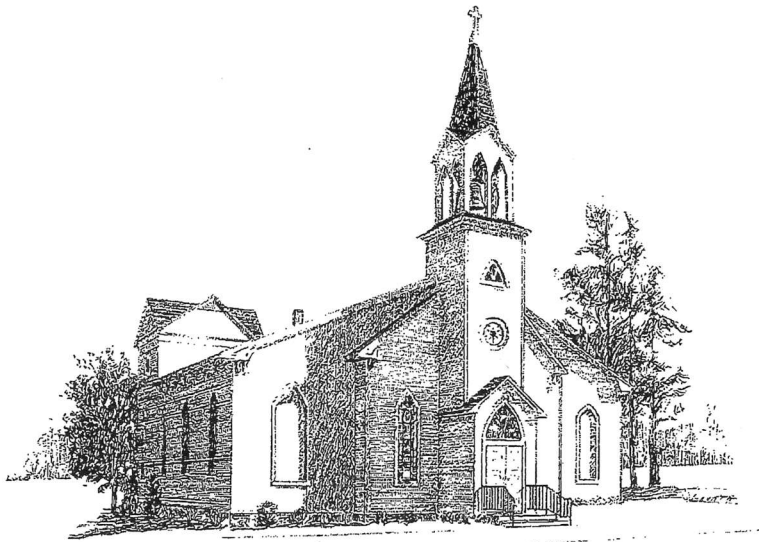




**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026**

Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
12095 Blades Road, PO Box 368, Cordova, MD 21625
Phone: 410-364-5147 – Email: info@stpaulscordova.org
Website: www.stpaulscordova.org

Pastor Robert Lehman-Minister of Word and Sacrament
Cell: 443-684-9974--Email: pastorlehman@msn.com

Julie Hawley-Organist and Choir Director
Cell: 412-600-6326 – Email: julie.hawley1487@gmail.com

Meredith Lewis-Secretary
Cell: 443-496-0903 – Email: info@stpaulscordova.org

Information Line
410-929-3227

Vertrau Auf Gott! [Trust in God]
Services are being live-streamed and recorded.

The Holy Eucharist

Announcements & Prelude

A Hymn in Procession – “As We Gather at Your Table”



- 1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
- 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
- 3 Gra-cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

The Invocation

Celebrant In the Name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People **Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Celebrant

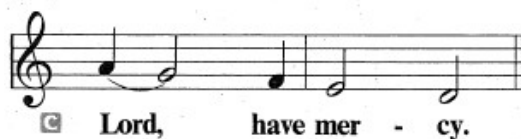
Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✠ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

The Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie Eleison – “Lord, have mercy”

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*Response: And also with you.*)

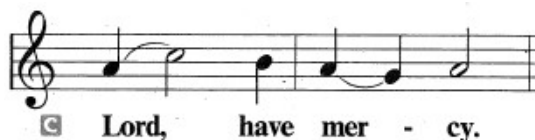
Celebrant In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People



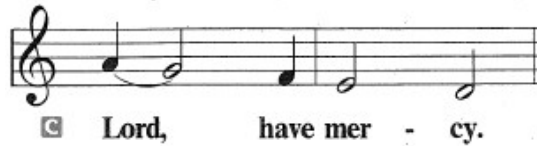
Celebrant For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People



Celebrant For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

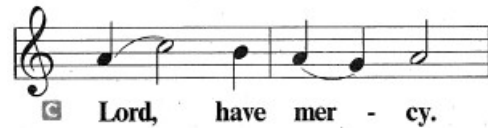
People



Celebrant

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

People



Celebrant

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

People



The Canticle – *The Gloria in Excelsis*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take
away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.** *Celebrant* Let us pray.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without
your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead
us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

A Reading of Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:33-40 Read responsively.

³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸ **Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

A Reading of Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

The Alleluia and Verse

The Celebrant and People

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

A Reading of the Gospel according to Matthew 18:15-20

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev. Robert Lehman

A Hymn – “Earth and All Stars!”



