

September 27, 2026

*Eighteenth Sunday
after
Pentecost*



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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.org

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Divine Service:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

+

Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 2026

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper... *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

PRELUDE

"The Clarion Call"

L. Smith

"Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

arr. C. Curtis

WELCOME

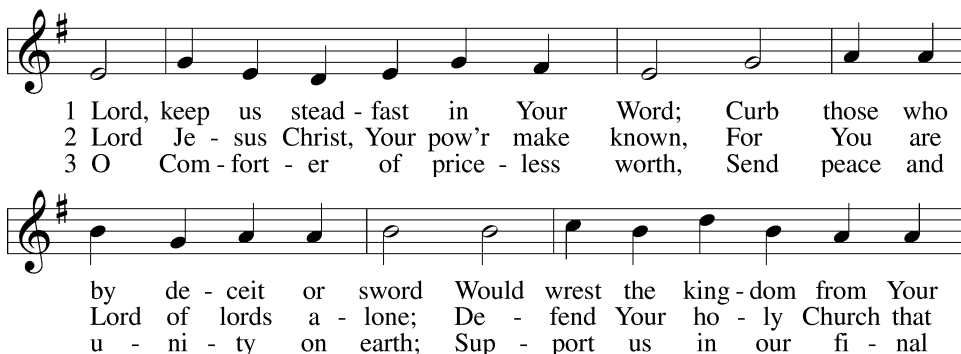
Pastor Doug Jones

Stand

HYMN

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

LSB 655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

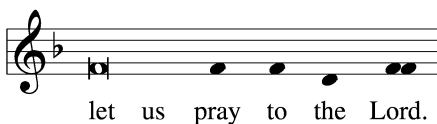
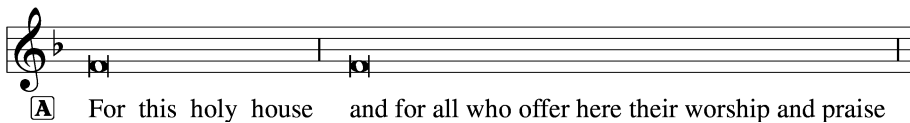
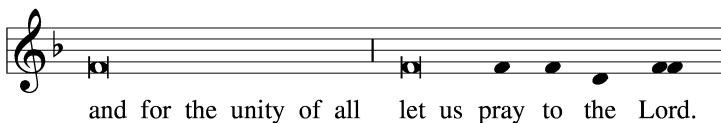
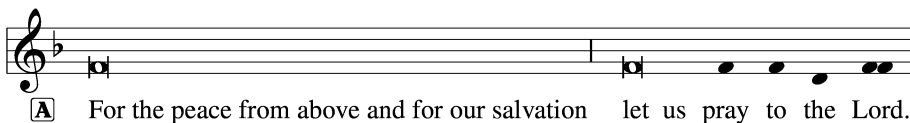
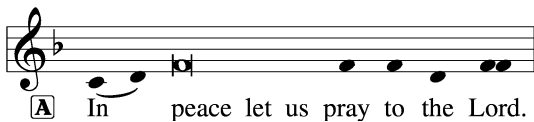
P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

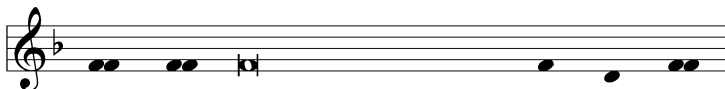
C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠





C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 155



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1–10; antiphon: v. 4



¹To you, | O LORD,*
I lift | up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be | put to shame;*
let not my enemies exult | over me.

³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.

⁴Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my sal- | vation;*
for you I wait all the | day long.

⁶Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,*
for they have been | from of old.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;*
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, | O LORD!

⁸Good and upright | is the LORD;*
therefore he instructs sinners | in the way.

⁹He leads the humble in | what is right,*
and teaches the humble | his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and | faithfulness,*
for those who keep his covenant and his testi- | monies.

THE EPISTLE READING

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23–27

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



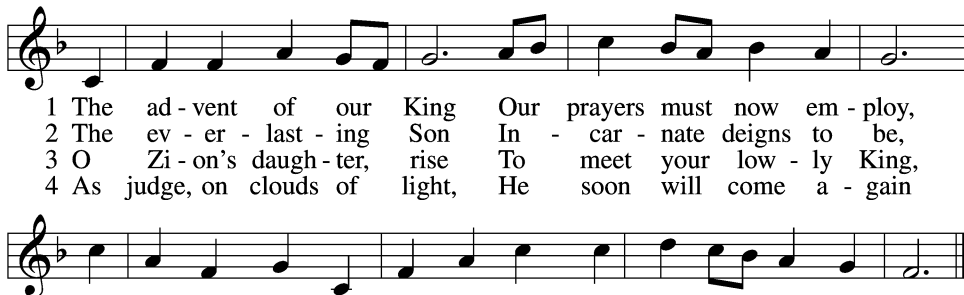
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN

