



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Welcome!

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

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 Elegy | Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

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.

#729 PROCESSIONAL HYMN The Church of Christ, in Every Age

APOSTOLIC GREETING

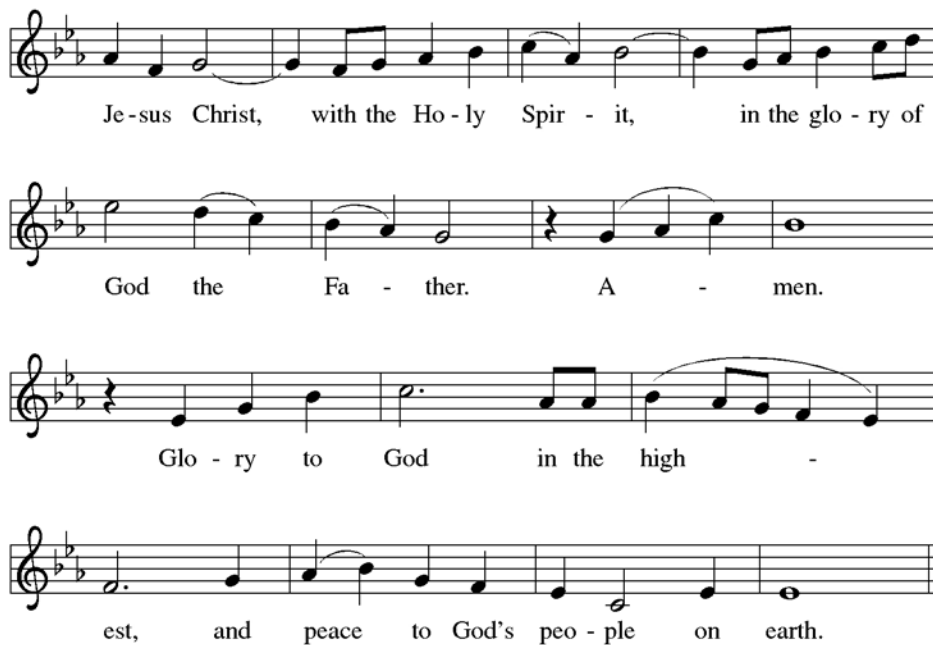
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of 11 staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, and some rests. The final note of the piece is a whole note G.

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,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved God and Father: all good things come from you. By your Spirit, inspire us to know what is right; and by the gracious mercy of your beloved Son, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1-7

I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

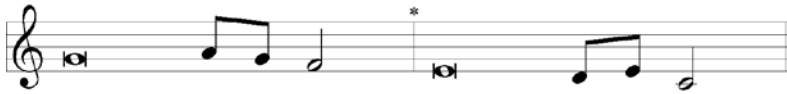
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:7-15

The choir sings the antiphon, "Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine," before and after the psalm. The choir and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the choir.



Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

**You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and | planted it.**

You cleared the | ground for it;
it took root and | filled the land.

**The mountains were covered | by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs. R**

You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea
and its branches | to the river.

**Why have you broken | down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?**

The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

**Turn now, O | God of hosts,
look | down from heaven;
behold and | tend this vine;
preserve what your right | hand has planted.**

SECOND READING Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Choir: Jesus says, I chose you and appointed you to bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:33–46

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#727 HYMN OF THE DAY Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

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 Amid the World's Bleak Wilderness | Richard Hillert (1923–2010)

Amid the world's bleak wilderness
A vineyard grows with promise green,
The planting of the Lord himself.

His love selected this terrain;
His vine with love he planted here
To bear the choicest fruit for him.

We are his branches, chosen, dear,
And though we feel the dresser's knife,
We are the objects of his care.

From him we draw the juice of life,
For him supply his winery
With fruit from which true joys derive.

Vine, keep what I was meant to be:
Your branch, with your rich life in me.

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.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves, each with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The third staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The fourth staff has a double bar line after the first measure.

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.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves, each with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The third staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The fourth staff has a double bar line after the first measure.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.

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

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of one staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The staff has a double bar line after the first measure.

Remembering, therefore... now and forever.

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

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of one staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The staff has a double bar line after the first measure.

LORD'S PRAYER



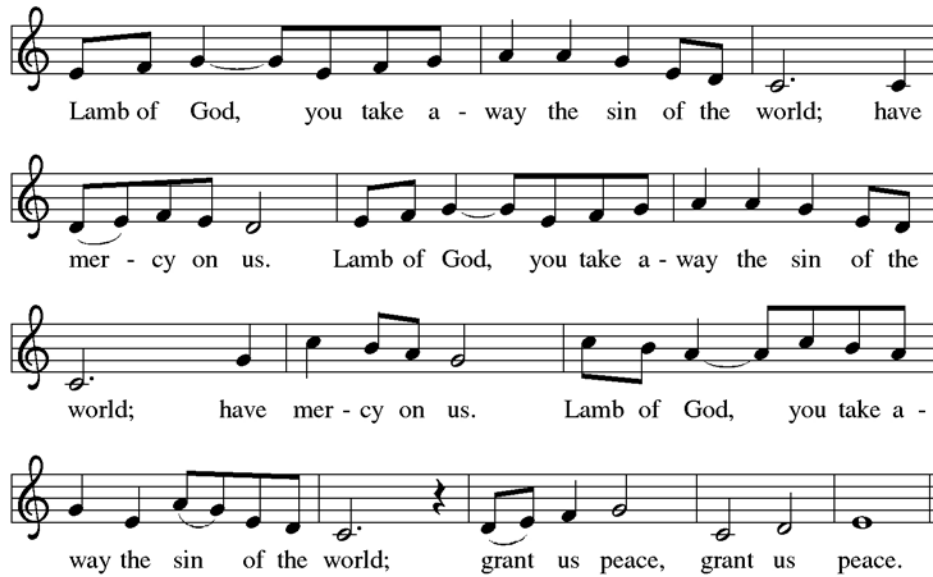
Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be
thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our
dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,
as we for-give those who tres-pass a- gainst us; and lead us
not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- 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



MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Andante Grazioso | Gaston M. Déthier (1875–1958)

COMMUNION HYMNS

#342 There in God's Garden

#323 God Loved the World

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.

#826 RECESSIONAL HYMN Thine the Amen

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Prelude in f minor (BWV 534) | Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

O Christ our God, thou, even thou, art now the one God and lover of thy children: We pray thee to grant us and thy whole people a mind free from care, a clear understanding, that we may know and understand what profit there is in that holy teaching of thine, which now is being delivered unto us, and how far it resembles thee, O Prince of Life! So also make us worthy to be like unto it in every work, and in faith, and to glorify thy holy name and to rejoice in thy cross. Amen.

Gregory of Nazianzus
(330 -389)

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
PREACHER	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTES	Luke Szczykutowicz, Esther Szczykutowicz
ASSISTING MINISTER	Margaret Szczykutowicz
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Janelle Allen, John Pleuss, Janet Zentner
CRUCIFER	Tim Szczykutowicz
LECTOR	Janelle Allen
SACRISTAN	Randy Raasch
AUDIO & VIDEO	Alex Starr
HEAD USHER	Robert Steffen
USHERS	Marsha Steffen, Nicole Lane Starr, Kathleen Miller

Our thanks to Paul Ahlquist and Arriana Schwab, violin, and Lynn Washington, viola, for playing this morning.

Altar flowers are given by Woody Klipp in honor of Harlan and Sharon Klipp on their 40th wedding anniversary (Oct. 4, 2026).

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