

✠ Ninth Sunday after Pentecost ✠

July 26, 2026

10:00 AM



*Gathering People to Christ,
Building Believers in Christ,
Serving the World as Christ*



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The Rev. Dr. Eric Tritten, Senior Pastor, x28

Bob Brantsch, Director of Christian Education, x27

Sue Anderson, Director of Music Ministry

Laura Boicey & Ryann Jagger, Co-Youth Directors

Megan Polak, Preschool Director, x18

Becka Koudelka, Office Administrator, x26

Esther Williamson, Deaconess

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION . . .

The word "Sacrament" means that God is at work here. A Sacrament is an act of God, not just a pious ritual of the Church. What God does here is present us with the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, "in, with, and under" the bread and wine. It is more than just a reminder or a symbol of Christ. It is Christ. And so the proper approach is one of repentance for sin, and trust in God's promise. "He is truly worthy who has faith in the words: Given and shed for you," as Dr. Luther often said. We ask those who have never communed with us to please speak with the pastor before doing so. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Welcome: Jesus famously teaches, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21), and Jesus knows a treasure when He sees one. Listen to the Readings in worship today. From the days of the Old Testament onward, the Lord has clearly declared how He vastly treasures His people. The Son of God gives up everything to reclaim you as His treasured possession. And it is purely His love for you that gives you true value and limitless worth. Since His treasure is His people, you can be sure His heart remains with His people too, as He visits us here with the priceless goodness of His Word and Sacrament.

Assisted Listening Devices: are available for those who have trouble hearing the service. Please see an usher to use one.

Communication Cards: Please fill out the bright yellow communication cards located by the bulletins as you enter. If you are a visitor or your address has changed, please include that in the space provided. Prayer requests for next week may be written on the back.

Communion Procedure: Communion will be by continuous line. As the usher releases your pew, move to the pastor who will distribute the wafer, the assisting minister will offer the chalice as the common cup, and the acolyte will be holding the tray of individual cups. Grape juice is in the outer ring and is lighter in color than the wine. The wine is darker in color. Baskets to dispose of the individual cups are located near the front.

Cushions are available for those who may need them; ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery Welcomes Your Child: The church nursery is available during both Sunday worship services and Sunday school for preschool age children and younger. The nursery is staffed with a professional Nanny. It is located to the right as you enter the building, just past the coat room.

Prayer Requests: Please use the pink sheets to request prayers to be read during the service. Place in the offering plate.

Quiet Room: The Luther Room (located at the end of the hall to the left as you enter the building) is available for use as a "quiet room." It is equipped with comfortable chairs and a TV that shows the service.

Members and Visitors: Please take a moment to fill out the bright yellow Guest & Member Communication Cards and place it in the offering plate during the Offering time. Thank You.

Welcome

Hymn

"10,000 Reasons"

Chorus

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up; it's a new day dawning; it's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Chorus*

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger. Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing—ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come,
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending. Ten thousand years and then forevermore!
Chorus 2X

Tag

Worship Your holy name. Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Ending

Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name.
Worship Your holy name. Worship Your holy name.

Text: Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman | Text: © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). Used by permission: CCLI no. 1894790

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Memory Verse

Psalm 100:3–4

C ³ Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who _____ us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. ⁴ Enter His gates with _____, and His courts with _____! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

Opening Sentences

Romans 11:33; Deuteronomy 7:7, 9; Romans 11:36

P Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

P The LORD set His love on you and chose you.

C Know therefore that the LORD is God.

P For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C To Him be glory forever. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Romans 8:31–32

P You are a people holy to the Lord your God.

C We confess our unholy thoughts, words, and actions.

Silence for personal reflection.

P Almighty God,

C we have not lived up to our calling as Your treasured possession. Our desires are selfish and our love is shallow. We have turned aside from doing good and chosen to treasure things of creation rather than our Creator. In our sinful state we are vulnerable to the devil, death, and darkness. And so we seek Your mercy. We surrender to Your loving kindness in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

P “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

C “He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?”

P Indeed, the mercy of almighty God is displayed in the giving of His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Hymn

“I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”

LSB 651



1 I love Your king - dom, Lord, The place of Your a - bode,
2 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,
3 I love Your Church, O God, Your saints in ev - 'ry land,
4 For them my tears shall fall; For them my prayers as - cend;
Instrumental Interlude
5 Sure as Your truth shall last, To Zi - on shall be giv'n



The Church our blest Re-deem-er saved With His own pre-cious blood.
Its sweet com-mu-nion, sol-emn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.
Dear as the ap-ple of Your eye And grav-en on Your hand.
For them my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.
The bright-est glo-ries earth can yield And bright-er bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt. | Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76 | Text and tune: Public domain

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6–9

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set His love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is

keeping the oath that He swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Romans 8:28–39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is

the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For Your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:44–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into

containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to Him, “Yes.” ⁵²And He said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Hymn

“Jesus, You Have Called Us”

Jesus, You have called us: “Come, follow me.

Take up your cross, deny yourself and live.”

Jesus, I am willing, though I am weak.

I’ll trust You and I’ll go where You lead.

Chorus

I will follow. I will follow. I will follow where You lead.

Jesus, You have shown us how we should live—

In sacrifice, humility and love.

Jesus, I am willing though I am weak.

