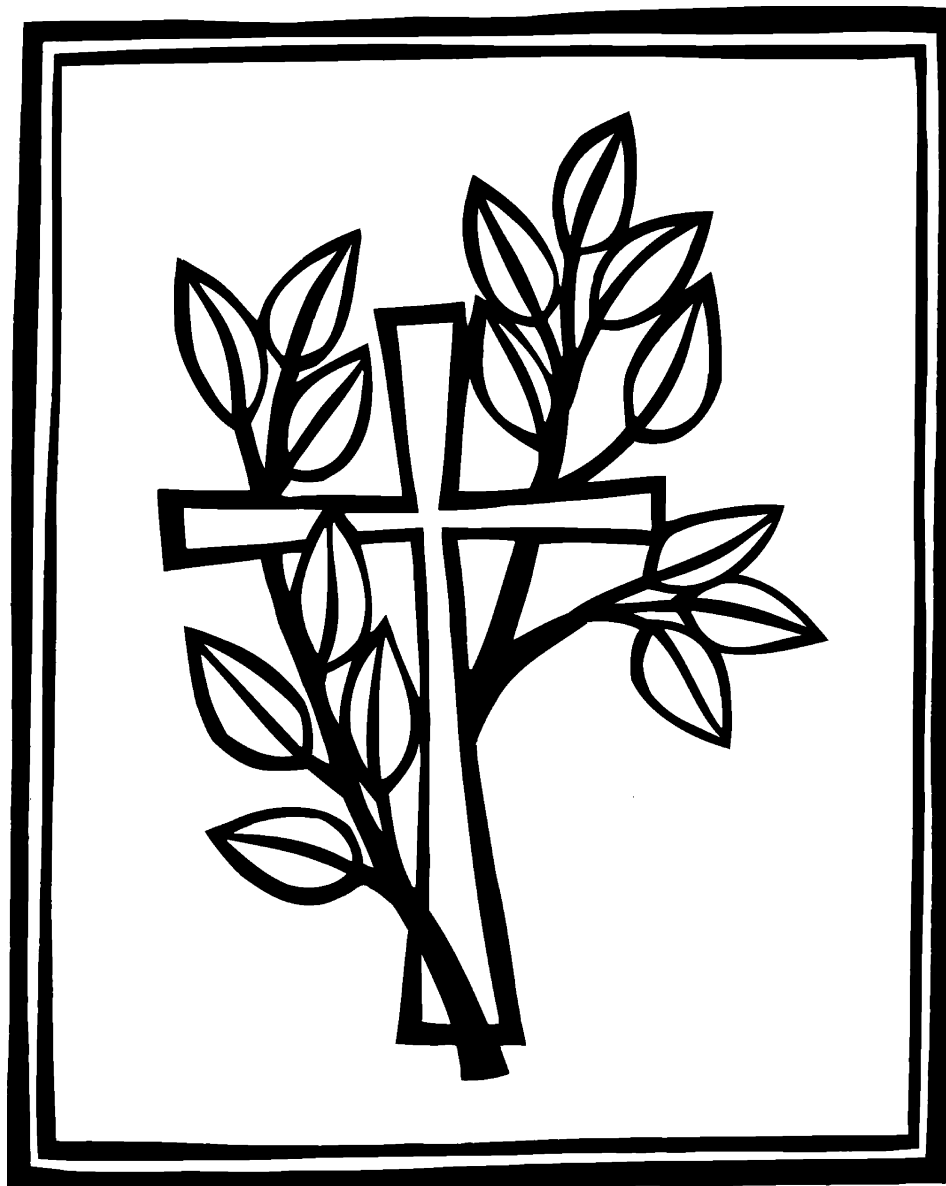


Sunday, August 30, 2026
The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Sharing the Light!

