



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion
September 20, 2026: 9:30 am

Shalom Lutheran Church, ELCA
681 Voyager Drive — Alexandria, MN 56308
www.shalomlutheran.org
(320) 762-8641

Pastor—David Fleener
pastor@shalomlutheran.org
Youth & Music Director—Sam Meehan
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youth@shalomlutheran.org
Office Administrator—Geri Rindahl

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“We believe God is calling us to invite people into a deeper relationship with Christ, that they may discover true peace and be prepared to follow Him in compassionate service”

GATHERING

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

The congregation may stand.

CONFESSION

P: Blessed be God: Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

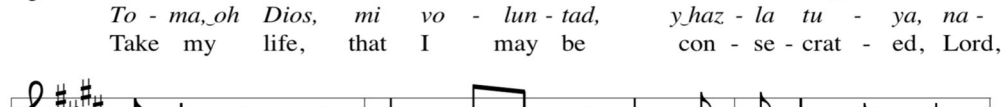
C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG "Take My Life, That I May Be" ELW 583

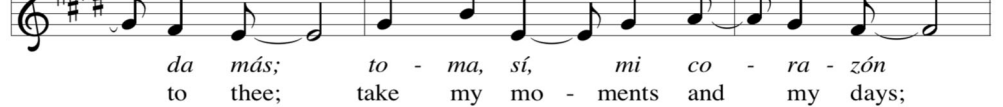
Refrain/Estribillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



To stanzas *Last time*
y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 *Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té*
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

Refrain/Estribillo

2 *Que mis pies tan sólo en pos*
de lo santo puedan ir,
y que a ti, Señor, mi voz,
se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo

3 *Que mis labios al hablar*
hablen sólo de tu amor;
que mis bienes dedicar
yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo

4 *Que mi tiempo todo esté*
consagrado a tu loor;
que mi mente y su poder
sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955
Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

PASTORAL 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

SCRIPTURE Jonah 3:10—4:11

L: A reading from Jonah:

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145

John Eggert

Choir: I will exalt You, O God my King. I will exalt You, O God my King.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness. The Lord is loving to everyone and His compassion is over all His works.

REFRAIN

Continued on next page



Choir: The Lord is faithful in all His word and merciful in all His deeds.
The Lord is righteous in all His ways and loving in all His works.
REFRAIN

All Your works praise You, O Lord, and Your faithful servants bless
You. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; Your dominion endures
throughout all ages.
REFRAIN

Everyday will I bless You and praise Your name forever. I will ponder
the glorious splendor of Your majesty and all of Your marvelous works.
REFRAIN

SCRIPTURE Philippians 1:21-30
L: A reading from Philippians:

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL WELCOME

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.’

Continued on next page

Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON "Grace Will Make You Mad!" Pastor David Fleener

The congregation may stand.

SONG OF THE DAY "Great God, Your Love has Called Us" *ELW* 358

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church, we confess our faith:

**C: 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each petition:

A: Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P: 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.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY TALK Mike Priebe

OFFERING

*Offering baskets will be passed. If you prefer to give
digitally, you can scan the QR code to give. White cards to
place in the plate are available in the guest pad for those
who give digitally.*



MUSICAL OFFERING

The congregation may stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: 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.

C: Amen.

MEAL

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.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....we praise your name and
join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

San-to, san - to, san - to Dios de glo - ria, y po - der,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,

cie - los y tie - rra pro - cla - man tu glo - ria.
heav - en and earth . . . are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ben - di - to a - quel que vie - ne en el nom - bre de Dios.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth,
for you have had mercy on us
and given your only-begotten Son
that whoever believes in him should not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for the redemption
you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts
to establish in us a living faith
and prepare us joyfully to receive our Redeemer
who comes to us in his body and blood.

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

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

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION INVITATION

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

The congregation may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD "Lamb of God

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.

Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the

ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no -
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up -

so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - stros.
on us, have . . . mer - cy up - on us.

Da - nos tu paz. A - mén.
Grant us your peace. A - mén.

SPECIAL MUSIC

The congregation may stand.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: 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.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" ELW 669

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

SHALOM LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Week of September 20, 2026

Church Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Welcome to our Shalom gathering! All God's children are welcome here, especially our guests, whoever you are or wherever you come from. We invite you to sign the guest pad in your row and hope you'll join us for refreshments after worship in the Community Room. If you have any questions about Shalom or how we worship, please ask our greeters and ushers (wearing name tags). You may also ask Pastor David. If you can't catch him after worship, you may call the office at (320) 762-8461 or email him at pastor@shalomlutheran.org.

