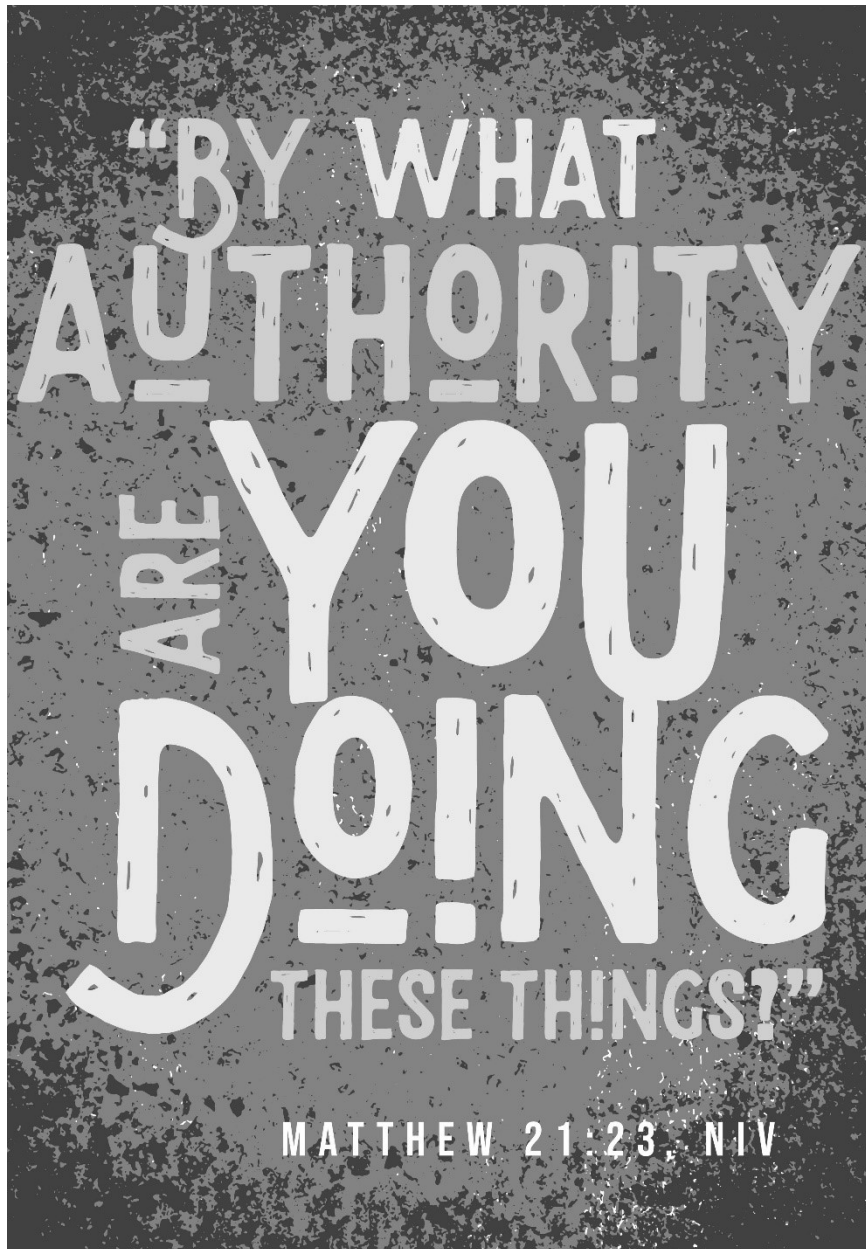


Sunday, September 27, 2026
The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Sharing the Light!

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

We Are Called
A Contemporary Worship Service

Special thanks to greeter Lori Neu, assisting minister Lana Buhler, lector Marianne Jensen, audio-visual technician Kylee Albright, ushers Steve Barootian, David Krueger, Gary Lequia, and Ed Wosilait, altar guild Sandy Ivanoski, Kay Krause, Lori Neu, and Joni Reske, coffee fellowship Rose Adamski, councilperson in charge Dave Knudson, and musicians Kate Potter Barrow, Gregg Albright, and 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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

ALL: To do justice

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

All: To love kindness

A.M.: What does the Lord require of us?

