

St. Luke Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 5, 2026
9:30 a.m.



Sermon
Rev. Dr. Victor Nelson
"A Christian Perspective on the 250th"

**Welcome to
St. Luke Lutheran Church**

20 Candlewood Path
Dix Hills, NY 11746-5398
Church: 631-499-8656 - **Fax:** 631-462-6496
Preschool: 631-462-5216

Our Website: www.stlukedixhills.org
Satellite for the Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

Welcome!

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome both members and guests to His church. We are present this day to worship Him. In this service we thank and honor our Lord for His many blessings and seek His guidance and comfort for each day of life.

- ❖ Be **reverent** and **thoughtful** in this Holy place.
- ❖ **Before** the service, speak with God.
- ❖ **During** the service, let God speak to you.
- ❖ **After** the service, speak to one another.

As We Gather: We begin our worship today praising the lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world. For this saving work, Christ is truly worthy of praise, adoration, thanks and honor. He is truly worthy of our worship because of who He is and what He has done for us. Now we shall hear again the great story of salvation that was won for us by the Lamb of God. Rejoice! For the lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia!

Holy Communion is celebrated at each Worship Service.

The Lord's Supper is a gift from our Savior in which He offers us Himself and His forgiveness. Those who partake witness their love for Him and their faith and fellowship for each other. If you have confessed your sins and if you have been properly instructed regarding the Lord's Supper and believe in the presence of Christ in the form of bread and wine, which are the body and blood of Christ, please join us for the celebration of Holy Communion.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

8:15am & 10:45am w/ Sunday School **returns in September**

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sundays: Traditional w/ Holy Communion at 9:30am Thursdays: Traditional w/ Holy Communion at 7:30 PM begins June 25 th

BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Bible Studies on select dates – See flyer

The **C.A.R.E Team** encourages *anyone experiencing illness or a challenging situation in their life to reach out to us for support. Support can consist of emotional/spiritual support, meals, transportation, help with errands or chores, and other areas as they are identified. Contact via **Hotline: (631) 600-0271***
Or email careteam@stlukedixhills.org Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty

Mission Statement

To know Christ and make him known by Serving, Teaching, and Loving.

ABOUT TODAY

God's kingdom is revealed through humility, gentleness, and peace. Christ invites all who are overwhelmed to find rest in Him, to exchange the burdens of self-sufficiency for the freedom of life in the Spirit. Jesus invites all who are burdened to come to Him and find the strength they cannot find alone.

PRELUDE

Festival March: Battle Hymn of the Republic, Lift Every Voice and Sing
- Michael Burkhardt

PASTORAL GREETING

CALL FOR PRAYERS

Stand

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Merciful God,

People: **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us your ways. Amen.**

Pastor: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of † Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN
“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” LBW 551



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: and also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You are great, and to be praised. May we believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord

People: Amen.

Sit

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

(The King will come in humility and peace)

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-14

(The Lord is gracious and full of compassion)

¹ I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

² **Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

⁴ **One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.**

⁵ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.

⁶ **They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.**

⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹ LORD, you are good to all, and your ⁹ compassion is over all your works.

¹⁰ **All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
and your faithful ones shall bless you.**

¹¹ They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power,

¹² **that all people may know of your power
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- out
all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

¹⁴ **The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.**

Second Reading: Romans 7:14-25a
(The struggle within the self)

¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin.
¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing
I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no
longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell
within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the
ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I
do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand.
²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law
at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my
members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE- LSB p. 205



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



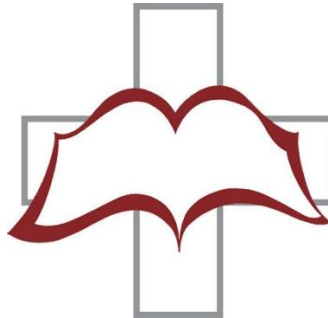
These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.
People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:25-30

(Jesus reveals the gentleness of His yoke and the rest found in discipleship)

²⁵ 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; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ 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.

²⁸“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY
“Before You, Lord, We Bow” LBW 401



1 Be - fore you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns a - bove and
2 The na - tion you have blest may well your love de - clare, from
3 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, each vale and for - est green, shine
4 Earth, hear your mak - er's voice; your great re - deem - er own; be -
5 And when in pow'r he comes, oh, may our na - tive land from



rules the world be - low, bound - less in pow'r and love. Our thanks we
foes and fears at rest, pro - tect - ed by your care. For this bright
in your word's pure light, and its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry
lieve, o - bey, re - joice, and wor - ship him a - lone. Cast down your
all its rend - ing tombs send forth a glo - rious band, a count - less



bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise to you, our king!
day, for this fair land—gifts of your hand—our thanks we pay.
tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grate - ful song.
pride, your sin de - plore, and bow be - fore the Cru - ci - fied.
throng, with joy to sing to heav'n's high king sal - va - tion's song!