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 West Sixth Street Racine, Wisconsin 53405
A community called to Worship, Learn, Love, and Serve

Special thanks to greeter Sally Neitzel, assisting minister Joleen Carlson, lector Marianne Jensen, audio-visual technician Kylee Albright, ushers Dave Barlament, Jim Buhler, Tim Krikau, and Gary Wee, altar guild Susan Barbee and Val Conner, coffee fellowship Denise Lequia, councilperson in charge Rebecca Mason, and organist Gregory Berg for sharing their time and talent with us today.

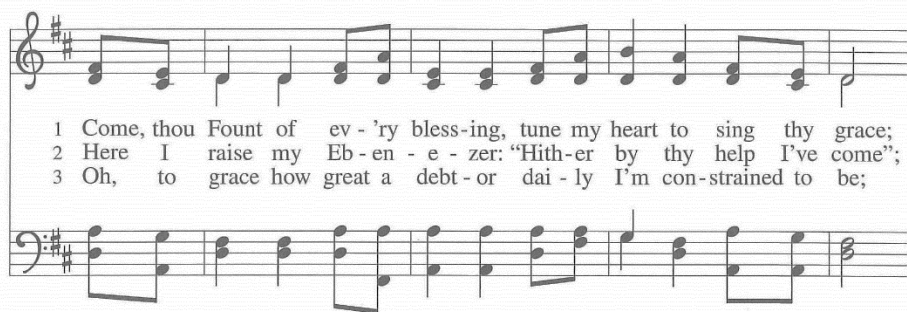
*Please stand if you are able where there is an asterisk * in the bulletin.*

PRELUDE (a quiet time to reflect and prepare for worship)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING SONG**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 807



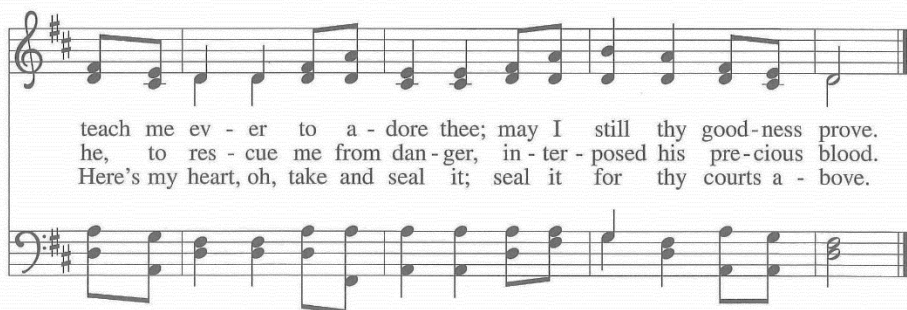
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

***GREETING:**

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

C: And also with you.

You are the treasured people of the Lord,
a people holy to the Lord our God.

Keep the words of the Lord in your heart: teach them to your children.

Talk to them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down, and when you rise.

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

***SCRIPTURE SONG**



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul-er of all the na-tions.



Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One. All



na-tions will draw near and wor-ship be-fore you,



for your just and ho-ly works have been re-vealed.



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lisa Lequia

NOISY OFFERING

WORD

First Reading: Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me;**
examine my heart and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,**
that I may go in procession round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell**
and the place where your glory abides.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o- pen to us the Scrip- tures.

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O God.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Laura Fladten

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,

who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed;
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;

we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,

con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985
Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.
Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

***RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

pray in the Holy Spirit. (*Jude 20*)

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Jude 21*)

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new! (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown, things done and left undone.

Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Almighty God have mercy on you,

forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

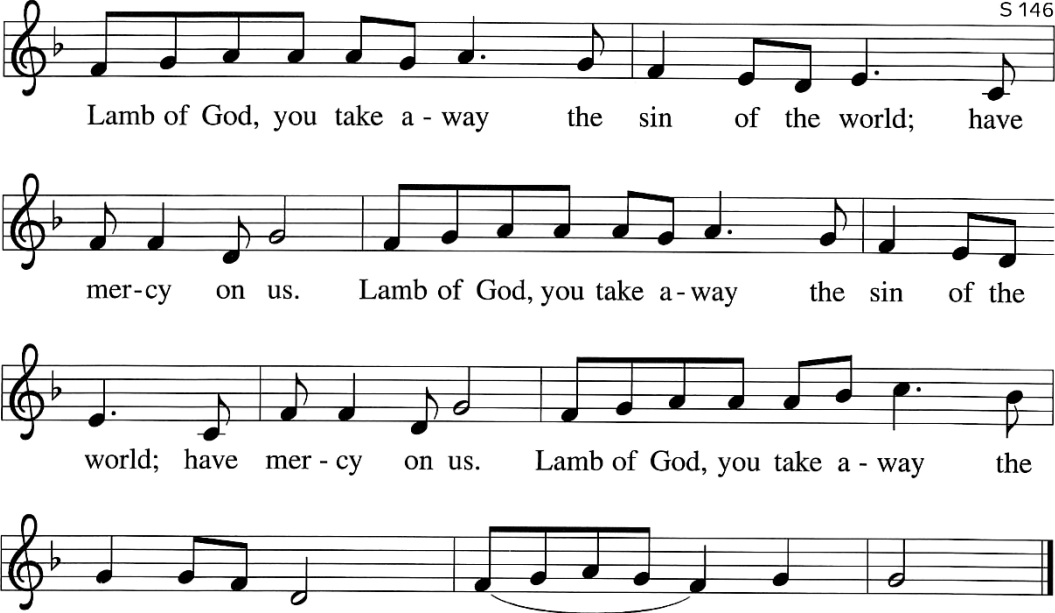
***LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

S 146



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

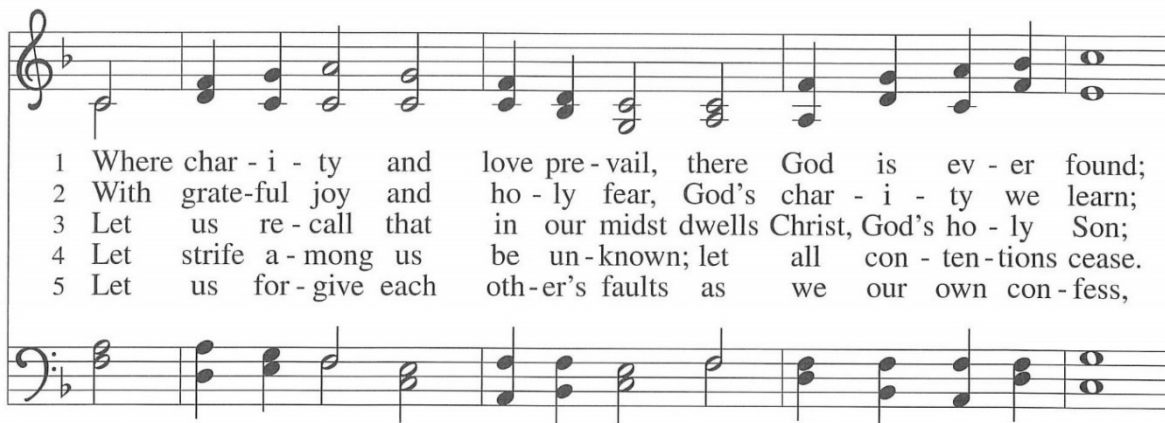
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

