



The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026 – Setting Three

The Son of God Has Redeemed Us for Himself with His Holy and Precious Blood

The he Lord our God has chosen us to be “*his treasured possession*,” not because of any strength in us, but solely “*because the Lord loves*” us (Deut. 7:6–8). He is faithful, and He “*keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments*” (Deut. 7:9). He has searched for us and found us in love, and He has bestowed on us “*great value*” by the great price that He has paid on the cross (Matt. 13:45–46). In His joy, He has redeemed us by His cross and gathered us into His kingdom by the Gospel. Now we are “*hidden in a field*,” covered by the cross and subject to the persecution of the world (Matt. 13:44), not for destruction, but “*to be conformed to the image of his Son*” (Rom. 8:29). Since we “*are called according to his purpose*” (Rom. 8:28), and because Christ Jesus died, rose again and lives to intercede for us “*at the right hand of God*” (Rom. 8:34), there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from “*the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord*” (Rom. 8:39).

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Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

Announcements

Hymn

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [Matthew 28:19b; 18:20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, [Hebrews 10:22] **who made heaven and earth.** [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** [Psalm 32:5]

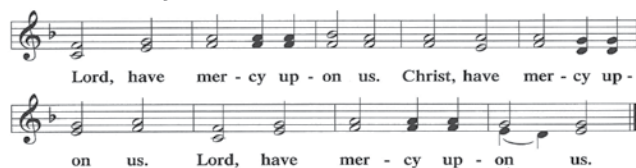
Quiet time for self-examination and confession.

O almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Lord, Have Mercy

[Mark 10:47, Setting 3]



Hymn of Praise—Gloria in Excelsius

[Luke 2:14; John 1:25]

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good-will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.** [1 Timothy 4:22]

Let us pray...[silence for individual prayer] Almighty and everlasting God, give us in an increase of faith, hope, and love, that receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy.

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations." [Deuteronomy 7:6-9]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from Romans.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

*"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 8:28-39]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse. [John 6:68]

Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.



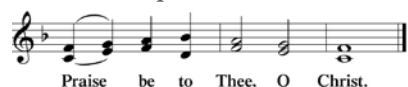
Jesus said: The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” [Matthew 13:44-52]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children's Message

The children are invited forward for a message by Pastor Fitch.

Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the Apostles' Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Hymn Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way | 857

Sermon

Please stand.

Offertory



Please be seated.

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, 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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]



O Lord remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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. [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

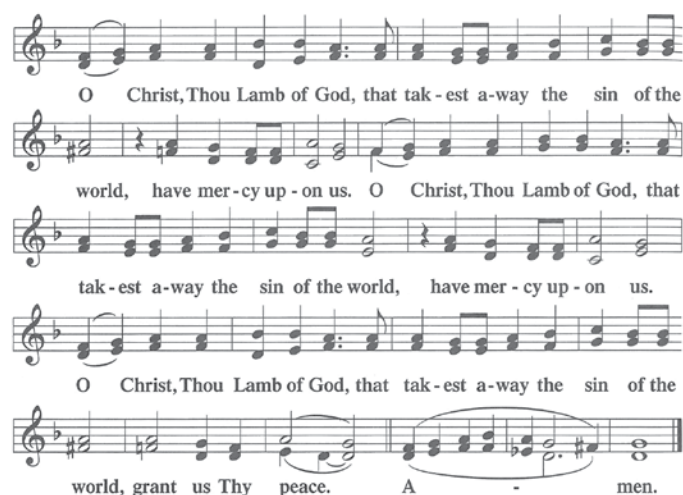
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

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 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." [Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

Lamb of God

[John 1:29]



Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

Hymns Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses | **667** (1-2, 5-6)
Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won | **490**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song



Post Communion Prayer

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Salutation

[2 Timothy 4:22]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Bless we the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

[Numbers 6:24-26]

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and give you + peace. **Amen, amen, amen.**

Hymn

Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious | **548**

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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