All: To walk humbly with our God

A.M.: We come to learn, to praise, to pray;

All: We come to worship our God.

All Are Welcome

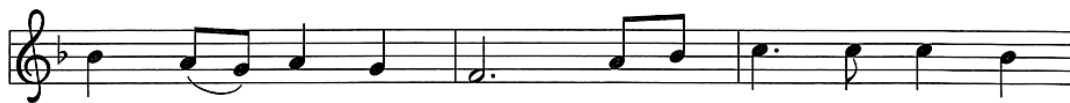
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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Refrain

Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.

TWO OAKS
96 86 87 10 and refrain

***CONFESSION OF SINS:**

P. In the presence of God, who knows our hearts and minds, let us confess our sin:

O Holy and loving God,

We acknowledge to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we're not what you have called us to be. We have not always stood by our faith, shared our hope, or reached out with love.

We have done unkind and shameful deeds, and we have left undone, deeds which could have made a difference in the lives of those around us.

Too often, we have failed to speak and act for peace, justice, and kindness in our world.

Have mercy upon our repentance, forgive our sin, and change our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved by God. Go into the world with changed hearts and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ! **Amen.**

***GREETING:**

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

All: And also with you.

****SONG: Won't You Stand Up**

**Solo: All the lonely people crying, it could change if we just get started.
Lift the darkness, light a fire for the silent and the brokenhearted.**

Refrain:



Won't you stand up, stand up, stand up. Won't you stand up and make a choice.



Won't you stand up, stand up, stand up. Won't you stand up and use your voice.

**Solo: With the comfort, there's a healing, high above the pain and sorrow.
Change is coming, can you feel it? Calling us into a new tomorrow! Refrain:**

**Solo: When the walls fall all around you, when your hope has turned to dust.
Let the sound of love surround you, beat like God's heart in each of us! Refrain:**

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***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A.M.: Oh God who breaks barriers down and welcomes all:

All: You invite us to walk humbly by your side.

You call us to act with justice.

By your works, you inspire us to serve one another.

We pray that you will give us the courage to make a difference in this world

by treating people with respect and dignity,

bringing healing to the broken,

and living in your light

so that those whose spirits are darkened by hopelessness and despair

feel your shining presence and tender love.

A.M. And all God's children say:

All: Help us to walk humbly with you, O God! Amen.

SPECIAL "*Bring Many Names*". Brian Wren/ Carlton Young. (arr. Berg) Senior Choir
(see the lyrics on the back page of your bulletin)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lisa Lequia

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO CHOIR

WORD

First Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

¹ To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
⁴ **Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**
⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**
⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Cantor: We hear the ancient words of God, whose son once on this earth did trod. So we today could sing out, Hallelujah. With open mind and joyful heart, we listen, then we'll do our part—to help our broken world shout Hallelujah.

REFRAIN:

All:



***Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to you, O God.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

REFRAIN

SERMON Pastor Mark Doidge

We Are Called

720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
2 Come! O-pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