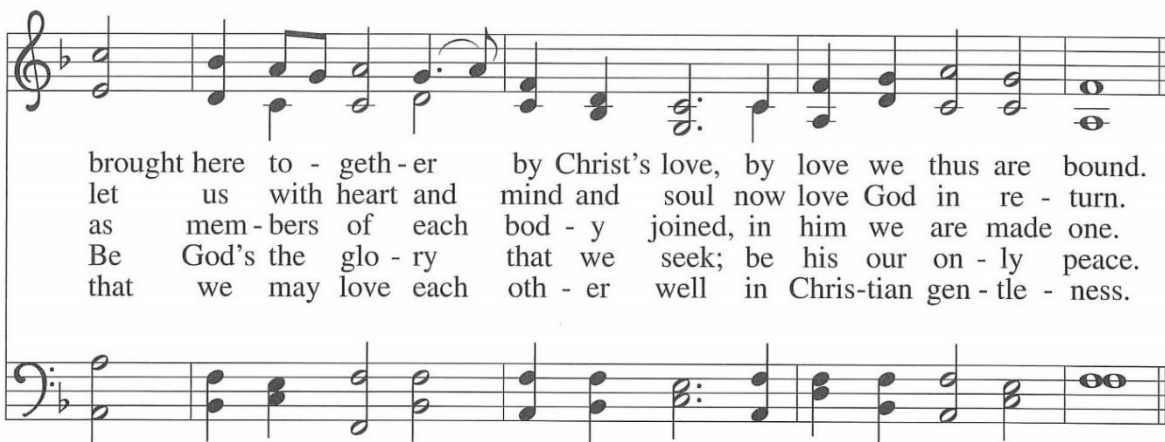
COMMUNION HYMN

359

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

Text © 1960 World Library Publications

TWENTY-FOURTH

CM

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

One License Licensing Permission

Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A-741140

All Rights Reserved.

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License SAS006118

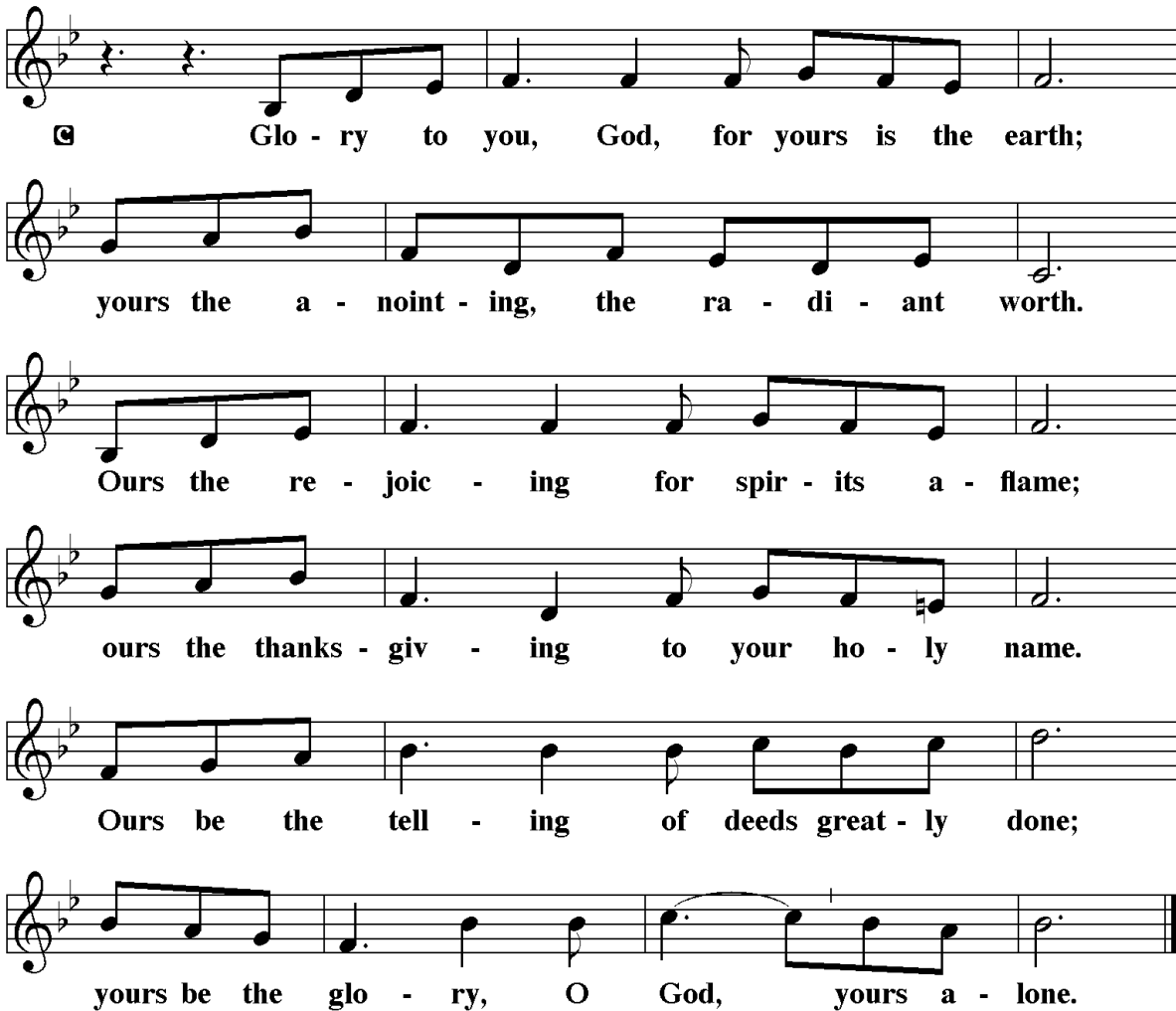
PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.
Mend your ways, encourage one another,
agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