1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class-rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl-edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound - ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Hail,	wind,	and	rain!	Loud	blow - ing	snow - storm!
Harp,	lute,	and	lyre!	Loud	hum - ming	cel - los!
Lime - stone	and	beams!	Loud	build - ing	work - ers!	
Ath - lete	and	band!	Loud	cheer - ing	peo - ple!	
Daugh - ter	and	son!	Loud	pray - ing	mem - bers!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Refrain

God	has	done	mar	-	vel - ous	things.
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I	too	sing	prais - es	with	a	new	song!
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The Apostles' Creed

The Officiant and People together

**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 into hell.
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.**

Blessing of the Sunday School Children and God's Work Our Hands Project

People

**Almighty God, fountain of all wisdom, You have blessed us with the joy
and care of children: give us and teachers everywhere calm strength and
patient wisdom to bring them up, teaching them to love whatever is just and
true and good. May our service project provide necessary items to benefit them
and the local schools' caring closets. Amen.**

Blessing of the Teachers

Celebrant

Teachers, you are assuming a serious responsibility, but the Lord of the Church has promised to be with you, to bless you, and to supply the gifts which are required for you to perform your duties faithfully. Does this congregation affirm these calls to teach, and commit to support and pray for these teachers and staff?

People **Yes, with the help of God.**

Celebrant

Teachers, may God grant you the Holy Spirit and give you wisdom and strength to carry out your task, to God's glory and for the spiritual and eternal welfare of souls, in the name of the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition, (Hear us, O God) the congregation responds: Your mercy is great.

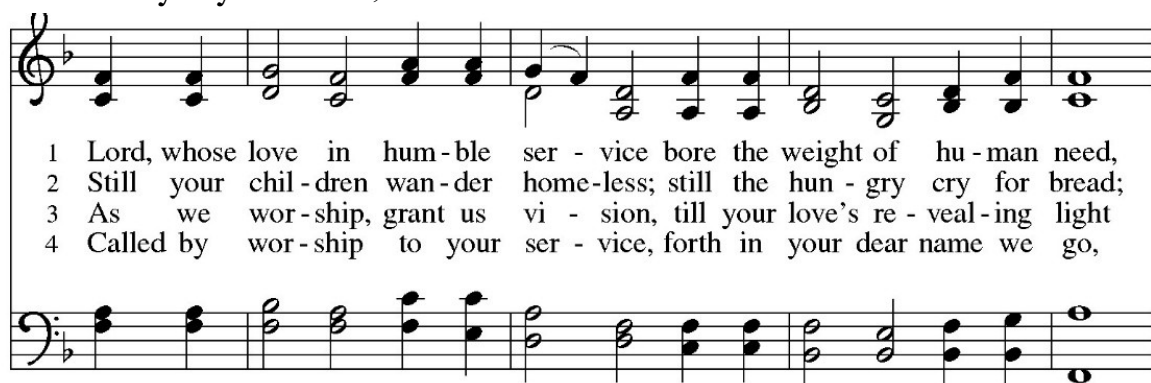
The Sharing of Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be with you always.