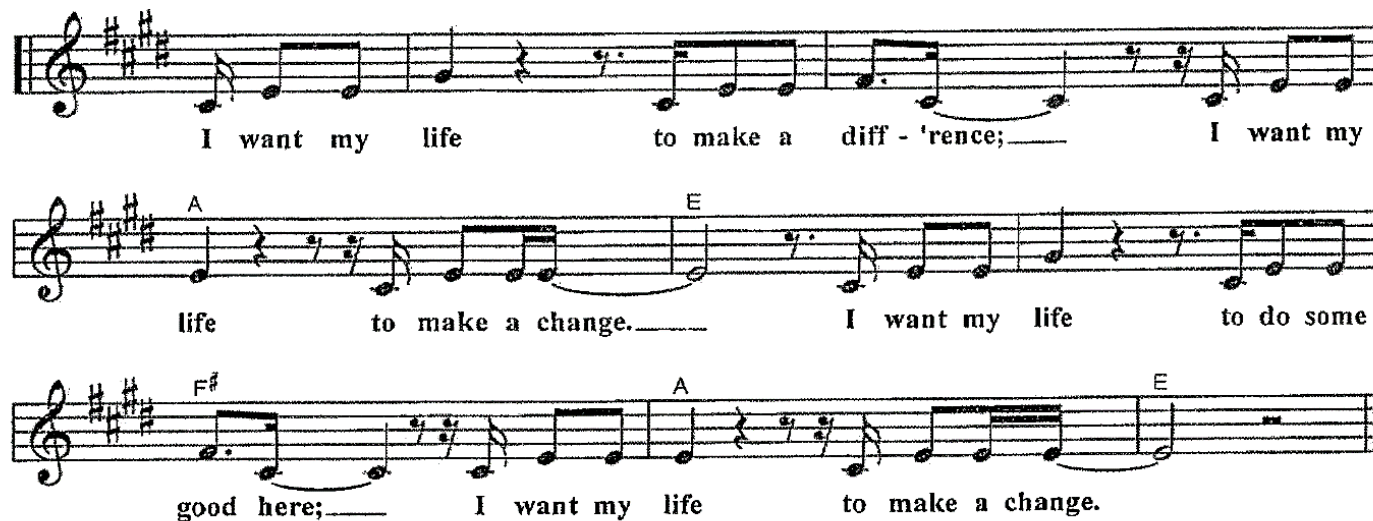
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CHILDREN RETURN TO WORSHIP

***INVITATION SONG: Make A Difference - Rachel Kurtz**

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference. You gave your life to make a change.
You welcomed all to your table. You're calling us to do the same.

Refrain:



Solo: Working side by side, no out or inside,
Together we can make that change.
With a few or many, with a lot or not any,
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

Solo: Crossing the great divide, Joy and peace will abide,
Together we can make that change.
Jesus is our peace, all fighting will cease
Together we can make that change! **Refrain:**

Words of Institution:

Solo: We're the citizens with the saints, We're the sunshine with the rain.
We're the joy with the pain. We're the change!
You healed the sick and fed the poor. You loved the prophet and ended war.
Through us you will do more, You're the change! **Refrain:**

Pastor: You gave your life to make a difference.
You gave your life to make a change.
You welcomed all to your table.
You're calling us to do the same

***LORD'S PRAYER:**

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD: *This song begins with a solo. Please watch the song leader who will invite you to sing when all instruments join after the interlude.*

D A . bm A G

Lamb of God you take a-way the sin of the world - have mer-cy

6 A D D A bm

on - us. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world

12 A G A D

have mer - cy on us.

D A bm G

Take a-way the ha-tred. Take a-way the chains - Take a way the

A G Asus D

6 hung-er take a-way - the pain Grant us peace.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system contains a single line of lyrics. The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.

1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.
2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.
3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—
4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.

Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.
for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.
Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: JESUS, FEED US, Ray Makeever; arr. Rusty Edwards
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*POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

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

Amen.

***PEACE**

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

CHILDREN MAY GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY "Christ Be Our Light"**

em bm em em C



1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for truth, -
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the hearts that

7 D em am D em C A



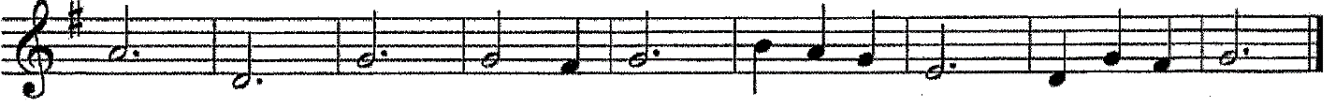
we turn to you. Make us your own, — your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to
yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er, signs of your kind - dom

15 Dsus4 D G C G em G C D



see. ——— Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
come.