One License Licensing Permission
Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A-741140
All Rights Reserved.
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License SAS006118

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray. (brief silence)

God, You command us to hold fast to what is good. Give us the guidance of your Holy Spirit, that we might renounce greed, selfishness and bigotry- and embrace generosity, compassion, and kindness. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

God, You call for us to hate evil. Give us the guidance of your Holy Spirit, that we would do so with courage and conviction but also with care, sensitivity and humility, meeting the darkness of hatred with the light of your love. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

God, You ask us to rejoice in hope. When we are discouraged, remind us that hope is a gift that we need to embrace. And when we encounter people who are despairing, help us to be encouraging and supportive in any way that we can. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

God, You call for our love to be genuine. Continue to show us the face of what true and authentic love is, and help us to extend love even to those we might think of as enemies or adversaries - or those who in any way might be difficult to love - that we might expand our notion of what it means to love one another. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

God, You call us to be patient in our afflictions. Grant us grace in whatever hurts we are confronting or burdens we are bearing. Lord We especially remember..... Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Hear these spoken prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts, that we might continue to experience Your presence and grace, through Christ our Lord,

AMEN.

***BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✠ one God,

bles, heal, and hold you

today and always.

Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #359**

656

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written between the staves. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.
Music: Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

DENNIS
SM

***DISMISSAL**

Heaven has come near. Go and share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Gregory Berg, Organist

One License Licensing Permission
Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A-741140
All Rights Reserved.
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License SAS006118

Announcements



Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this morning were given with love by Lisa Lequia in honor of Mya's baptism, in memory of her godmother, Jacque Nielsen, and in honor of Jace and Luke Lequia's baptisms, and by Andrew, Jenny, Cameron & Jameson Palmgren in honor of Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura.

Welcome Visitors!

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge after worship for coffee and a time of fellowship.

Communion By Intinction

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. If you feel more comfortable communing in your pew, there are individual cups available on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

Thank You Picnic Helpers!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the school supplies distribution picnic. It was great fun to gather together as HCLC folk as well as with friends from our church neighborhood. Many hands truly made light work, and you are all deeply appreciated! Kate

Food Pantry

For September the pantry is asking for donations of cereal, bar soap, jelly, saltines, and pork & beans. If you have cookbooks, children's Bible storybooks, adult inspirational books, and 2027 calendars you don't need the pantry clients are happy to receive them. We have an overabundance of greeting cards and pens and pencils at the moment, so please, do not donate them right now. Thank you all for your generosity and love for your neighbors!

Diaper Ministry

Thanks to Kristin Hahner for sponsoring this month's Diaper Depot delivery in memory of Mardell Ferg.

