



Week of July 5 – July 11, 2026

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**FOCUS VERSE**

**Matthew 11:29-30**

*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.*

**SERMON NOTES:**

*What stood out in this week's sermon? (Theme, phrase, reference, etc.) What questions stir up within you? What do you want to explore further?*

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**FOR FURTHER THOUGHT** by Rev. John Locke

A yoke is a type of harness for a work-animal – ox, donkey, mule, etc. – that fits around the neck and shoulders in order to help pull the wagon or plow. Often, to assist training of a younger or inexperienced animal, a double yoke would be used. The less experienced animal, then, would be able to learn from the movements of the more experienced one. But the most important aspect of the yokes was that the best yokes were tailored to the shape and size of the animal. The wooden framing was sanded completely smooth, with every effort to eliminate areas of irritation or friction. The better the yoke, the lighter the burden would feel to the animal.

**CONSIDER:**

Think about a time when you first began a serious effort studying the Bible. Were there new words or phrases you didn't recognize, or questions about who "you" was, or to whom was Jesus speaking, etc.? If you had no one to teach you or no reference guide to explain, you would have trouble understanding and making conclusions about what you read. Having someone to work through it with you helps ease the burden. How might Jesus offer us that kind of approach to discipleship?

**BEYOND SUNDAY:**

*\*Readings intended to help you reflect and digest this week's worship service.*

**MONDAY:** Psalm 131 (*The Psalmist finds a place of quiet rest with God*)

Most **MEMORABLE** verse for you, in this passage, at this time?

What makes this verse so **MEANINGFUL**?

**TUESDAY:** Romans 3:1-8 (*God's righteousness is stronger*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**WEDNESDAY:** Jeremiah 27:1-11 (*God's Word is most valuable*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**BEFORE SUNDAY READINGS:**

*\*Readings intended to help you prepare for the upcoming Sunday:*

**THURSDAY:** Psalm 65:9-13 (*In the Word, we find truth and strength*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**FRIDAY:** Isaiah 48:6-11 (*God speaks of new things about to happen*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**SATURDAY:** John 12:44-50 (*When Jesus speaks, it is God speaking*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Ahead:** July 12, 2026 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Prop 10A)  
Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:1-13; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23