



October 4, 2026
Worship with Holy Communion
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
10:00 a.m.

Rev. Samantha Perret, Presiding

***Welcome to all who worship with us today, especially
our visitors. We invite you to return and worship with us
again.***

Hymns are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Service Book and Hymnal (red book).



+ GATHERING +

Welcome and Announcements

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Music by Pastor Sam

***Gathering Hymn:** *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

ELW: #876

*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.

P: Let us pray.

C: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ WORD +

Reading for us today is: Cake Elie

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a wasteland;

it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

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

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but

one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

***Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized

that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* **ELW:** #803

***Apostles' Creed**

Let us confess our faith, in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Sharing prayers with us today is: Seita Glasgow

Prayers of Intercession:

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in

creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering, especially for those on our prayer list below, all whom we send cards through our Care Card Ministry, on our prayer tree, and those we now name in our hearts or with our voices...
[Current prayer list: Sigrid, Hans, Julia D., Katie M., Rosemarie K., Sara W., Suzanne G., Pete Connolly, Robert Sharon, Rena A., Tony B., Brandy G., Mary Anne Thulin, Lisa B., Ellen Cady, Jennifer I. and family, Ann B., Katie T., Andrea W., Ruth Karmelowicz, Jodi E., Carolyn E., Barbara Croft, Andrea C., Rick and Lona B., Chris C., Tina S., Carly, Pat M., Francesca R., Melvin V. Jr., Melvin V. Sr., Mary Y, Brittany, Barbara S, Joshua, Luna, Elaine W, Jim C, Arlene S, Judy J, Jacky A, Eva B, Shawn Y, Candie L, Mark B, Nadia & Gary M, Glenn & Ann, Adam K, Don M, Lori, Susan A, Randy and Priscilla B, Randolph K, Jeff S). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Generous God, you are the source of goodness, and we thank you for the blessings you bestow upon us, especially these blessings we name here now...God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

Dear God, we give you thanks for the gift of life to Carolyn Edquist, Susan Hough, and Britani Stephenson, who will be celebrating their birthdays this week. Grant them the joy of your continued presence throughout the years to come. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Sharing the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

+ Meal +

*Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray,

C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also 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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

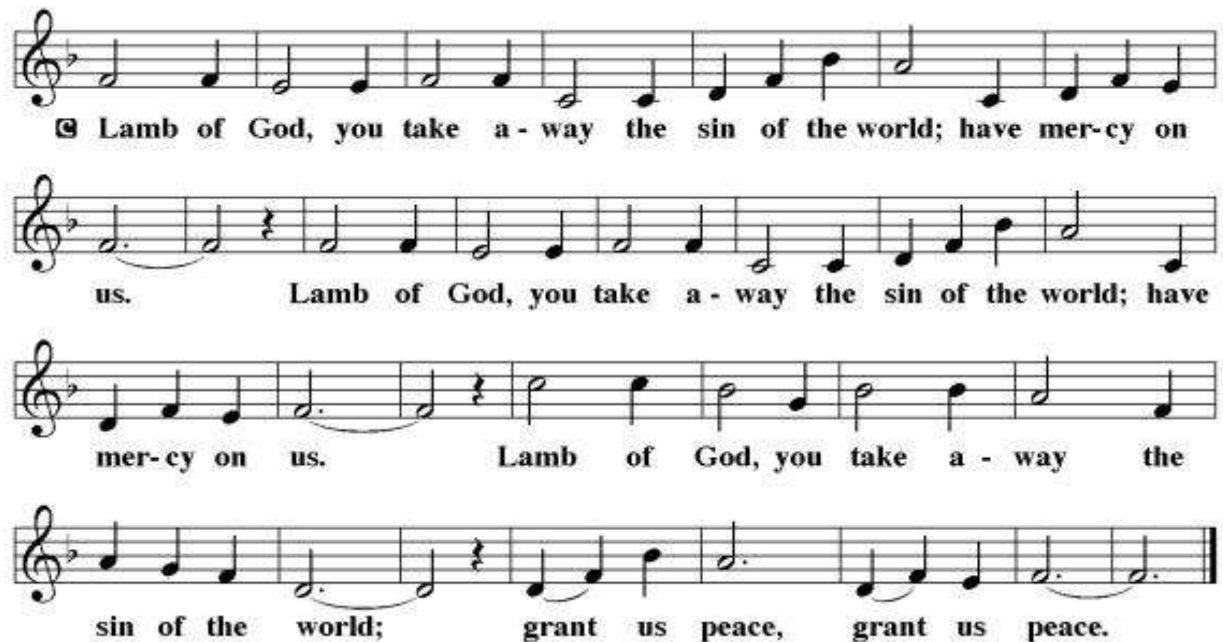
C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: **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.



Assisting with Communion today is: Charmaine Lawton

Communion Distribution: This is the Lord's table, and **all** are invited to participate in this banquet of life.

*Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray.

C: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ SENDING +

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with

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

Amen.

Sending Hymn: *The Church of Christ In Every Age*

ELW: #729

P: Go in peace, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

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Attendance at worship on last Sunday (9/27/26) was 20 members, but I know that the storm kept many people away. Hopefully today will be better! **As far as the monthly monetary total for September, it was a Total Offertory of \$4,067.50.** Actually, the Total Income for September was \$4,867.50 as Eternal Life Ministries paid our church \$800 in rent for September and October.

Hospitality Needs \$\$\$\$: Janine, who purchases all the coffee supplies for Sunday hospitality from your free-will donations, is running out of money (and we all know that coffee is really expensive)! If you're a regular at Sunday coffee hour, please put some dollars in the donation basket on the goodie table over the next few weeks to help provide all the beverages. Much appreciated.

Candy donations for Trunk or Treat at Wendell Cross will be collected through Sunday, October 18th.

Bible Study Update: Bible study will convene on Tuesday (Zoom) / Thursday (In-Person). During our Bible Study time, we will be taking a deep dive into the life and theology of Martin Luther.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85295173780>

GWIM Food Pantry Needs: The pre-packaged small bags of potato chips (especially), fruit snacks, granola bars, pudding, cookies, fruit cups. GWIM currently does not need any additional jelly or spices. Most needed: jars or bags of Parmesan cheese, cereal, and parboiled rice.

Altar Care Volunteers:

10/4: Delphine & Charmaine

10/11: Tish & Janine

10/18: Seita & Delphine

10/25: Charmaine & Tish

Hospitality:

10/4: Volunteers Needed!

Council Members:

- Becky Armington - President
- Charmaine Lawton - VP
- Blanche Feero/Lisa Rapisarda - Secretary
- Pat Huesch - Financial Secretary
- Arnold Arnajallum
- Dolly Caldwell
- Bob Melnick

**Cross of Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

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*To welcome all into safe, sacred relationship, as the
Spirit works through us to embody God's love and grace
in the world.*

