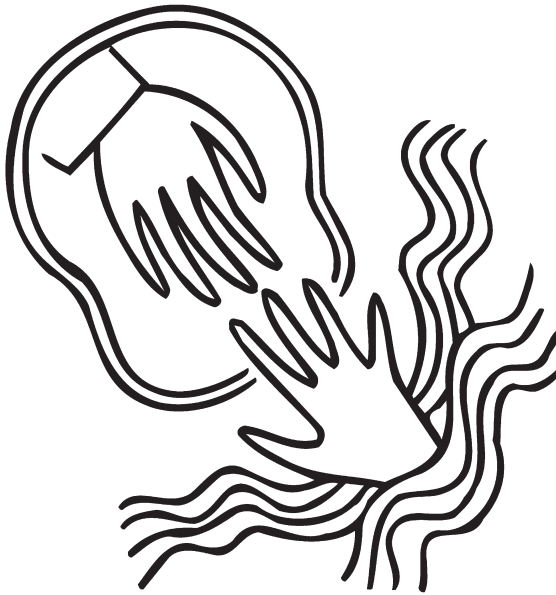




Sunday, August 9, 2026

10:00 a.m.



“Together in the Storm”

Pastor Erik Allen



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

"Prelude - "Prelude and Fugue in C Major"

JS Bach

Announcements

GATHERING

Song

I Stand in Awe

Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 85)*

P: I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,

C: for God speaks peace to the faithful.

P: Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together

C: righteousness and peace have embraced.

P: Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,

C: and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

P: Come, let us worship the God who speaks peace and prepares the way

C: We come to worship and praise the Lord!

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

C: And also with you!

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Holy God,

C: we Have sinned against you and each other. We pray for your forgiveness and healing. The good we want to do, we often fail to do. The evil we do not want, we find ourselves doing. Deliver us, O God, save us from shame, and guide us in your way. Amen.

P: Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; And God raised him up from death so that we too might walk in newness of life. Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through † Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

please be seated

WORD

Lesson

Romans 10:5-15

Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

Gospel Response

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Backpack Blessing

Pastor Erik

Sermon

"Together in the Storm"

Pastor Erik

Hymn

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

ELW 756

The Apostles' Creed

**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.



Offering Hymn

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"
(vs 1 & 3)

ELW 774

Offering Prayer

P: God of sun and rain, farm and flower, we praise you for your wonderful creation and your all-sustaining care. Receive these tokens of our gratitude, and may our lives reflect the goodness and love shown in your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Members: Cheryl, Anita, Amy, Sue, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Scott, Marylin, Leon, Karla, Joe, Ryan, Brian, Jim, Ryan, Wilbur, Laura, Dennis, Andy, Janell, Ebby, Roger, Dale, Mary, 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: Come to Christ! Be sheltered, be fed.

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 receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

SENDING

Blessing

P: Eternal God, The Creator, ✠ Redeemer, and Sustainer, bless, heal, and hold you today and always..

C: **Amen.**

Song

My Redeemer Lives

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Feed the hungry.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Fugue in D Major"

Johann Pachelbel

It's Sign Up Time!

Our annual God's Work, Our Hands is Sunday, September 13. Project and lunch signups available now in the Gathering Place or by Flocknote coming Monday.

Volunteers Needed!

Help us refresh our preschool playground! You may have noticed the large pile of new mulch for our preschool playground just waiting to be spread. We are looking for volunteers to stop by at your convenience to spread as much as you're able over the coming week. **Whether you have 20 minutes or a couple of hours, every helping hand makes a difference.** If you able to stay after worship on August 16 we would appreciate it as everything must be completed no later than August 24th for the beginning of the preschool year. Your service helps provide a safe, welcoming place for our youngest learners to play and grow!

We are also looking for **4-8 volunteers to stay after worship on Sunday, August 16**, to help remove the church's window screens in preparation for window cleaning on Tuesday, August 18. This project can be broken down into sections and will go much quicker with additional volunteers! Thank you for helping us keep our church looking its best!

Lands'End KOG Swag

We think it's time to show our KOG pride! We are working with LandsEnd where you can choose from a variety of clothing which will include our KOG logo. Check your Flocknote from last Tuesday for step-by-step directions and a code for 25% off.