"The Advent of Our King"

LSB 331



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain

And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Stand

HOLY BAPTISM – THIRD

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5–8)

HOLY BAPTISM – FOURTH

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans, chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Almighty God, we give You thanks for all Your goodness and loving kindness that You have bestowed on us as Your own creation. For Your whole creation and the blessings of this life, we give You praise and thanks. Continue Your gift of life and grant that all look to You as their Creator and Giver of life through the gift of Your redemption in Christ Jesus, the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant Your blessing and guidance on Your holy church in this world to be the beacon of the light of Your salvation for all who look to You for the salvation of their souls and for every help in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Send upon the ministers of Your church and the congregations committed to their care the healthful spirit of Your grace, making all pastors diligent to preach Your Holy Word, and send Your people faithful obedience that they be comforted and strengthened in faith and do all things that are well pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Guide and direct the governments of all nations to seek the ways of Your will in peace and justice, especially in the face of any and all adversity. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Help all who call upon You in any need, that they have patience in times of sorrow or suffering and be released from their afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A We remember before You all those who have loved and served You and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"Offertory in D Minor"

arr. D. Paxton

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 159

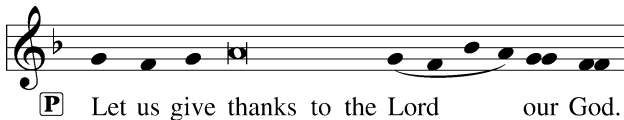
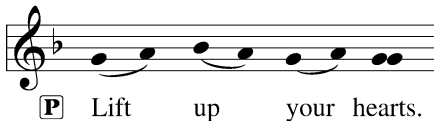
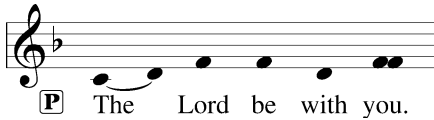


C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

LSB 160

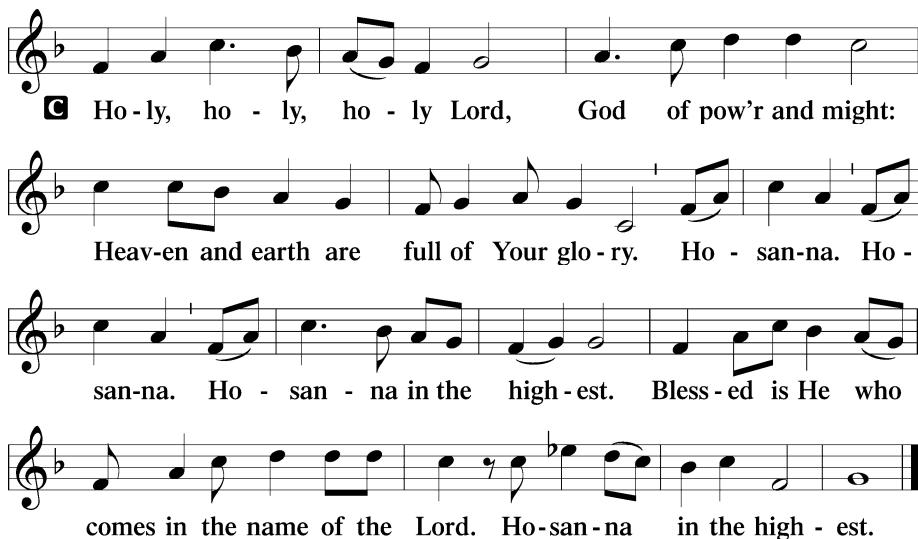


PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

**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.**

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

 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.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

LSB 633

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di-vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas-chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas-chal
 our vic-to-rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa-cred blood for wine, Gives His bod-y for the feast—
 an-gel sheathes the sword; Is-rael's hosts tri-um-phantly go
 vic-tim, pas-chal bread; With sin-cer-i-ty and love
 Flow-ing from His pierc-ed side. Al-le-lu-ia!
 Christ the vic-tim, Christ the priest. Al-le-lu-ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al-le-lu-ia!
 Eat we man-na from a-bove. Al-le-lu-ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

△8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.
Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice
Text and tune: Public domain

VOLUNTARY

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

setting: J. Weber

Stand

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 166

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would

strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

HYMN

"Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"

LSB 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the
near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -
works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89
Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!"

setting: J. Brauer

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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