



Sunday, September 20, 2026

10:00 a.m.



“The Grapes of Grace”

Pastor Erik Allen



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

Charles Ore

Announcements

GATHERING

Song

Only By Grace

Call to Worship

P: One generation tells another of God's marvelous works.

C: Together, we declare God's goodness and praise God's holy name.

P: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

C: There is no end to the greatness of our God.

P: Come, sing joyfully of God's righteousness and recount God's wondrous acts.

C: We will praise the Lord today and every day.

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

C: Come, let us worship our God together!

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

C: And also with you!

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

There is None Like You

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen**

C: 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.

please be seated

Offering

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code
or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



Hymn

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant
(vs 1 & 2)

ELW 659

Offering Prayer

P: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the Church (the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.)

Members: Cheryl, Anita, Sue, Sally, Vickie

Family & Friends: Lucille, Joe, Dale, Nikki, Janet, Wes, Emily, Sally,
Karla, Leon, Dee, Carol

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!

Invitation to Communion

P: Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

please be seated.

Distribution

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome.

Those who do not wish to take Communion may come forward for a blessing.

Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

SENDING

Blessing

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Song

Walkin' In the Light

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Canzona"

Philippe de Monte

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting September 27

Please join us September 27 for a brief Congregational Meeting to affirm our Annual Report. Copies have been sent via Flocknote but a few are available in the Gathering Place for those who wish to pick one up.

Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Join us Wednesday mornings in the Cross & Crown area from 8:30 to 10:00. The resource is The Wired Word which uses current events as lesson topics for each meeting. Relevant scripture is provided to guide the group's discussion in applying the lesson to our faith in today's world. Come and join us as we dig into God's Word together!

WOW (Women on Wednesday)

We meet in the Parlor from 9:15-11:00 each Wednesday morning. We have ladies new to studying the Bible along with those more experienced, but rest assured, all are welcome! We are currently studying "Matthew, Together by Grace Bible Conversations."

KOG Women's Book Club

The group will be reading "The Ragamuffin Gospel" by Brennan Manning this fall. Group meets 2nd Friday of the month in the Parlor. Contact for questions is Kathy Peterson 317 402-1847.

We're Excited to Start Another School Year with Your Kids!

Sunday morning programming for all students begins today at 9:00. Students in K-5th grade will meet in the Gloryland area. Lead teachers for this group are Brandon Hulse and Liz Lichtenberger, with several assistants.

Confirmation Now on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 Begins Today

We're excited to offer Confirmation at this new time. The class will be called *Faith Conversations with Pastor Erik; Confirmation & Beyond*. High School students are welcome (encouraged!) to attend as this gives our older youth a chance to keep exploring and refining what they believe. Pastor Erik believes their experiences and questions will add a great deal to the conversation. Join us in the Cross & Crown area.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethlehem Christians Olivewood Sales

Olive wood carvings and crafts from Christian artists in the Holy Land are being offered for sale today. Sales of olive wood carvings support many Christian families in the Bethlehem area who rely on this and pilgrims as primary sources of income. Due to the recent events in the Holy Land, all tourism activities have been impacted, which devastated the livelihoods of those families. Christians make less than 1.5% of the population in the Holy Land. Your support keep these native Christians rooted in their homeland.

Thank you for your prayers and support! Stop by in the Gathering Place or feel free to purchase online at www.bethlehemcrafts.biz



New Church Directory

We are going to experiment with using the resources that KOG already has to produce a new directory in-house. To do that we will need pictures of all of your smiling faces!

During the month of October, we will have the Huxhold Conference Room (in the hallway between Leslie and Pastor Erik's office) set up for taking photos. We will be scheduling sessions before and after the worship services. And, for anyone who cannot get to church on Sundays in October but could during the week, Leslie will schedule times for you to come in.

This is not a professional photo session! All we need is one good picture of you and your family. There will be nothing to buy!! Is that a relief or what?!

It is not a requirement that you come to the church to have your picture taken. If you have a fairly recent professionally-taken photo that is in electronic format, you can submit that. We will also be able to use photos from other sources like quality cell phone cameras that are in electronic format.

We would like to include in our directory anyone who attends or would like to be considered part of the King of Glory family. You are not required to be a member be included.

And Another Thing...this is a great opportunity for us to update our church records. We are missing email addresses, have old land-line numbers that are not longer used, etc. You will be asked to complete a form with your current information.

Please be watching for sign-up opportunities and details on how to submit photos and directory information.

God's Work Our Hands

Thanks to all who planned and participated in God's Work Our Hands last Sunday! What a great day of ministry we shared together! More photos coming soon to a Flocknote near you! Special thanks to our Mission Support Team for all the pre-planning!



WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

THEME OF THE WEEK: Continually Glorifying God

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for God has looked favorably on and redeemed God’s people.” God visited Nain, where Jesus raised the dead. We await Christ’s return, when God’s glory will be fully revealed in the resurrection of the dead. In this time between Christ’s coming among us and Christ’s promised return, we persevere in glorifying God through our actions and in worship. We do this by hearing God’s Word, praising God’s goodness, confessing our sin, and trusting God’s truth. We also do it in hope—the sure and certain hope of the resurrection on the last day. Christ’s resurrection and promise to return mean that our resurrection is sure because Christ’s resurrection is sure. “We believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.”