Do you have any children's clothes or books that are no longer needed? Please consider donating them to the Diaper Ministry.

Our next distribution dates are September 9th from 11 AM – 1 PM and September 23rd from 4-6PM. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with questions or to volunteer.

Underwear, Socks, and T-shirts for the Hospitality Center

We continue to collect new adult-size socks, underwear, and t-shirts for the Hospitality Center. These basics are often overlooked but very much needed. The Hospitality Center provides free clothing to an average of 65 families and individuals every week. You can place your donations in the container in the narthex with a bright pink "Love in Action" sign or bring them to the office during the week.

Save the Date For Rally Day and Backpack Blessing!

Circle September 13th on your calendar and be sure to bring your backpack with you to church for a blessing and a tag to attach to your backpack. The 13th is also the first day of Sunday School and choir and there will be ice cream in the lounge after worship to celebrate. Come celebrate the kickoff of a new Sunday School year!

Ushers and Altar Guild Volunteers Needed!

The worship committee is looking for new faces on two of our important teams, teams that keep our services vibrant and running seamlessly: Usher and Altar Guild. We are looking for both individuals or families who would like to participate. Your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Kate Potter-Barrow at church or via text at 262.498.7593 for more information or to let me know you'd like to join one of our teams. Thanks!

In-person worship attendance on Sunday, August 23, 2026 - 121 Households watching worship online - 26

Ketchup Club Tuesday, September 1st

All are welcome to join us for a delicious lunch at Kouzena 220, 220 6th St at 11:30 on Tuesday, September 1st. Our Ketchup Club lunches are a nice way to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones. If you know you will be there, please let Pastor Laura or the office know, pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com or office.hclc@gmail.com so we can make a reservation. If you unexpectedly find yourself free, please come join us and we will happily make room for you at the table.

September Birthday Club

If you have a September birthday, please join Pastor Mark and Pastor Laura in the lounge at 9:00 on Thursday, September 10th to celebrate with a birthday donut!

New Member Class will be held on Sunday, October 18th, 11:00AM – 12:30. (Installation and welcome of new members on Reformation Sunday, October 25th).

We welcome and invite all who are interested in becoming part of our church family here at Holy Communion Lutheran Church ☺. Goodies will be served, stories will be shared, and hopefully it will be a time of blessing for all. Please call Heidi in the church office (262-632-8802) or let Pastor Laura or Pastor Mark know you'll be joining us so that we can plan accordingly.

Monday Morning Bible Study

Monday Morning Bible Study will resume on September 14th. The discussion will be about the coming Sunday's gospel lesson. The group meets at 10:00 in the lounge and all are welcome to join them!

Lounge Tree Mural

Would you like to add a name to the mural decorating the lounge wall? We hope to fill this tree with leaves naming our HCLC family, both past and current members. Look for a form on the tables in the back of the sanctuary and the welcome center. Each leaf is \$10. Put the form in the offering plate or turn it into the office.

Upcoming Worship, Service, Education, and Fellowship Opportunities

Sunday, August 30 – 9:30 Worship

Monday, August 31 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, September 1 – 11:30 Ketchup Club @ Kouzena 220

Friday, September 4 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, September 6 – 9:30 Worship

Monday, September 7 – Labor Day – Office and Food Pantry Closed

Tuesday, September 8 – 1:00 Quilters

Wednesday, September 9 – 10:00 Book Club

11:00 -1:00 Diaper Ministry

Friday, September 11 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, September 13 – Rally Day & Backpack Blessing!

9:30 Worship/Sunday School

Monday, September 14 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Holy Communion Church Council

President Joleen Carlson president, Vice President Gary Wood, Secretary Laurie Knudson, Treasurer Kylee Albright, Members at large Rose Adamski, Steve Barootian, David Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman

Office hours Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Finance Update

June Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$37,299.40
Expense: \$49,547.64
Net Income: \$(12,248.24)

Year-to-date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$295,220.08
Expense: \$322,393.16
Net Income: \$(27,172.18)