23 Dsus4 D G C G em am D C C G



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray. (brief silence)

Help us, Lord, to embrace your invitation to gather around your table of grace and listen attentively to Your redeeming Word. Draw us into deep fellowship with one another and with You, and bless Pastor Mark, Pastor Laura, and all others who are entrusted with the proclamation of your Gospel. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Help us, Lord, to be kind to everyone - including the creatures with which we share this planet. Help us to see every living thing as part of your magnificent creation, and to see the earth as our precious and fragile home. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Help us, Lord, when we need to speak out when we see injustice or hatred playing out before us. Grant us courage - and help us to choose our words wisely and to speak them with humility and a genuine concern for others. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Help us, Lord, to not grow discouraged when the problems of the world seem overwhelming. Remind us of the life-changing, world-transforming power of Your light and love in the face of any darkness. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Help us, Lord, to bear our burdens with patience - and to be grateful for the blessings that remain even in our most difficult moments. Draw near to all for whom we are feeling special concern today. <names> Continue to share your gifts with them and with those who care for them. Lord in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Hear these spoken prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts, and grant us grace sufficient for all of your needs through Christ our Lord,

AMEN.

BLESSING

Congregation, please join in singing the choruses of Amens.

DISMISSAL

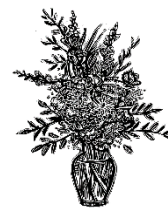
A.M.: Go out in peace. Be led forth in joy.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please come to the lounge for coffee and fellowship.

Announcements



Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are in honor of Courtney Carlson on her birthday, given with love by her mom and dad, and in loving memory of Grandma Anne Cuccio and Joe & Kathy Cuccio, given by Jim, Joleen, and Courtney Carlson.

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 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.

HCLC Food Pantry Updates and Requests for Donations

The Holy Communion Food Pantry is opening a new chapter! We appreciate the 30+ years of dedicated service of our previous Director, Sharon Wilczynski, and wish her well on her move to Minnesota!

Laura Hermanns will be serving as the Interim Director with a team of volunteers in leadership positions through the end of the year. This transition team will ensure the continued operations of the food pantry and work to create a longer-term vision for the ministry.

We're beginning to prepare for Thanksgiving and could use donations of the following: Chicken/Turkey stuffing mix, Jiffy cornbread mix, evaporated milk (12 oz), canned pumpkin (15oz), gravy mixes, instant mashed potatoes, jello, and bar soap. We also appreciate monetary donations for turkeys and are grateful for new or gently used children's books.

Donations can continue to be dropped off M, W, or F from 9am-12pm at the food pantry, otherwise, in the HCLC church office or narthex.

We are so grateful to all our volunteers and church partners for making this ministry possible!

New Members Class

We welcome and invite all who are interested in becoming part of our church family here at Holy Communion Church to a New Member class on Sunday, October 18th, from 11:00 – 12:30. 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 we can plan accordingly. New members will be welcomed on Reformation Sunday, October 25th.

Diaper Ministry

Marianne Jensen is sponsoring the October Diaper Depot delivery in memory of Katharine Jensen. Thank you! If you have children's clothes or books that are no longer needed, please donate and we will give them a new home!

Our October distribution dates are October 14th from 11AM – 1PM and October 28th from 4 - 6PM. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with questions or to volunteer.

Spotlight on HCLC's Donations from the Tithe Fund

Many of you will remember the wonderful blessing we received last calendar year from estate money. In years past we had approved a continuing resolution to set aside a 10% tithe from larger donations received by the church. Last year's estate gift resulted in a tithe fund and we asked for the congregation to give input on what the council should do with that money. We received many wonderful suggestions from all of you and after some discussions, decisions have been made. We will be spotlighting where the funds will go in bulletins and the newsletter. What a blessing we have been given and what a blessing to be able to share it!

