

✠ Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost ✠
September 27, 2026
8:15 & 10:45 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

Ryann Jagger, Youth Director

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: From the beginning, God implanted His life-creating power into His creation with the command “Be fruitful and multiply” to animals (Genesis 1:22) and to humans (1:28), with one important difference. You are not an accident or only a product of biology. Every human being is a personal soul. So we confess, “I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them” (Small Catechism, Creed, Explanation of the First Article). Because of our inherited sin, however, “the soul who sins shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4). Nevertheless, God’s design is for life—eternal life. He declares, “I have no pleasure in the death of anyone” (18:32). Because God so loves you, He sent His Son to take away your sin by the shedding of His blood on the cross. Therefore, “we preach Christ crucified, . . . the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1 Corinthians 1:23–24). Christ died to sin for you. By Holy Baptism, you died with Christ and are raised to new life in Him. The love of God is yours today by faith in the cross of Jesus Christ. The Father’s declaration of Jesus now becomes yours: “My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17).

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: Then, ushers will release one side at a time from the middle. The pulpit side will fill in the front starting at the side closest to the street and fill in all the way to the other wall. The lectern side does the same in reverse—start from the wall closest to the lectern and fill in the entire way across to the other wall. Grape juice is in the outer ring and is lighter in color than the wine. The wine is darker in color. After communing, return to your seat via the side aisle. The entire congregation will be dismissed after all have communed. There are baskets for the used communion cups hanging on the outside edge of the first pew. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, alert an usher and the Pastor will bring communion to you.

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.

Prelude

"God Loved the World So That He Gave" arr. John Eggert
"Holy, Holy, Holy" arr. James W. Kosnik

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Stand

Hymn

"Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng" LSB 813 sts. 1, ref, 2–3

Order of Holy Baptism (10:45)

Maggie Rae Dunlap & Ava Marie Hall

(Pastor will speak to the Emily, Mark, Katie, Troy, Maggie and Ava. Please join in response as directed below.)

Prayer

P Let's pray ...

C Amen.

Baptismal Gospel

P This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Lord's Prayer

P On special occasions like this, when we gather in God's presence as the children of God, we join to pray the family prayer that Jesus teaches us:

C **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**

P The Lord preserve your coming in and going out from this time forth and forevermore. (Psalm 121:8)

C Amen.

Questions:

P The next 2 questions will be addressed to Maggie and Ava, but we will all answer together on their behalf:

P Do you renounce the devil, and all his works and all his ways?

C I do renounce them.

P Do you believe in God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

C Yes, 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.

P Maggie Rae Dunlap, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Ava Marie Hall, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P ...Welcome to the family!

Applause

P ...Peace be with You.

C Amen.

Invocation (8:15)

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

C Amen.

Memory Verse

Philippians 2:1-2

C So if there is any _____ in Christ, any _____ from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my _____ by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Confession and Absolution

LSB 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

Kyrie

LSB 204



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204 st. 1



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you

shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205



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



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



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



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

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23–27

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

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

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell Me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven

or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And He said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed (8:15)

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” LSB 576, sts. 1–4

Sermon

Of the Same Mind

Offertory (8:15)

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

arr. Valerie Floeter

Choir Offertory (10:45)

"O God of Heaven"

arr. Hal Hopson

Philippine melody

Text by Elena Maquiso,

Tr. D.T. Niles

Stand

Pastoral Prayers

Prayer of the Church

A Almighty God, we give You thanks for all Your goodness and loving kindness that You have bestowed on us as Your own creation. For Your whole creation and the blessings of this life, we give You praise and thanks. Continue Your gift of life and grant that all look to You as their Creator and Giver of life through the gift of Your redemption in Christ Jesus, the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant Your blessing and guidance on Your holy church in this world to be the beacon of the light of Your salvation for all who look to You for the salvation of their souls and for every help in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Send upon the ministers of Your church and the congregations committed to their care the healthful spirit of Your grace, making all pastors diligent to preach Your Holy Word, and send Your people faithful obedience that they be comforted and strengthened in faith and do all things that are well pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Guide and direct the governments of all nations to seek the ways of Your will in peace and justice, especially in the face of any and all adversity. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Help all who call upon You in any need, that they have patience in times of sorrow or suffering and be released from their afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A We remember before You all those who have loved and served You and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer (8:15)

C 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.

Sit

Hymn	"What Wondrous Love Is This"	LSB 543, sts. 1–4
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Hymn	"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"	LSB 554, sts. 1–5
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Hymn	"Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor"	LSB 534, sts. 1–4
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Stand

Communion Dismissal

Post-Communion Canticle "Nunc Dimittis"

LSB 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 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 Collect

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

Philippians 2:1-2

C So if there is any _____ in Christ, any _____ from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my _____ by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Hymn

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”

LSB 813 sts. ref, 5–7

Postlude

“Celebration of Life”

By Gary Davidson

Acknowledgments

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