

Welcome!

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, July 26, 2026 – 8:30am

To Our Guests: We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us today! Please stop by our Welcome Desk for more information about all our ministries. Please read below for more information about worshipping with us.

We love children at Christ Our Savior. Parents are encouraged to sit in the front pews so young children can see what is happening during worship. A nursery for children, infant to 3 yrs, and a family lounge off the Advent Lobby are available for those who prefer these areas. Ask an usher for directions.

Joyful Giving Opportunities: The offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to place your offering there before and after the worship services. Or give online! Click on the QR code to the right. →



Please check in with the Friendship Pad or Online. Remove the Friendship pad from the hymn rack on the center aisle and fill out your information. Take note of the people sitting around you – welcome each other by name! Or check in online by clicking here: →

We welcome guests to Sunday School and Bible classes, from 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Summer Sunday School	Lead by:	Where:
Pre K thru Kindergarten		Room 15
1 st thru 3 rd grade		Room 8
4 th thru 6 th grade		Room 10
7 th thru 8 th grade		Room 12
High School Youth		Youth Room
Adult Bible Studies		
Intergenerational Bible Study	Josh Kittleman & Karla Schettenhelm	Rooms 1-3
The Readings	Preacher of the Day	Gym
Bethel: The New Testament	Judy Mayle	Gethsemane Chapel

AS WE GATHER

Jesus famously teaches, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (*Matthew 6:21*), and Jesus knows a treasure when He sees one. Listen to the Readings in worship today. From the days of the Old Testament onward, the Lord has clearly declared how He vastly treasures His people. The Son of God gives up everything to reclaim you as His treasured possession. And it is purely His love for you that gives you true value and limitless worth. Since His treasure is His people, you can be sure His heart remains with His people too, as He visits us here with the priceless goodness of His Word and Sacrament.

Order of Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Lindsay Miller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✝ Preparation ✝

OPENING HYMN

"God Himself Is Present"

LSB 907

1. **God Himself is present: Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple; All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone On His throne
Is our God and Savior; Praise His name forever!**
2. **God Himself is present: Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!" Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises That Your Church now raises.**
3. **Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in Your merit.
Like the holy angels, Worshiping before You,
May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will Ever still
Rule Your Church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.**

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Romans 11:33; Deuteronomy 7:7, 9; Romans 11:36

- P** Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
C **How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!**
P The LORD set His love on you and chose you.
C **Know therefore that the LORD is God.**
P For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
C **To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Romans 8:31–32

- P** You are a people holy to the Lord your God.
C **We confess our unholy thoughts, words, and actions.**

Silence for personal reflection.

- P** Almighty God,
C **we have not lived up to our calling as Your treasured possession. Our desires are selfish and our love is shallow. We have turned aside from doing good and chosen to treasure things of creation rather than our Creator. In our sinful state we are vulnerable to the devil, death, and darkness. And so we seek Your mercy. We surrender to Your loving kindness in Jesus Christ, our Lord.**
P "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
C **"He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?"**
P Indeed, the mercy of almighty God is displayed in the giving of His Son, Jesus, to die for you, and for His sake God forgives you all your sins. As a servant of the Word and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

✝ Service of the Word ✝

INTROIT *(sung)*

Psalm 105:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

Soloist: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*
make known his deeds among the | peoples!
Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*
tell of all his | wondrous works!
Glory in his | holy name;*
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!
Seek the LORD | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
 his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
 O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,*
 children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Soloist: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name,*
 make known his deeds among the | peoples!

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the Highest

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

(In love, the Lord reaffirms His faithfulness and His people's worth.)

⁶"You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 8:28–39

(Paul gives words to the inexpressibly lavish love of God in Christ Jesus.)