Tithe Spotlights: HCLC programs

Our final spotlights are the 3 HCLC programs that some of our money went to support:

Neighborhood Back to School Supply Drive: The recently very successful neighborhood picnic where we shared a meal and gave out school supplies to the children in our neighborhood. Additional school supplies were given out at the food pantry and at the diaper ministry. What a blessing!

HCLC Diaper Ministry: This ministry is almost 2 years old and thriving with your support! We started out serving 25-30 guests per session and are now serving 65-70! We have given out over 22,000 diapers so far this year! And the appreciation of the families we are helping is evident in the smiles we see each session. In addition, guests and donors have shared clothing and toys, and strollers, and car seats. . . even a vacuum that brought tears to the eyes of the recipient. What a blessing!

HCLC Food Pantry: This ministry is 50 years strong next year and is thankful for Sharon Wilczynski's 30 years of leadership and it's many, many volunteers! Sharon retired at the end of August and we are also thankful for the many, many volunteers who have stepped up to fill in and keep things running. We have hired Laura Hermann's as our interim director and plan to keep running as successful a program as has been the last 50 years! What a blessing!

Men's Group

All men are welcome to join Pastor Mark at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge on Friday, October 9th for coffee and conversation.

Birthday Club

If you have an October birthday, come to the lounge on Thursday, October 8th at 10:00 a.m. to celebrate your birthday and have a birthday donut with us!

Craft and Bake Sale Fundraiser for Our Youth

To help the young people who will attend the 2027 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next year we are going to have a Craft and Bake sale after the worship service on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2026. Please donate your crafts of any kind - soft goods, (table runners, napkins, hand or tote bags), wood items (Christmas trees, welcome signs, shelves), wreaths, paper goods, knitted, scarves, hats or mittens. Not a crafter? How about baking something? Bake a loaf of bread, some cookies, a cake, brownies or pie, and donate that! Contact Linda Godson, lltgyg1020@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Ketchup Club

On Tuesday, October 6th, the Ketchup Club will gather for lunch at 11:30 at Chit Chaat, 550 State St. These casual lunches are a fun way to catch up with each other and to make some new friends. Let Pastor Laura or the office know if you will attend so we can get the right size table reserved. If you unexpectedly find yourself free, please join us and we will happily make some room at the table for you.

Holy Communion Church Council

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

In person attendance on September 20, 2026 - 80 Households watching online – 24

Special Music Lyrics - "Bring Many Names". Brian Wren/ Carlton Young. (arr. Berg)

1 Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

2 Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

3 Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

4 Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

Quilts and Kits Will Be Displayed and Blessed Next Sunday

Our quilters have been busy all year making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Next Sunday they will be in the sanctuary to be blessed along with the school kits made by the New Hope Circle. They will offer quilts for sale for \$50 each to help raise money for the materials they will need to make more quilts next year. Come and see the beautiful fruits of their labor and help us bless them as they head out on their journey to help those in need.

Ushers and Altar Guild Volunteers Needed!

The worship team is looking for new faces of two of our important teams, teams that keep our services vibrant and running seamlessly: Ushers and Altar Guild. We are looking for both individuals and 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 her know you'd like to join one of our teams. Thanks!

Upcoming Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Service Opportunities

Sunday, September 27 – 9:30 Worship/Sunday School

Monday, September 28 – 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study

12:30 Food Pantry

Friday, October 2 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, October 4 – 9:30 Worship/Sunday School – Quilt and Kit blessing

Monday, October 5 – 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, October 6 – Ketchup Club @ Chit Chaat

Thursday, October 8 – Birthday Club

Friday, October 9 – 9:00 Men's Group

12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, October 11 – 9:30 Worship/Sunday School

Monday, October 12 – 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study

12:30 Food Pantry

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

Finance Update

August Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$ 39,459.89

Expense: \$ 50,158.79

Net Income: \$ (10,698.90)

Year to Date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$ 381,659.00

Expense: \$ 421,024.31

Net Income: \$ (39,365.31)