COMMUNION: Lutherans believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of Jesus Christ, given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. All baptized Christians who trust these words of promise are welcome to receive today. Children under the guidance of their parents or caregivers may also receive. Everyone else may come forward with arms crossed over their chest for a blessing. To receive communion, come forward to receive the bread from the pastor. Gluten-free bread is in a small plastic container by the individual communion cups. You may take a cup from the tray by the pastor, then move to either the wine or grape juice chalice. The wine chalice is first, the grape juice chalice is second. Wine or grape juice will be poured into your cup. Place used cups in the baskets. If you can't come forward for communion, please let the ushers know and we will bring communion to you.

HOSPITALITY servers for Sep 27, Ryan & Rachel Buse, Tom & Renae Hills, Carolyn Carlson.

DO YOU WANT to delve deeper into your faith? Do you have questions about what Lutherans believe and why? Ever wonder why there isn't something for adults on Wednesday nights? Come join us for a laid-back study group called "Catechism for Grown-Ups" on Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 pm in the conference room. We promise—no memorization!

ATTENTION COMMITTEES:

Please submit budget request for 2027 to Grant Pexsa by September 30th.

Submit annual reports to Geri in the Office no later than October 20th as she has to have the Annual Report out two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, November 22.

THANKS for the beautiful prayer quilt and all the prayers for me and my family! David Beyer.

Empowered by God — Responding by Grace

“Now as you excel in everything — in faith,
in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness,
and in our love for you — so we want you to
excel also in this generous undertaking” (2 Cor. 8:7).

FALL BAZAAR-MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Shalom’s annual Fall Bazaar will be held Saturday, November 7, 2026, during the annual Crafter’s Tour weekend! It takes many helping hands to make the Fall Bazaar a success, and everyone is welcome to be part of the fun! Whether you can give a little time or a lot, your help is greatly appreciated. For more information or to volunteer, check the sign-up sheets in the Community Room or contact CJ (Carol Jensen), Carol Hedlund, or any of the listed Department Chairs. Thank you for sharing your time and talents and helping make Shalom’s Fall Bazaar a wonderful success!

LUTHERAN YES!/FAITH TIME: This Wednesday, we’re having a Family Night! Children, youth, and their families are invited to join Sam for a night of brushless painting! Supper begins at 5 pm, and the fun begins at 5:30. See you there!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

*John Carlberg (Family of Carrie Carlberg), *Bob Hildebrandt, *Dave & Mary Owen *Delores Martin *Evie Raguse, *Charles & Jeanne Tanksley, Teri Market, *Jeanette Priebe, *Bonnie Anderson, *Dave Burbank, Joan Searles (Pastor David's aunt), * Gerry & Skeeter Kingsburg, Ben DeLong (brother of Chrissy O), *LaTelle Bailey, *Nola Smith *Amy Schlosser & family, JP Phelps (Nephew of John & Nola S), Brian Lein, (son-in-law of Dave & Barb B), *Dave Beyer, *Dan Rooney, *Diane Koranda, *John Smith, Nikki (Roy & Deb Kramer's daughter) * Ed Arneson, Rick Heike (Brother of Linda Fenelon), *Dennis Melchert. **Shalom member*

Jul/26 Activity

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surpl/ (Deficit)</u>	
\$ 40,922	\$ 46,119	\$ (5,197)	Building Fund
\$ 159,434	\$ 177,588	\$ (18,154)	General Fund

The annual General/Bldg Funds budget was approved showing offerings equal to congregation approved expenses. Current General/Bldg fund cash balance is \$104,528.

Shared Ministry

<u>Shared Ministry</u>	<u>09-20-26</u>	<u>09-27-26</u>
Acolyte		
Audio/Visual	Brian C/Dan R	Brian C/Dan R
Assisting Minister	Dan Hermanson	Carol Hedlund
Communion Assist	Angie Erickson	Judy Hoffman
Communion Assist	Corrine Iverson	Sue Engstrom
Greeters	Corey Drewes	Pris Fieldhammer
Greeters	Tammy Drewes	Marlys Wanttie
Lector	Sarah Fleener	Came Pexsa
Musicians	Shalom Singers	SOS Band
Proclaim/FB Live	CJ/Kim/Julie	CJ/Kim/Julie
Ushers	Craig Neubarth	Todd Zarbok
Ushers	Lona Neubarth	Grant Pexsa
Counters	Dave Harris	Craig Neubarth
Counters	Arvin Pletcher	Fritz Bukowski

THIS WEEK AT SHALOM

Sunday	09-20	9:30 am 10:30 am	Worship in-person or online Hospitality
Monday	09-21	5:30 pm	Church Council
Tuesday	09-22	7:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm	Text Study at Common Ground Dartball Gospel of Uke
Wednesday	09-23	5:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Meal Family Night Catechism for Grown-Ups
Thursday	09-24	8:00-9:45 am 10:00-11:00 am 6:00 pm	Shalom Piecemakers Bible Study Shalom Singers
Sunday	09-27	9:30 am 10:30 am 6:00 pm	Worship in-person or online Hospitality RMC Board meeting