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am

sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 205

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44–52

(Jesus' parables of the kingdom point to the value of the treasures He came to save.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

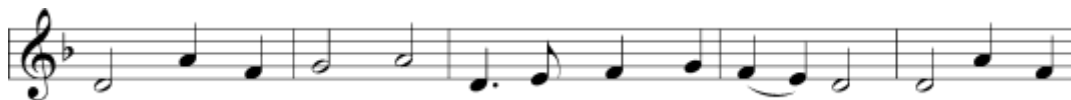
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN

"Lord of Our Life"

LSB 659



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, Star of our
 2 See round Your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing; See how Your
 3 Lord, be our light when world - ly dark - ness veils us; Lord, be our
 4 Peace in our hearts, where sin - ful thoughts are rag - ing, Peace in Your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: Hear and re - ceive Your
 foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing And with great spite their
 shield when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; And in the day when
 Church, our trou - bled souls as - suag - ing, Peace when the world its



Church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.
 fi - ery darts are hurl - ing, O Lord, pre - serve us.
 hell it - self as - sails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:
 end - less war is wag - ing, Peace in Your heav - en.

SERMON

"An Invitation to Clarity in the Midst of Chaos"

Romans 8:37

CREED

"In God We Believe"

1. In God we believe: the Creator whose pow'r
 In mercy has brought us for worship this hour.
 He graciously grants us our years and our days
 And blesses with kindness our work and our ways.
2. In Jesus, the Savior, our hope is secured.
 True God and true man once the cross He endured
 To grant our lives wholeness, forgiveness of sin.
 With hearts freed from guilt, we know true peace within.
3. God's Spirit at work in our lives we confess;
 With power and truth the Church now He does bless.
 As saints, God's forgiven, one day we shall then
 Be living in glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

*The ushers bring forward our gifts as a response to His blessings in our lives.
Offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary both before and after services.
Or give online using the QR code in the front of the bulletin.*

PRAYER AT OFFERING

- P** Oh, give thanks to the Lord for He is good and His mercies, which are new every morning, endure forever. We bring to you Heavenly Father our gifts of thanks and we humbly ask You to bless them to the glory of Your kingdom.
- C** **All that I have is Yours, Lord Jesus. All that I have is You.**
- P** Use these and all of our gifts according to Your infinite wisdom for the needs of Your kingdom and to the increase of Your glory.
- C** **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Mighty Lord, we need Your constant defense in a world of death, danger, and distraction. Guard us in both body and soul, that Your people might live to the praise of our victorious Savior, Jesus. Through the love of Christ, we pray:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Generous Lord, all good things are gifts from Your holy hand. Undo our attitudes of selfishness and renew within us a spirit of generosity, freely giving of our treasures to the needy in our midst. Through the love of Christ, we pray:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Seeking and saving Lord, You tirelessly pursue the children of earth with Your goodness and mercy. Soften hearts hardened to Your Gospel and activate Your people to witness to Your goodness. Through the love of Christ, we pray:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Faithful Lord, despite our sin, You keep covenant and steadfast love. Rescue families where loyalties have been betrayed and trust broken. Mend hurting hearts with forgiveness and restore them by Your grace. Through the love of Christ, we pray:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** All-seeing Lord, You set Your heart on the least and fewest. Set Your heart once again on the lonely, the dying, the poor, and the sick. Bring good amid their challenges and remind us that no problem is too big for Your power and no one is too small to escape Your notice. Through the love of Christ, we pray:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

continued

P These prayers, and all those lifted up by believers around the world, we entrust to Your care, O almighty God, trusting You to hear and answer according to the Father's will, in the Son's grace, and by the Spirit's power.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray,

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

LSB 917

1. **Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.**
2. **Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.**
3. **Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.**
4. **Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.**

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE



ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

By Arlo and Lori Wiltenburg, in honor of their 41st wedding anniversary on July 27.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS –

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Robert Kasper
Liturgist: Vicar Fritz Quitmeyer
Director of Music: Tom Schroeder
Elder: Matt Fremder
Acolyte: Emma Arnold
Lector: Chris Milz
Altar Guild: Shari Colwell and Mary Scheidies
Greeters: Bill and Charlene Williams
Media Team: Rol Schlosser, Dave Kosmalski, Josh Kittleman
Ushers: Team 9; Rick Shingledecker, Captain
Tom Hemming, Mike McGrath, Steve Moore, Brody Shingledecker,
Lucas Shingledecker
Welcome Desk: Heidy Nance

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