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:11–17 Jesus Meets Us in Death

Jesus touched the bier. That small detail can be overlooked amid all the commotion in today’s reading, but it is significant. According to the purity practices of the Torah, touching what was associated with death made a person ritually unclean. The people carrying the body did what was necessary and faithful; yet surely a hush fell over the crowd when Jesus stepped forward and touched the bier. Jesus meets death itself for the sake of this young man and his grieving mother. In Christ, death does not have the final word. Jesus raises the young man, and in the resurrection Jesus is revealed as Lord over death. As Jesus’ disciples we know death will not hold us forever either. Jesus, call me from my grave on the last day, that I may see you face to face. Amen.

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:121–128 Certainty in God’s Word

Our eyes long for Christ’s salvation and the fulfillment of God’s promise. In the meantime, we live in a world that does not always honor or trust God. Yet God gives us certainty in the Word. In Baptism, God joins us to Christ’s death and resurrection and gives us the promise of forgiveness and new life. In Holy Communion, Christ gives us his body and blood as a sure promise of grace. When doubts arise and the world’s voices grow loud, we hold fast to God’s Word and its testimony. God’s Word is more precious than gold and endures every trial. Lord, be our source of security and surety for good. Amen.

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 3:13–21 Love, God’s Glory

The glory of God is love: love beyond our full understanding, yet love—Paul prays—that we and all the saints may know. How can we know what is beyond our understanding? We know it through Christ and by faith. To trust the concrete love of God revealed in Christ’s death and resurrection is to receive the fullness of God’s glory. This love is given to us in Jesus. Thus, as St. Paul says,

there is glory “in the church and in Christ Jesus.” What we cannot comprehend fully—God’s glory—is nevertheless given to us as grace. Lord, root and ground us in faith in your Son, in whom your surpassing love is made known. Amen.

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 32:39–40 God Makes Alive

There is no God but the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God says, “I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal” (Deut. 32:39). At first this order may seem backward. We live first and then we die. Yet, God’s Word speaks honestly about the power of sin and death in our lives. The Law exposes our sin, our self-reliance, and all that separates us from God and neighbor. But God does not leave us there. In the promise of the Gospel, God forgives us and raises us to new life in Christ. In Baptism, our old sinful self is put to death so that we may live as God’s beloved children. Lord, put to death all that separates me from you, and bring me to life through your Gospel. Amen.

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: John 11:19–45 Jesus Weeps and Calls Us to Life

At Lazarus’s tomb, Jesus does not rush past grief with easy answers. He sees Mary and the others weeping, and he weeps with them. This is good news for all who mourn: our sorrow is not hidden from God, and our tears matter to Christ. Jesus then speaks a promise to Martha that lies at the heart of Christian hope: “I am the resurrection and the life.” Resurrection is not merely an idea about the future; it is life found in Christ, who meets us even now in our fear, loss, and death. When Jesus calls Lazarus from the tomb, he reveals that death does not have the last word. We still grieve, and we still entrust our loved ones—and ourselves—to God’s mercy. But we do so with hope, because the crucified and risen Christ holds us in life and in death. Jesus, be present with all who mourn, strengthen us with your promise, and lead us into your everlasting life. Amen.

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:21–28 In Christ Shall All Be Made Alive

Our eyes behold sickness and death. We see people overcome by weakness, sinning against one another and suffering its consequences. We see death swallow up life. Though our eyes cannot yet see it, Christ’s resurrection is greater in power and scope than the deadly effects of Adam’s sin. St. Paul writes to the Romans, “If many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many” (5:15). The day is coming when we will rejoice to see Christ reigning with death finally defeated. We will see the communion of saints gathered across all times and places, sharing in Christ’s victory from death to life. Loving God, grant me steadfast faith to share in Jesus’ victory. Amen.

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 36 The Fountain of Life

Psalm 36 begins by naming the reality of sin: when we turn inward and live as though God and neighbor do not matter, harm follows. Yet, the psalm does not leave us focused on ourselves. It turns our eyes to the steadfast love of God, which is “as high as the heavens” and reaches farther than we can imagine. God’s faithfulness is not fragile or scarce. It is a refuge for all people and for the whole creation. At God’s table, we receive what we cannot earn: abundant life and grace. The psalm calls God “the fountain of life,” a beautiful image of God’s love flowing freely to renew the world. In Christ, God meets us with forgiveness and sends us forth to reflect that love in our words and actions. O God, in your light we see light. Draw us again to your fountain of life, and make us signs of your steadfast love for our neighbors. Amen.



Trunk & Treat is Coming!!!

Save the Date!
Wednesday, October 28

Trunks, Candy, Crowd Greeters & Dinner Servers Needed
Signups Coming Soon

