



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Welcome!

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is available in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

REUSE & RECYCLE BULLETINS

Please return your bulletin to the basket in the narthex after the early service or recycle in the blue recycle bin after the late service.

HYMNAL

The red hymnal in the pew in front of you contains much of the music used in this service. Page numbers are in the front part of the hymnal on the bottom of the page, while hymns are found towards the rear of the hymnal.

RESOURCES

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. The nursery is open but unstaffed.

LEARN MORE

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more:

- Please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate
- Visit us online at www.luthermem.org or Facebook

PRELUDE Soul, Adorn Thyself With Gladness (BWV 654) | Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

GATHERING

Please rise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

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.

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.

Amen.

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the altar.

#757 PROCESSIONAL HYMN All My Hope on God Is Founded

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

All



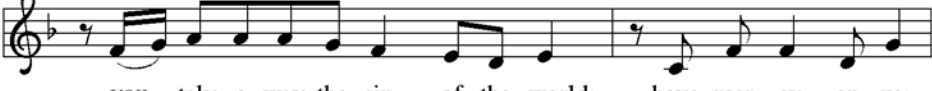
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther,



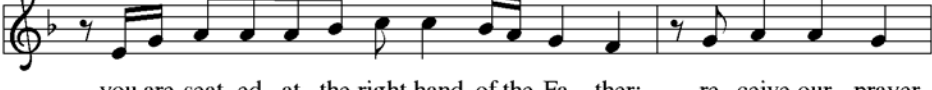
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



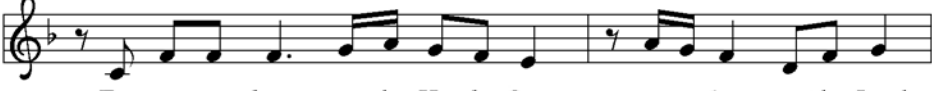
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, Lord of judgment and grace: through the death and resurrection of your beloved Son you reveal your power in weakness. By your Spirit, turn us from our pretense of strength, that we might live in the power of your weakness and so embody your justice in mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 3:5–12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:129–136

The choir and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the choir.



Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

**When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**

I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.

**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,
as you always do to those who | love your name.**

Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.**

Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.

**My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:26–39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Choir: Many will come from east and west and will eat in the kingdom of heaven.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:31-33, 44–52

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out

the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#793 HYMN OF THE DAY Be Thou My Vision

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

... Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*Please greet your neighbor: **Peace be with you.***

MEAL

Please sit.

OFFERING Jesus, Priceless Treasure | Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

The text may be found at hymn #775.

Please rise.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes and a full note. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

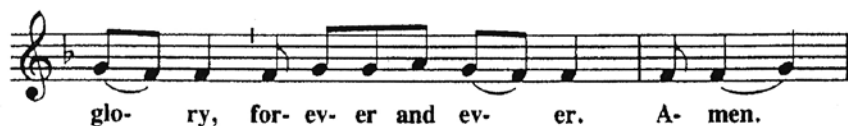
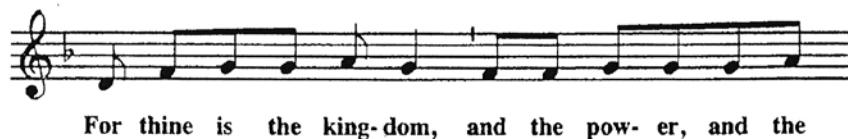
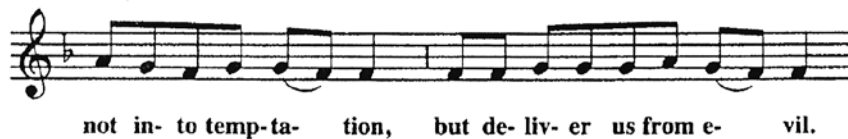
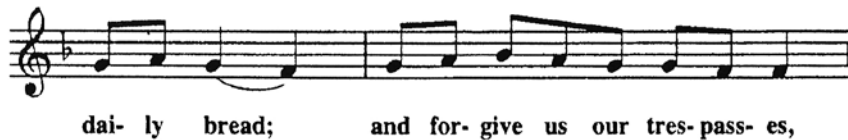
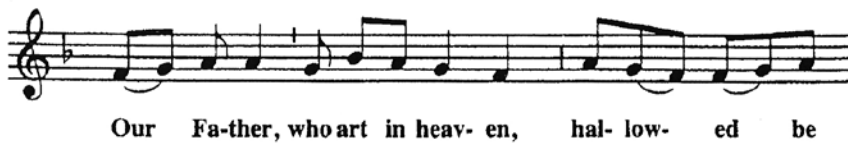
You are indeed holy... until he comes.



