



**St. Mary's Lutheran Church**  
**Saturday, September 12, 2026 - 4:00pm & Sunday, September 13, 2026 - 9:00am**  
**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

*A chime will sound before the prelude as an indicator that service is about to begin. Please respect the beauty of reverence and quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Turn off phones or silence them. And, please know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! Christ is present and you are welcome! Young children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. We offer gluten-free and regular wafers, grape juice and wine options. If you are unable to come forward, please remain seated and tell the ushers you'd like communion in your seat and it will be brought to you. The ushers will direct all during communion.*



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who pours love into our hearts  
and healing upon the earth.

**Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,  
let us confess our sin.

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.**

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.**

**GATHERING SONG** Hymn #408 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** "This is the Feast" (new Setting 8, ELW pg. 187-188)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (see yellow insert)

Please be seated

**WORD** (see yellow insert)

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21**

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 103:1-13** (read responsively)

**SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

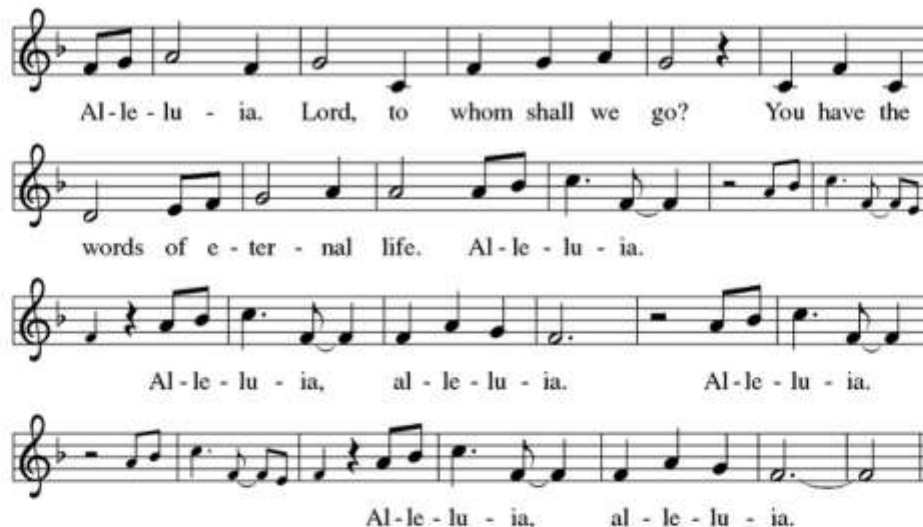
**KIDS CONNECTION (Sun)**

*Blessing of the Backpacks*

*All students, teachers & education staff may come up with or without your backpack.*

Please stand in body or spirit.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



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

**GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

**SERMON**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Hymn #604 "O Christ, Our Hope"

Please be seated.

**INSTALLATION OF THE 2026-27 CHURCH COUNCIL**

... please stand in body or spirit.

**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.*

Please be seated.

....

People of God, do you promise to support our council leaders with your blessing and prayers?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Receive our prayer, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Please be seated.

## MEAL

### MUSICAL OFFERING (Sun)

*Adult Choir*

*"This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made!" - John Carter*

Please stand in body or spirit

**OFFERING** Hymn #692 "We Are an Offering"

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE** It is indeed right ...join their unending hymn:

### SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Please be seated

## COMMUNION

### COMMUNION SONG



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, Lamb of God.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN Hymn #523 "Let Us Go Now to the Banquet"

Please stand in body or spirit.

### POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. 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.**

### BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG Our Hymn "Singing Promise on the Way"

### DISMISSAL

We are God's people.

**Followers of Jesus Christ.**

Gifted by the Spirit.

**Go Pray. Go Love. Go Serve. Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

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