

Worship Service ~ *Prayer by Invitation*

Pentecost 4, Year A,

6/21/2026

Psalm 46 / John 15:1-8 NRSV

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, my name is *John Braun*. It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

Please stand with as you are able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship ~ Responsive

One: Called to be branches in Christ's body,

All: We yearn to be connected to the vine.

One: Called to be mustard bushes offering shade to God's creatures,

All: We search for places to plant the seeds of faith.

One: Called to be growing by God's grace in the midst of this world's painful questions,

All: We seek God's nurturing presence as we pray together.

Invocation

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace.

Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life.

Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God ~ #324

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Psalm 46 NRSV

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶ The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ 'Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.'

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests ~ *Sylvia*

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up? Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer led by worship leader Sylvia Hershberger

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past ~ #328

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ John 15:1-8 NRSV

¹ 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Sermon ~ *Prayer by Invitation* (You Are Hereby Invited to Pray. RSVP.)

Rev. John Braun

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Unity in Christ

A Service of Communion

MINISTER

The ordinance of communion in which we participate symbolizes our unity in Christ. It unites each of us in a common bond with other believers across the centuries and around the world. In this ancient rite, just as many grains of wheat and many individual grapes come together to form one loaf and one cup. so too the people of God, coming from many places and backgrounds, are made into one church, the body of Christ.

The minister may hold the bread and say:

Bread: a common, mundane part of everyday life. Yet it was in the breaking of bread that the risen Christ often revealed himself. On the last night he spent with his followers, Jesus gave them a powerful symbol of his presence.

He made special that which was commonplace and ordinary by taking bread, and, as he had done so often before, he blessed, broke, and gave it to them. Then he said, "Take and eat, for this is my body which is given for you."

The bread is distributed.

The minister may say:

Jesus' words to the first disciples are words also for us: "Take and eat." As we hold the bread together, let us join in a unison prayer.

Offering the Bread

UNISON

As we take this bread into our bodies today, O God, may we take the bread of Christ's healing and empowering presence into our own lives and extend it to the others we meet each day.

Eat your bread.

Then the minister may hold the cup and say:

Fruit of the vine: a standard beverage in ancient Israel. Jesus' first miracle, turning water into wine at Cana, showed the abundance of God's blessing. That last night, he once again turned something mundane into something holy as he took the cup, gave thanks, and announced to the disciples, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Drink from it, all of you."

The cups are distributed. (A reflection is played during distribution of elements by church musician Annie Center.)

The minister may say:

Jesus' announcement to the first disciples is also an announcement to us: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Drink from it, all of you." As we hold the cup, let us join in a unison prayer.

Offering the Cup

UNISON

As we remember the new covenant you established through Christ, O God, may we be renewed in mind, body, and spirit in order to live out of the promise and power you give to all your disciples.

Drink your cup.

Then the minister may say: Let us join in a unison prayer of thanksgiving.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

UNISON

We give thanks O God, for this holy meal you have given us. May the power and presence of Christ, so evident in this ordinance, be evidenced in our thoughts, words, and deeds as we try to serve both you and our neighbors in the coming days. Keep us mindful of the example of Christ and fill us with your Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. Amen.

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

We have gathered here today to listen and learn. This is active and intentional. We listen and learn from the scriptures and the sermon. We listen and learn from each other. And during the week we can listen and learn about our greater purpose through daily prayer.

Each day is a fresh opportunity to expand our horizons and grow our faith. Prayer provides preparation to face the world as it is, and prayer offers vision as to how the world could be. As we listen to Annie play, please reflect on how God might call you to serve your community through prayer.

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn *Sent Forth by God's Blessing ~ #478*

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,