

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Susan Roegge – “Here I Am, Lord,” arr. Lloyd Larson

GATHERING

Call to Worship

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song – “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” ELW 807 (piano)

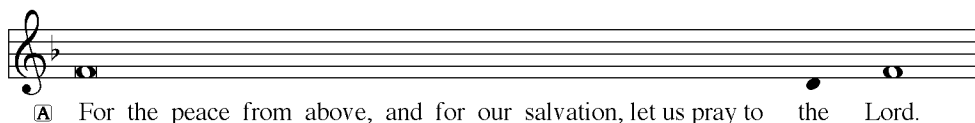
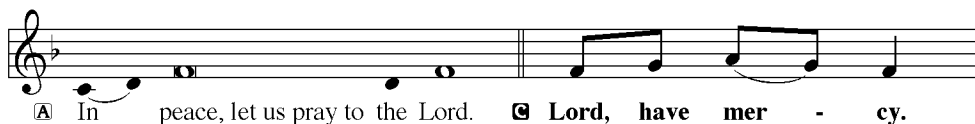
- 1 **Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**
- 2 **Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**
- 3 **Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

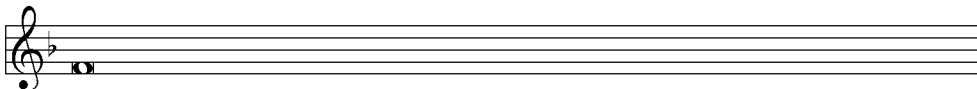
**Greeting*

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

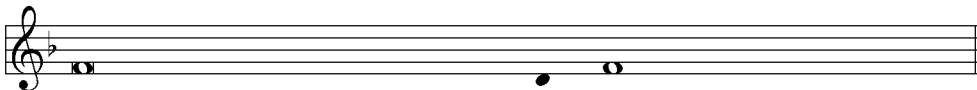
C: And also with you.

**Kyrie*





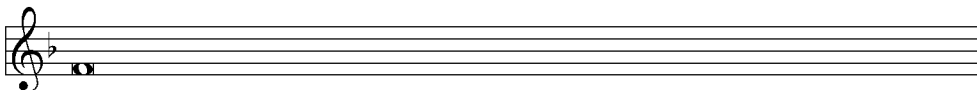
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



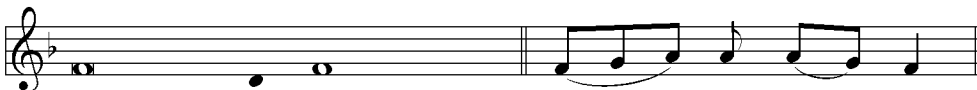
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra- cious Lord. C A - men

**Hymn of Praise: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" ELW 858*

(organ)

- 1 **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!**
- 2 **Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?**
- 3 **Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.**

**Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
if with his love he befriend you.**

- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!**

**Prayer of the Day*

P: God of covenant, you promised Abraham land, descendants, and blessing so that he might be a blessing for all. Show us how to honor the covenant, so that we might be a blessing to others. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

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

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children's Sermon

WORD

Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

Reader: Barb Davenport

¹Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of

Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

R: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 28:19-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song – “In a Deep Unbounded Darkness” (ACS 1093) (piano)

- 1 **In a deep, unbounded darkness, long before the first light shone,
you, O God, beyond all merit worked a wonder faith makes known:
in your mercy, in your mercy, you embraced us as your own,
evermore and evermore.**
- 2 **Though our world is everchanging, you are constant, firm, and sure,
faithful to your cov'nant promise. Trusting you, we live, secure:
singing praises, singing praises, long as heart and breath endure,
evermore and evermore.**
- 3 **Joy transforms our lips to boasting only in your matchless grace,
sending Christ to dwell among us, Word made flesh in time and space:
Friend and Savior, Friend and Savior, in whose life we glimpse your face,
evermore and evermore.**
- 4 **God of Hagar, God of Sarah, God of nomad Abraham;
God of Miriam, God of Moses, Fi'ry Pillar, great I Am:
lead us homeward, lead us homeward, to the love-feast of the Lamb,
evermore and evermore.**

Sermon: “Leaping in Faith with Abram”

Song of the Day – “Lord, You Give the Great Commission” ELW 579 (*organ*)

- 1 Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:

Refrain: With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us for the work of ministry.

