



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Welcome!

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

WELCOME

Welcome to Luther Memorial Church! We're glad you're here and invite you to join us in worship and fellowship. Whether you're visiting for the first time, returning after time away or looking for a church community to call home, you are welcome here.

If you would like to learn more:

- Please speak to a pastor,
- Fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate, or
- Visit us online at www.luthermem.org or Facebook

CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. A staffed nursery is available Sundays 9 am–noon.

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.

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.

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.

PRELUDE Präludium in C Major | Vincent Lübeck (1654-1740)

GATHERING

Please rise and face the baptismal font at the rear of the nave.

P. 227 SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

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

#853 PROCESSIONAL HYMN When Morning Gilds the Skies

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

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you show lovingkindness to your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and form us in the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Jonah 3:10—4:11

When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8

The choir sings the antiphon, “The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,” before and after the psalm. The choir and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the choir.



I will exalt you, my | God and king,
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.

**Every day | will I bless you
and praise your name forev- | er and ever.**

Great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised!
There is no end | to your greatness.

**One generation shall praise your works | to another
and shall de- | clare your power.**

I will speak of the glorious splendor | of your majesty
and all your | marvelous works.

**They shall tell of the might of your | wondrous acts,
and I will re- | count your greatness.**

They shall publish the remembrance of | your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully | of your righteousness.

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

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Choir: Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#590 HYMN OF THE DAY Salvation unto Us Has Come

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 Grace on Grace | William Beckstrand (b. 1962)

The law through Moses came.

Grace on grace

But God sent love, our life to claim.

Grace and truth in Jesus name!

The glory of the Word became in flesh, like us,

But not the same,

For in his fullness all receive grace on grace.

Please rise.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

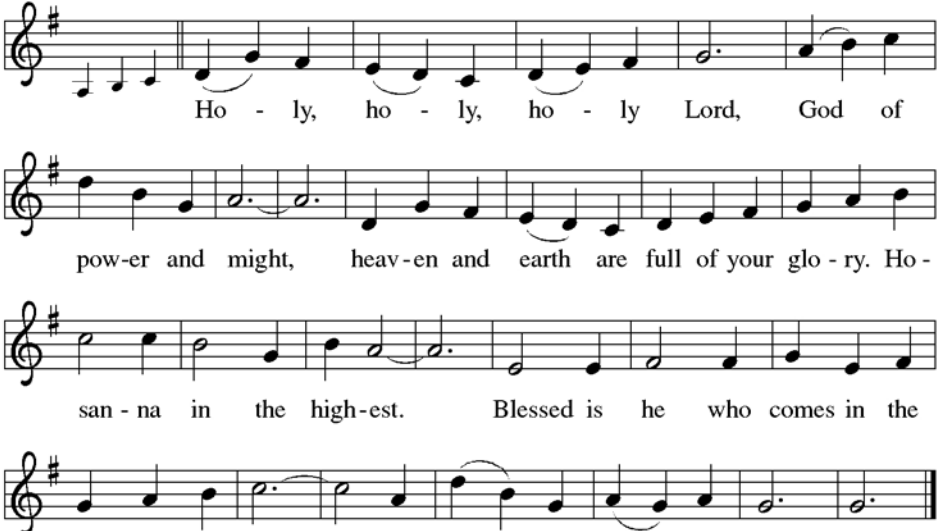
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore... now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be
thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our

dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,
as we for- give those who tres- pass a- gainst us; and lead us
not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.
For thine is the king- dom, and the pow- er, and the
glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

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 in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice. Gluten-free bread is available on request.

Please sit.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

#659 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

#714 O God of Mercy, God of Light

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.

#588 RECESSIONAL HYMN There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Alleluyas | Simon Preston (1938-2022)

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

...I repeat, the school of the world seems to send out living copies of this typical excellence with greater success than the Church. At this day the "gentlemen" is the creation, not of Christianity, but of civilization. But the reason is obvious. The world is content with setting right the surface of things; the Church aims at regenerating the very depths of the heart. She ever begins with the beginning; and, as regards the multitude of her children, is never able to get beyond the beginning, but is continually employed in laying the foundation. She is engaged with what is essential, as previous and as introductory to the ornamental and the attractive. She is curing men and keeping them clear of mortal sin; she is "treating of justice and chastity, and the judgment to come;" she is insisting on faith and hope, and devotion, and honesty, and the elements of charity; and has so much to do with precept, that she almost leaves it to inspirations from Heaven to suggest what is of counsel and perfection. She aims at what is necessary rather than what is desirable. She is for the many as well as for the few. She is putting souls in the way of salvation, that they may then be in a condition, if they shall be called upon, to aspire to the heroic, and to attain the full proportions, as well as the rudiments, of the beautiful...

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
PREACHER	Rev. Dr. Mary Gaebler
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTES	Benjamin McGuire, Esther Szczykutowicz
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dean Gardner
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Michael Bradley, Helen Hartman, Janelle Allen
CRUCIFER	Brian Uphoff
LECTOR	Bonnie Gruber
SACRISTAN	Mary Powell
AUDIO	Bill Braham
VIDEO	Lee Powell
HEAD USHER	Bob Uphoff
USHERS	Chris Uphoff, Corbin Slinde

Baptized today is Aldo Herreid, child of Peter & Alyson Herreid.

Altar flowers are given by Paul & Janice Ferguson in celebration of their 20th wedding anniversary (September 22).

Today we remember the inurnment of Virginia Bopf in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read her page in the memory books.

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