I’ll follow You with Your Spirit in me. *Chorus 2X*

Sermon

God's Treasure

Offertory Hymn

"We Are an Offering"

We lift our voices. We lift our hands. We lift our lives up to You. We are an offering.
Lord, use our voices. Lord use our hands. Lord use our lives, they are Yours,
We are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are. All that we hope to be we give to You, we give to You.
We lift our voices. We lift our hands. We lift our lives up to You. We are an offering.
We are an offering.

Text: Dwight Liles | Text: © 1984 Curb Word Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 1894790

Prayer of the Church

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Mighty Lord, we need Your constant defense in a world of death, danger, and distraction. Guard us in both body and soul, that Your people might live to the praise of our victorious Savior, Jesus. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C Lord, have mercy.

A Generous Lord, all good things are gifts from Your holy hand. Undo our attitudes of selfishness and renew within us a spirit of generosity, freely giving of our treasures to the needy in our midst. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C Lord, have mercy.

A Seeking and saving Lord, You tirelessly pursue the children of earth with Your goodness and mercy. Soften hearts hardened to Your Gospel and activate Your people to witness to Your goodness. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C Lord, have mercy.

A Faithful Lord, despite our sin, You keep covenant and steadfast love. Rescue families where loyalties have been betrayed and trust broken. Mend hurting hearts with forgiveness and restore them by Your grace. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C Lord, have mercy.

A All-seeing Lord, You set Your heart on the least and fewest. Set Your heart once again on the lonely, the dying, the poor, and the sick. Bring good amid their challenges and remind us that no problem is too big for Your power and no one is too small to escape Your notice. Through the love of Christ, we pray:

C Lord, have mercy.

P These prayers, and all those lifted up by believers around the world, we entrust to Your care, O almighty God, trusting You to hear and answer according to the Father's will, in the Son's grace, and by the Spirit's power.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

A As often as we eat of this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pax Domini

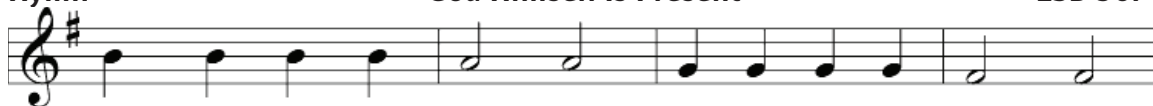
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Hymn

"God Himself Is Present"

LSB 907



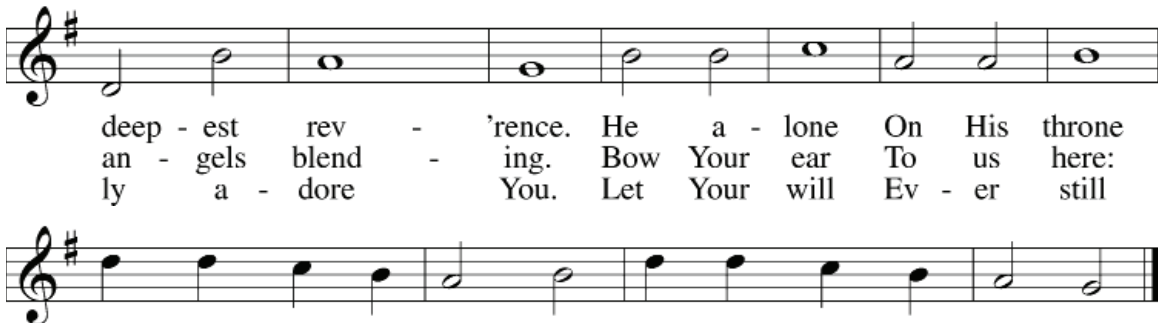
1 God Him - self is pres - ent: Let us now a - dore Him
2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,
Trust-ing on - ly in Your mer - it. Like the ho - ly



tem - ple; All with - in keep si - lence; Hum - bly kneel in
ho - ly!" Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and
an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore You, May I cease-less -



deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone On His throne
 an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:
 ly a - dore You. Let Your will Ev - er still

Is our God and Sav - ior; Praise His name for - ev - er!
 Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.
 Rule Your Church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, alt.; tr. John Miller, 1756–90, alt.
 Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80 | Text and tune: Public domain

Hymn “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
 I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.
 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
 How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Chorus

My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, has ransomed me;
 And like a flood His mercy rains. Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me. His word my hope secures.
 He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. *Chorus*

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.
 But God who called me here below will be forever mine,
 Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

Text: Chris Tomlin, John Newton, Louie Giglio
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Post-Communion Thanksgiving

A Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P 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.

C Amen.

Memory Verse

Psalm 100:3-4

C ³ Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who _____ us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. ⁴ Enter His gates with _____, and His courts with _____! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



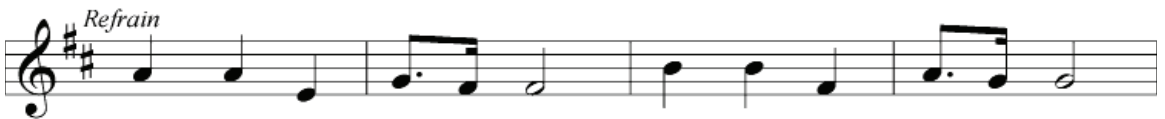
There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see;

All I have need-ed Thy hand hath pro-vid-ed;

Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960 | Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957
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Acknowledgments

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