Remembering, therefore... now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

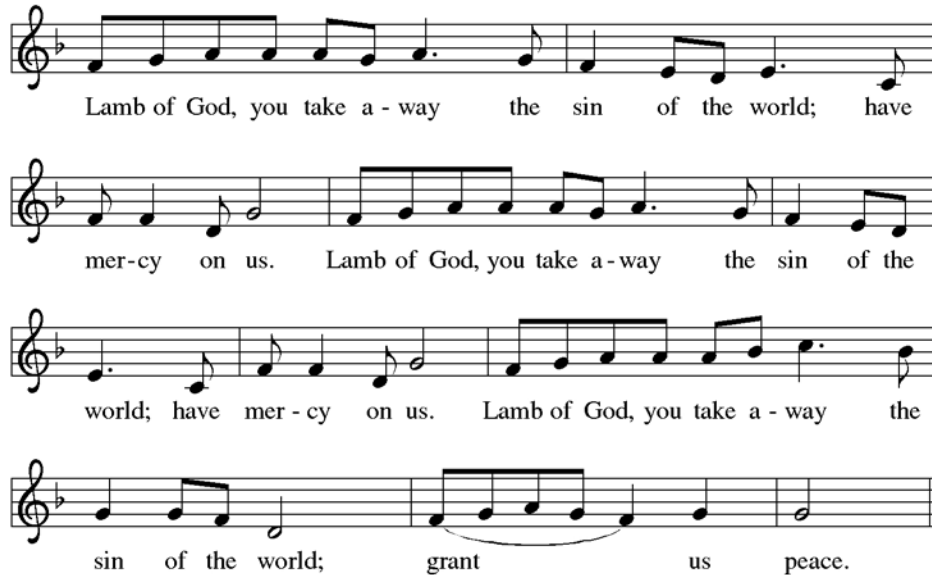


THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received by drinking from the first chalice or by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice. Gluten-free bread is available on request.

Please sit.

LAMB OF GOD



MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Adoration | Florence Price (1887–1953)

#488 COMMUNION HYMN Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Please rise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

#705 RECESSIONAL HYMN God of Grace and God of Glory

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE God of Grace and God of Glory | Paul Manz (1919–2009)

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

O Lord Jesus Christ, who
midstream first loved us,
who until the end didst love
them whom Thou didst love
from the beginning, who
unto the end of days dost
continue to love him who
would belong to Thee; Thy
faithfulness cannot deny
itself — oh, only when a man
denies Thee can he compel
Thee as it were to deny him
also, Thou loving One. So
be this our comfort when we
must accuse ourselves of the
offenses we have committed
and of the things we have
left undone, of our weakness
in temptation, of our slow
progress in the good, in short,
of our unfaithfulness to
Thee, to whom once in early
youth and oftentimes again we
promised faithfulness — this
be our comfort, that even if
we are unfaithful, Thou does
remain faithful, Thou canst
not deny Thyself. Amen.

Soren Kierkegaard
(1813 – 1855)

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Rev. David Berggren
PREACHER	Rev. Jon R. Nelson
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTE	Abrielle Shirek
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dean Gardner
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Calvin Slinde, Derren Slinde, Randy Raasch, Janet Zentner
CRUCIFER	Corbin Slinde
LECTOR	Susan Berggren
SACRISTAN	Dan Ruge
AUDIO	David Heins
VIDEO	Lee Powell
USHERS	Eric Oelkers, Casey Oelkers, Dylan Oelkers, Kendall Oelkers

Our thanks to Rolf Wulfsberg, violin, for playing this morning.

Altar flowers are given by Mike & Kathy Bradley in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary.

Today we remember the inurnment of George Bush in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read his page in the memory books.

Our thanks to Rev. David Berggren and Rev. John R. Nelson today. Pastor Brad Pohlman and Pastor John Worzala Dumke are both away on vacation and will return next week.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006456.
Hymns reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-703710.
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches
of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