- 2 Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community: *Refrain*

- 3 Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us share your children's liberty: *Refrain*

- 4 Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us to a just society: *Refrain*

- 5 Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity: *Refrain*

**The Apostles' Creed*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Intercession*

Stewardship Time

“Sleepyhead Sun,” by Chris Rice
sung by Lily Snodgrass & Maria Snodgrass

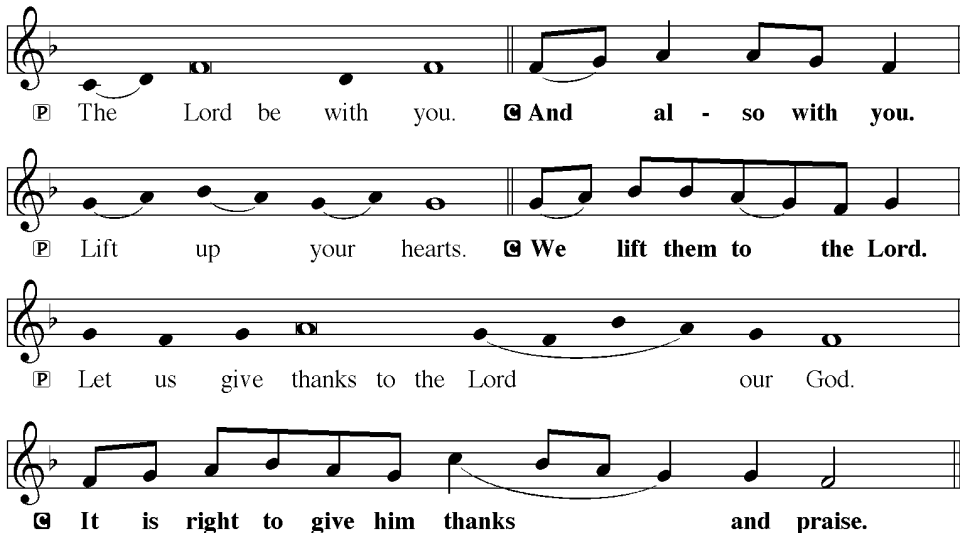
—We now have Worship Cards in the pews. Please let us know if you are communing, share a prayer request, and place your card in the offering plate as a gesture of stewardship as we grow in relationship with God through the use of our time, talents, and finances—

*Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words in bold. The first staff has a repeat sign at the end. The second staff has a repeat sign at the end. The third staff has a repeat sign at the end. The fourth staff has a repeat sign at the end.

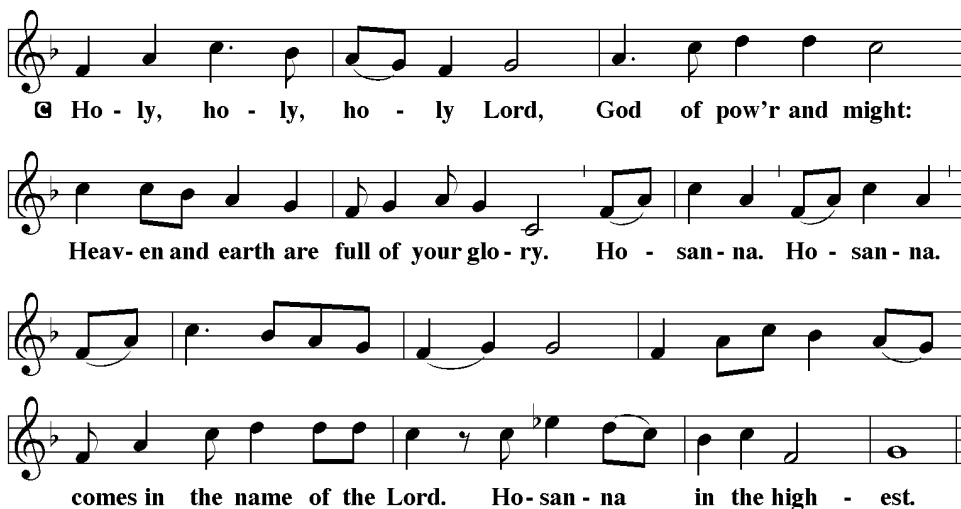
☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**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.