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

THEME OF THE WEEK: Drawn Together by the Spirit

To worship God is to gather in God's presence and receive the gifts God freely gives. In worship, the Holy Spirit draws us together around the Word and Sacraments, where Christ meets us with forgiveness and new life. We respond by giving thanks, singing God's praise, praying, and being sent to love and serve our neighbors. We live "by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD" (Deuteronomy 8:3), and so we find life in hearing God's Word. Worship stands at the heart of our days and weeks because there God renews us as the body of Christ. Let us come with thanksgiving and receive all that our gracious God delights to give.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:41-48 Wrath and Mercy

In 70 CE, the Roman general Titus laid siege to Jerusalem, eventually capturing the city and destroying the Temple. Many thousands of people suffered and died. Forty years earlier, upon seeing Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, Jesus wept over the city. He grieved because its people did not recognize "the things that make for peace" or God's saving presence among them. Jesus' tears reveal God's heart for a world wounded by violence, injustice, and sin. Yet, judgment is not God's final word. In the gospel, Christ visits us with mercy and calls us into the way of peace. Repentance is not a price we pay for grace; it is the Spirit's work of turning us again and again toward the God who already reaches out in love. *Lord Jesus, turn us toward your peace and have mercy on us. Amen.*

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:73-80 Faithfulness in Difficulty

There is a curious phrase in this text where we pray, "in faithfulness you have humbled me." At first, it may sound as though God sends suffering to punish or correct us. Yet, Scripture does not require us to call every hardship an act of God. Instead, the psalmist confesses that even amid affliction, God remains faithful. Suffering does not separate us from God's mercy. We pray to the God who created us and gives us understanding through the Word. When hardship

humbles us, God meets us there and draws us more deeply into grace. We may lament honestly while trusting God to sustain us and bring life even from places of pain. *Merciful God, remain near in every affliction and teach us to delight in your life-giving Word. Amen.*

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 One Spirit, Many Gifts

God gives gifts in abundance. Some strengthen our faith, while others equip us to serve our neighbors and build up the community. When Paul speaks of spiritual gifts and ministries, he reminds us that each is given “for the common good.” No gift makes one person more important or faithful than another; every gift comes from the same gracious Spirit. When we treat a gift as our private possession or use it to promote ourselves, we lose sight of its purpose. Delight in the gifts God has entrusted to you, whatever they may be, and receive the gifts of others with gratitude. Together, our many gifts reveal the one body of Christ and allow Christ’s love to take shape among the whole body of Christ. *Holy Spirit, awaken your gifts among us and use them for the flourishing of our neighbors. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 7:1-7 The Temple of the Lord

The people of Judah had come to misuse the Temple. They trusted that their religious practices would protect them while they continued to mistreat their neighbors and ignore God’s call to justice. The Temple had become a kind of “get out of jail free” card. God’s mercy was no longer received as forgiveness that restores relationships, but as permission to continue harming others. Through Jeremiah, God calls the people to amend their ways: to practice justice, welcome the stranger, care for the orphan and widow, and stop shedding innocent blood. Worship cannot be separated from how we treat those whom God loves. The gospel does not make God’s law meaningless. Rather, the gospel forgives and frees us to delight in God’s will and seek our neighbors’ good. When we fall short, we return to Christ, trusting in the mercy that forgives, renews, and sends us out again. *Gracious God, join our worship to lives of justice, mercy, and love. Amen.*

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:16-24 Justified by the Work of Jesus

Neither John the Baptist nor Jesus met the expectations of the people around them. John’s different way of life was criticized, while Jesus was condemned for eating and drinking with those whom others rejected. Yet, as Jesus says, “wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” The works of Christ reveal God’s wisdom and mercy, even when human hearts resist them. We, too, can become so attached to our expectations that we fail to recognize God at work. Still, Christ

does not abandon us. Through the Word and Sacraments, the Spirit calls us to repentance and faith. We are justified not by our achievement, or goodness, but by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. His life, death, and resurrection reconcile us to God and open the way to new life. *Almighty God, help us recognize and live by the grace revealed in Jesus Christ. Amen.*

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 3:7-15 "Hardness of Heart"

"No one is an island," wrote the poet and Anglican priest John Donne. We were created for life with others. When we become isolated, we lose opportunities to serve in love and the encouragement, care, and wisdom others offer us. Isolation can leave us vulnerable to despair and to the voices that say we must face everything alone. The writer of Hebrews urges the congregation—and all of us—to "exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today,' so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." This is a gift of Christian community. We pray for one another, speak words of grace, and remind one another of God's promises among many other things! The church is not a gathering of strong people who never struggle. It is the body of Christ, whose members carry one another and are sustained together by the Lord. *Gracious God, thank you for our family in Christ. Keep our hearts open to you and one another. Amen.*

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 143 Hear My Prayer, O Lord

The church has long prayed this psalm with Christ and with all the saints who have cried out to God in fear, grief, or uncertainty. The psalmist asks God to hear their prayer, answer, and deliver them. We pray with that same confidence—not because our faith is perfect or our prayers are worthy, but because God has claimed us in baptism and promised never to let us go. God hears us when we call, welcomes our honest lament, and answers according to steadfast love. The answer may not come as quickly or in the form we desire, yet Christ remains with us. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus has entered human suffering and opened a future that death cannot destroy. *Faithful God, hear our prayers and meet us with your steadfast love. When our spirits grow faint, remind us that we belong to you. Amen.*