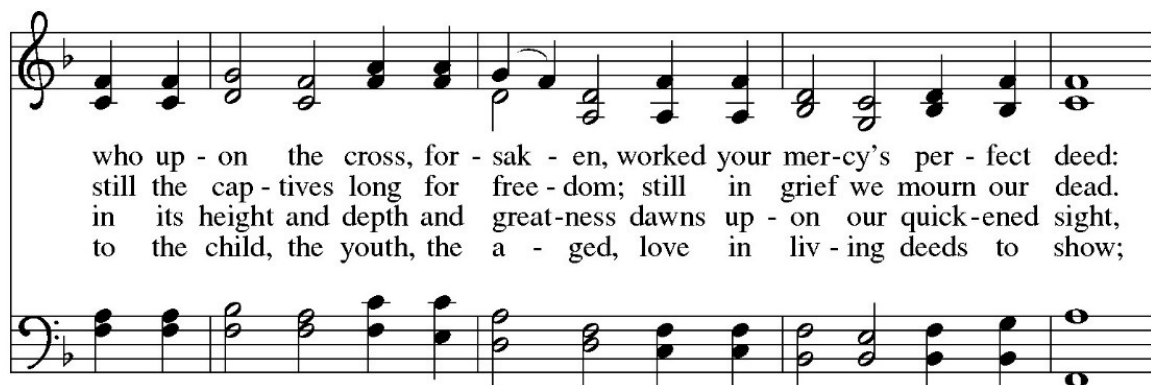
People **And also with you.**



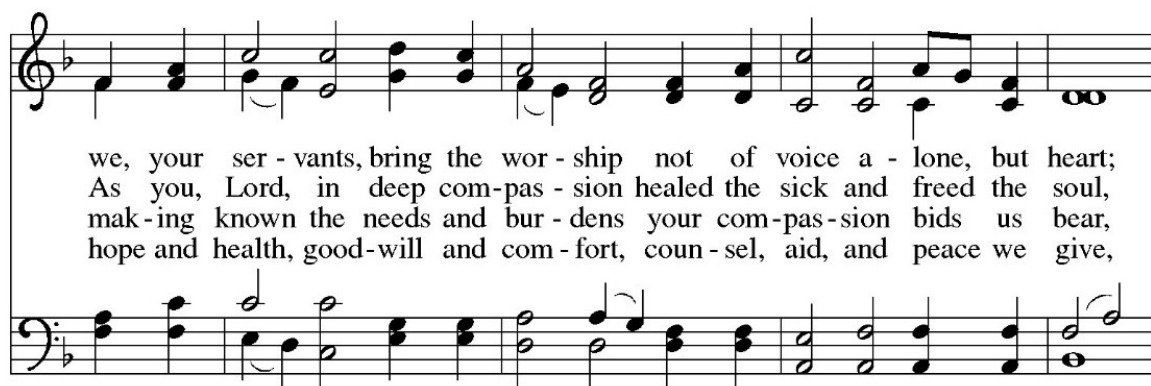
The Offertory Hymn "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"



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,



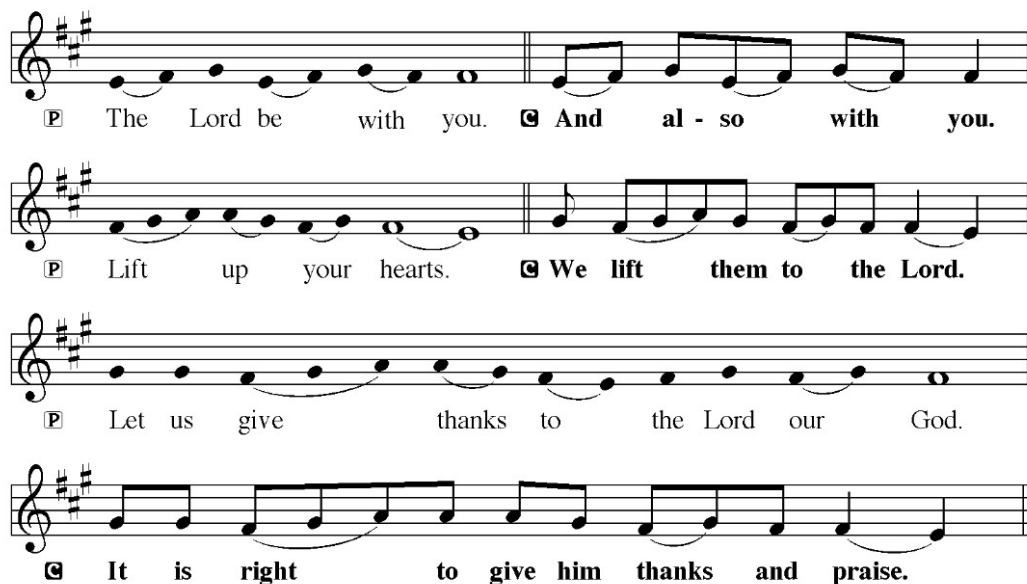
con-se-crating to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

