



St. Mary's Lutheran Church
Saturday, October 17 - 4:00pm & Sunday, October 18, 2026 - 9:00am
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

3 Chimes 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 #825 "You Servants of God"

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" (ELW pg. 187-188)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (see yellow insert)

Please be seated

WORD (see yellow insert)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-17

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96: 1-13 (read responsively)

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

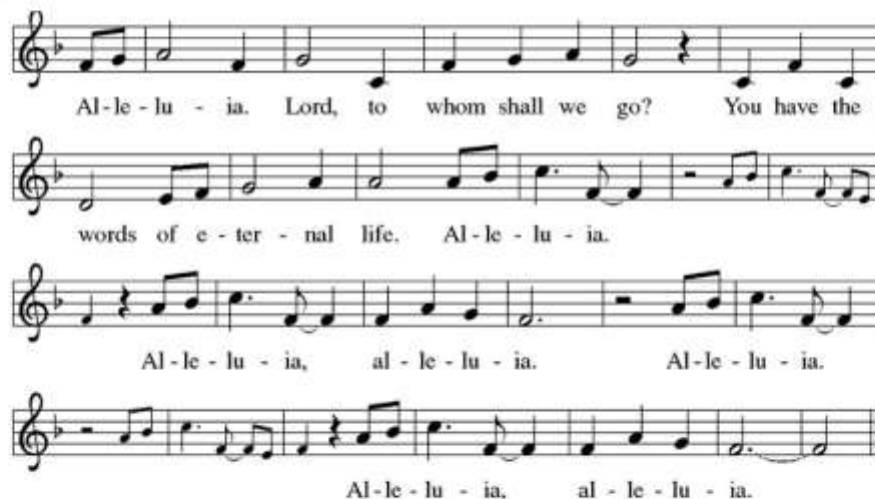
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS CONNECTION

Please stand in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 22nd 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 #526 "God is Here!"

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Receive our prayer, 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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

MUSICAL OFFERING (Sun)

Adult Choir

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" - arr. Lloyd Larsen

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.
Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
Don't ever feel discouraged for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge He'll ne'er refuse to lend.
If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can share the love of Jesus, and say, "He died for all!"

Please stand in body or spirit

OFFERING Hymn #893 "Before You, Lord, We Bow", vs. 1

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



DISTRIBUTION HYMN Hymn #338 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

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 Hymn #714 "O God of Mercy, God of Light", vs. 1, 3, 5

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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