, Huabing Xie, Treyvon Martin, Joshua Spottedhorse, Roberta Drury, Rayshard Brooks, Naomie Skinner, Germane Reed, Cameron Lamb, Nedra Sequence Morris, Adam Toledo, Nicolas Chavez, Kesha Webster, Maurice Gordon, Cypress Ramos, Semaj Billingslea, Robert Fuller and those we haven't named. We hold them and their families in our hearts.

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.