Communion Songs

“Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ELW 886 (*organ*)

- 1 **Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
 the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**

- 2 **My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**
- 3 **The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.**
- 4 **He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.**
- 5 **Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!**
- 6 **To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

“We Belong to You”

(piano)

*Refrain: We belong to you, O Lord of our longing, we belong to you.
In our daily living, dying and rising We belong to you.*

1. **In the waters of your mercy, When the old becomes the new,
Souls united in the myst'ry: we belong to you. *Refrain***
2. **Filled with gifts and filled with goodness, Spirit breathing life into
All who seek to find their purpose: we belong to you. *Refrain***
3. **When we share the bread you've broken With the many and the few,
We are blessed and we are broken; we belong to you. *Refrain***
4. **We are called to share your word, Lord, In all we say and all we do.
As our journey moves us onward, we belong to you. *Refrain***

We belong to you. We belong to you.

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor, and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

**Sending Song – “Go to the World” (ACS 991)*

(organ)

- 1 **Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 2 **Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 3 **Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- 4 **"Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry, Amen!"
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The altar plants are donated today by the Roth family
in celebration of Laura's birthday today
and
by the Heise family

Song Credits

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Barb Davenport

Greeter: Barb Fishback

Reader: Barb Davenport

Usher: Pat Glyshaw

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Pianist: Susan Roegge

Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen

Financial Assistants: Kevin Krohe & Kay Schnitker

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Host: *Reception Committee*

Singers:

Maddie Crossin

Kelly Hartz

Adam Krohe

Cole Street

Benen Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Kris Roth

Melissa Street

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson

Kevin Krohe

Monica Proefrock

Cory Street

Greg Kimler

Patty Nelson

Kay Schnitker

John Williams



What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, September 27, 9:30am: Worship **Friends from Faith Card Ministry**

10:45am: Retirement Reception for Kris Roth

Wednesday, September 30, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Saturday, October 3, 8:00am: Cooking for

9:00am: Men's Breakfast in the Great Room

Sunday, October 4, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Retirement Reception for Jean Welch

Wednesday, October 7, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

News Updates

Lay Ministry Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Faith's Little Flock and Faith's Older Flock

We now have two groups of children meeting during worship on the Sundays we are inside. Faith's Little Flock is for children ages 2-7, and Faith's Older Flock is for children gr. 1-6.

Retirement Receptions for Kris Roth & Jean Welch

Our congregation is giving thanks for the partnership in ministry we have shared with two of our beloved staff members - Kris Roth as our Secretary and Jean Welch as our Music Director. All are invited to gather in gratitude and celebration as they enter retirement. Two receptions will be held to offer heartfelt opportunities to share memories, express appreciation, and bless Kris and Jean as they step into this new chapter.

A reception honoring Kris Roth will be held following worship today,
and a reception for Jean Welch will take place following worship on Sunday, October 4.
All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to contribute to a retirement gift from the congregation, please indicate "Kris retirement" or "Jean retirement" on your check or envelope so your gift can be directed appropriately. Your generosity will help celebrate their years of faithful service and the many ways they have enriched the life of our Faith family. Thank you Kris and Jean! You have been such a blessing to us and we give thanks to God for the ministry we have shared together!

Read the Bible in a Year

Please join us in reading the New Testament, starting October 1. We will meet weekly on Wednesdays from October 7 through December 31, from 10:00-11:00am in the Library, to discuss the reading for each week. By December 31, we will have read the entire New Testament. If you would like more information and the reading schedule, please contact Pam Devlin at 217-473-7375 or pdevlin56@gmail.com. God's Blessings to all.

Post-Service Discussions – Digging Deeper

Join us on **October 11** in the Justice Room for exploring the new sermon series based on the Lectionary.

New Faith Telephone Directory: please make changes directly onto the draft copy at the Coffee Sales counter. We'll be printing a new directory soon. Thank You!