



Week of June 14 – 20, 2026

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

FOCUS VERSE

Matthew 9:36-37

36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

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?

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT
The "Harassed and Helpless." Probably not a group to which we want to be associated. And yet, for Jesus too many people were used, abused, disrespected, or ignored. So, he appointed apostles (the Greek word means one who is sent) to announce the arrival of the Messiah. Strength, mercy, and hope have arrived. Life is about to change! I suspect, if we are truthful to ourselves, all of us have felt harassed and helpless at one time or another. But Jesus brings near the kingdom of heaven that will include the harassed and helpless - as well as the lonely, left-out, unloved, and neglected.

CONSIDER
Remember a time when you were harassed and helpless. Who did the Spirit send to offer love and mercy? Who saw you with compassion and opened a door of welcome and healing? How is God calling you today to be a proclaimer of the coming of the kingdom of heaven?

Perhaps you attended the 2000 ELCA Youth Gathering in St. Louis. Do you remember Dakota Road inspiring the Gathering with their song All are Welcome? For an audio, search Youtube - All Are Welcome - Dakota Road, Summer 2000 or go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVRioESd_4Q.



BEYOND SUNDAY:

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

MONDAY: Psalm 119:41-48 (*Prayer for strength and God's presence*)
Most **MEMORABLE** verse for you, in this passage, at this time?

What makes this verse so **MEANINGFUL**?

TUESDAY: Hebrews 13:1-16 (*Healthy relationships through God's love*)
Memorable: _____
Meaningful: _____

WEDNESDAY: Hosea 14:1-9 (*Paths to righteousness*)
Memorable: _____
Meaningful: _____

BEFORE SUNDAY READINGS:

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

THURSDAY: Psalm 100 (*Praise and thanksgiving for God's welcome*)
Memorable: _____
Meaningful: _____

FRIDAY: Exodus 5:27-31 (*Moses and Aaron in the Wilderness*)
Memorable: _____
Meaningful: _____

SATURDAY: Exodus 6:28-7:13 (*Moses and Aaron meet Pharaoh*)
Memorable: _____
Meaningful: _____

Read Ahead: June 21, 2026 – 4th Sunday after Pentecost (Prop 7)
Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39