SERMON
Rev. Dr. Victor Nelson
“A Christian Perspective on the 250th”

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED – LBW p.85

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with “God of grace,”
The response is “**hear our prayer.**”

Pastor: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and
unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.
People: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Sit

OFFERING



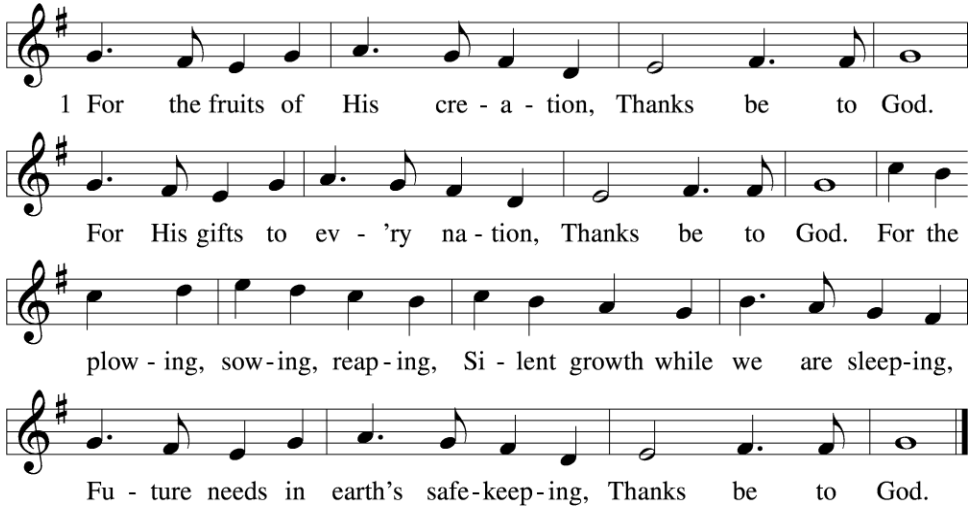
OFFERTORY

“O Day of Peace” - R. B. Farlee

Stand

OFFERING PRESENTATION & OFFERING HYMN

OFFERING HYMN “For the Fruits of His Creation” LSB 894



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father,
People: **we humbly offer to you the gifts of our treasures, talents, and time. Use them to your glory, and for the benefit of all your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING – LBW 88

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS LSB 208



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

People: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

Sit

LAMB OF GOD / AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION MUSIC
“Just As I Am, without One Plea” LBW 296



- 1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt,
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,



and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
 fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 yea, all I need in thee to find,

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
 wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 because thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
 has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

“There Is a Balm in Gilead” WOV 737

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil - e - ad to make the wound - ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil - e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, “He died for all.”
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” LBW 315



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

POST COMMUNION HYMN

Nunc Dimittis – LSB p.211

1 O Lord, now let to Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Deacon: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son, and for assuring us that we are living members and heirs of your eternal kingdom. Send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses, through Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

Sit

MINISTRY NEWS

Stand

CLOSING HYMN

“God Bless Our Native Land” LBW 569



1 God bless our na - tive land; firm may it ev - er stand
2 So shall our prayers a - rise to God a - bove the skies,



through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of
on whom we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, guard - ing with



wind and wave, do thou our coun - try save by thy great might.
watch-ful eye, to thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

A SENDING WORD

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” - Shearing

**** Church Attendance and Offerings ****

Attendance week ending 6/28/2026

Sunday, June 28, 2026

9:30AM: 69

Offerings Received in May 2026

(total monthly offerings includes online giving)

May 2026 Offerings Received:

Regular Weekly Offerings: \$13880.70

Loose Plate: \$240.11

Celebrations \$5.00

TOTAL May 2026: \$14,125.81

Budgeted: \$22,608.33

Year to Date Received (July through May) 2025-2026: \$207,932.59

St. Luke Church Council 2026

Ken Wenz	President	kpwenz@gmail.com
Jackie Guidone	Vice-President	Jackies7fromhvn@aol.com
Anna Schwen	Secretary	Aschwen1123@gmail.com
Brenda Lentsch	Treasurer	Treasurer@stlukedixhills.org
Denise Norman	Christian Education	Denisenorman231@gmail.com
Tony Fisher	Property	Afisher1855@gmail.com
Michele Castro	Finance	Michelel25@yahoo.com
Theresa Clark	Evangelism	Teesamarie33@gmail.com
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Nancy Gossow	Worship	Ngg123@aol.com
Sandi McDermott	Missions/Social Concerns	Sandib.mcder@gmail.com
Trisha Klare	Stewardship	Tsklare402@gmail.com
Rey Rivera	Youth	Reinrivera9@gmail.com

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Satellite for The Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

The Rev. Thomas W. Cusanelli - Pastoral Care (transition)
Email: pastor@stlukedixhills.org

The Rev. Charles W. Froehlich - Pastor Emeritus
Email: Revfro2@gmail.com

Jackie Flynn - Director of Youth & Family Ministry
Email: Jackie@stlukedixhills.org

Dr. Janet Pinto - Director of Music & Choirs
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Laura Werner - Administrative Assistant
Email: laura@stlukedixhills.org

Deacons

Deacon Greg Laub - Email: laugr01@gmail.com

Deacon Paul Elgert - Email: elgertpa@gmail.com

Deacon Tom Lamendola - Email: Tjdola63@gmail.com

Deacon Paul Rafuse - Email: prafuse54@gmail.com

Preschool

Jean Marie Marsh - Director of Weekday Preschool
Email: director@stlukedixhills.org

Teresa Lupo - Administrative Assistant
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Sexton

Michael Alonzo
Email: mikeyzo109@gmail.com

THE PEACE OF JESUS IN YOUR LIFE

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” - John 14:27

The goal of this class is to understand, receive, and live in the peace of Jesus. We will see what the peace of Jesus is and how he gives his peace to us. This class will help^o grow in four important areas of peace.



**Four-session class led by Pastor Nelson
Selected Sundays, 8:30–9:15 AM**

Peace with God – Sunday, July 19

Peace with Self – Sunday, August 9

Peace with Others – Sunday, August 30

Peace with Circumstances – To be Determined, Sunday Sept. 6 or 20

Come to one or come to all!