The Offertory Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

People God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

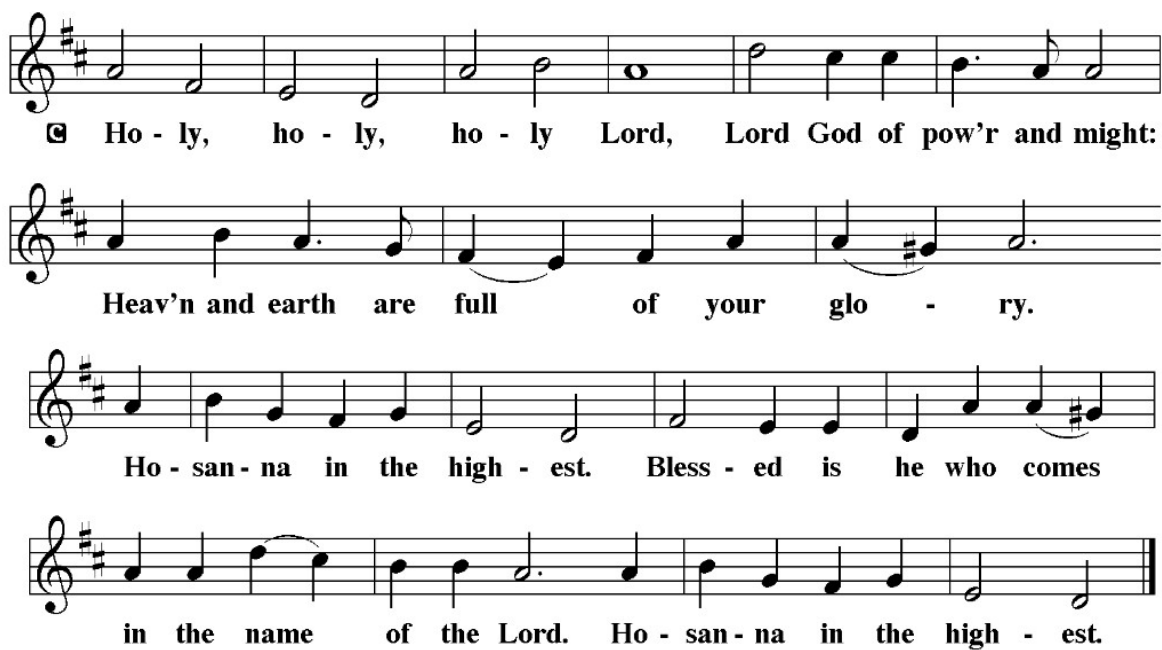
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through 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. And so, with angels and archangels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The Celebrant and People together



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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.

The Celebrant continues

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

The Celebrant and People together

**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.

The Agnus Dei – “*Lamb of God*”



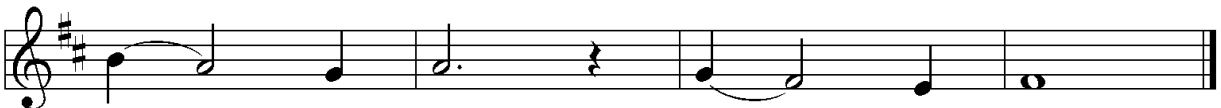
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, grant us peace.

Invitation to Holy Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his Supper.

People **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you. But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The Distribution of Holy Communion

In the Evangelical-Lutheran tradition, we invite all baptized persons to receive Holy Communion at the altar. We believe that in the Blessed Sacrament we receive the true Body and precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant May the true body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life. **Amen.**
Let us pray.

The Celebrant and People together

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant

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. In the Name of the Father, and of the **†** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



The Final Hymn – “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Serving this Week
Tellers: Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
Lector : Beth Roesel / Communion Assistant :Tom Roesel

Serving Next Week
Ushers & Tellers: Dottie and Lee Moore
Lector : Bobbie Leaverton / Communion Assistant and Acolyte :Joshua Lewis



Tuesday, September 8
Bible Study

Next Sunday, September 13

A brief interest meeting for the confirmation class will be held in the worship space after worship next Sunday.

Kayaking and Service
4 pm
Roesel's Home

Sunday, September 27
Dedication of the Playground
Re-dedication of the Stained Glass Windows