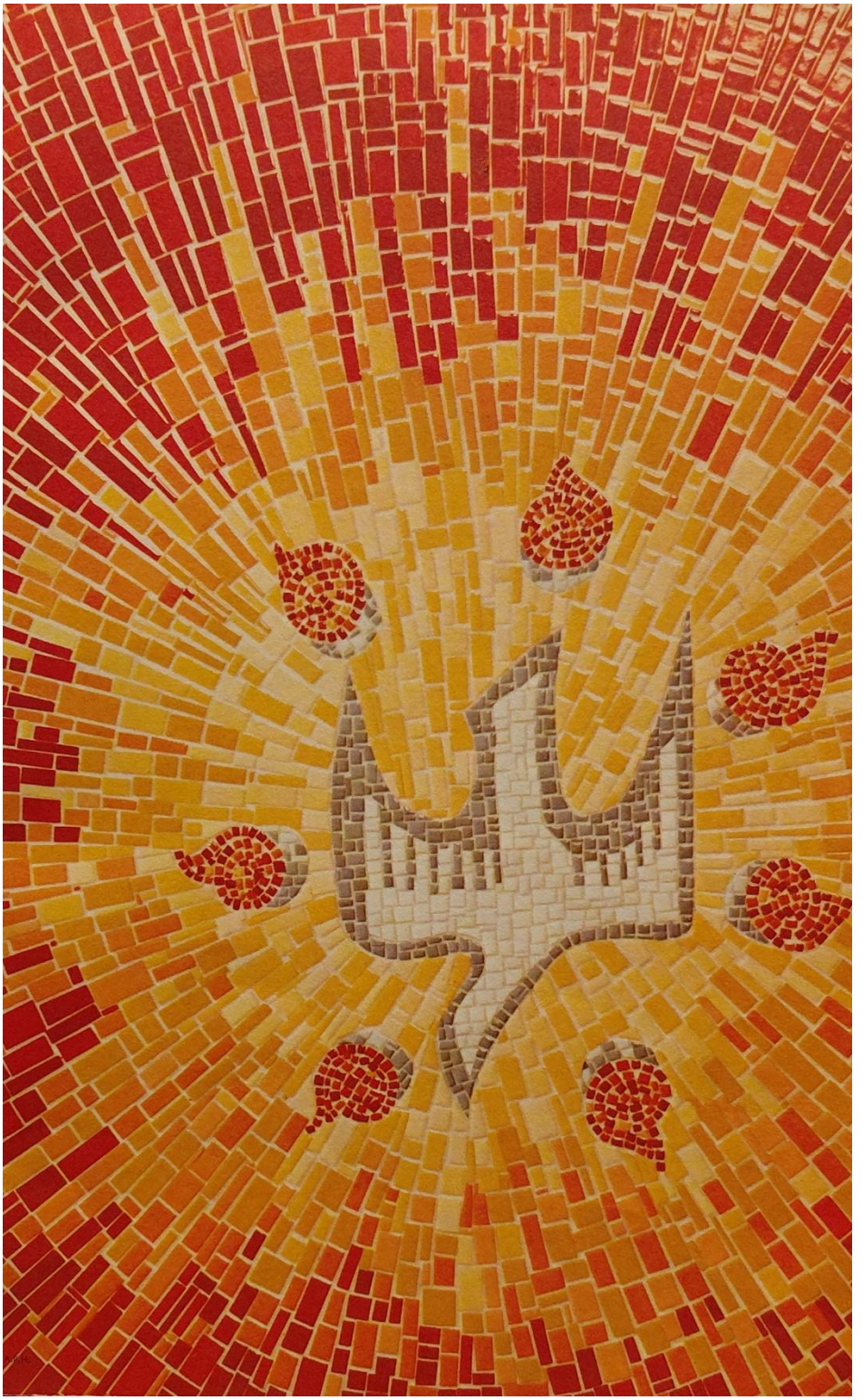


Peace Lutheran Church

18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026 9:00 a.m.

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME!

Thank you for joining in Worship today. This morning, we continue our six-month celebration of 50 years of faithfulness and ministry at Peace Lutheran, remembering the congregation's fourth decade, 2007-2016.

Whether you regularly worship with us, are here for the first time, or are returning after a time away, your presence is important for the worship we offer to the glory of God. May your experience of God's love be a blessing in your life. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest register in the Narthex, near the front door. All are welcome at Jesus' table. The center ring in the communion tray has grape juice and the other two rings have wine.

Information in italics | **Congregation responses in bold** | ***** indicates please stand as you are able. Worship services may involve photography, as well as audio and video recording.

Welcome & Announcements to Prepare Us for Worship

The Fourth Decade of Peace Lutheran Church



***** *The Church's One Foundation* (vs. 5) ELW 654

Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
That we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

***Litany**

Let us pray... God of life, you gathered this community of believers and planted us in this place. You call us to follow Jesus, to love one another, to love you and your world, and to create a place where all are welcome.

We thank you for your call and for your accompaniment over the years of ministry.

God of love, following your call is not always easy. It requires creativity, strength, patience and most of all, grace.

We thank you for the gifts that made it possible for your people to work together in this place.

God of grace, we thank you this morning for the people during the fourth decade of ministry - the people who strengthened this body to be faithful in ministry.

Thank you for Pastor Vojta, for leaders and followers, for children, parents, grandparents, for confirmands, and for all gathered at the Table in those years.

Thank you for the opportunities we have had to share your love with our community, especially for the ministry of Love, Inc.

Walk with those who give care, and those whose lives are touched by that care.

God of past, present and future, guide this congregation through these months of anniversary celebration and in the coming years.

Continue to equip us to be your love and peace in this place. Light our pathways always. Fill us with faith, courage, peace, compassion and commitment. Amen.
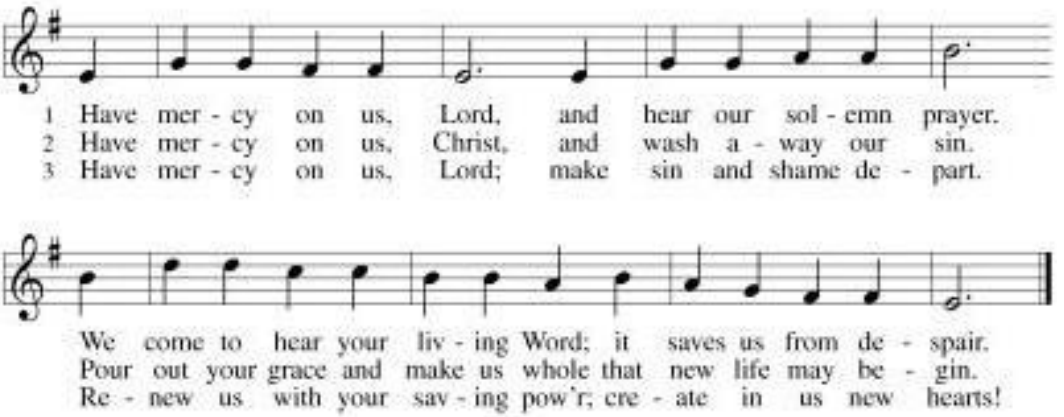


** Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult* ELW 696

***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.**
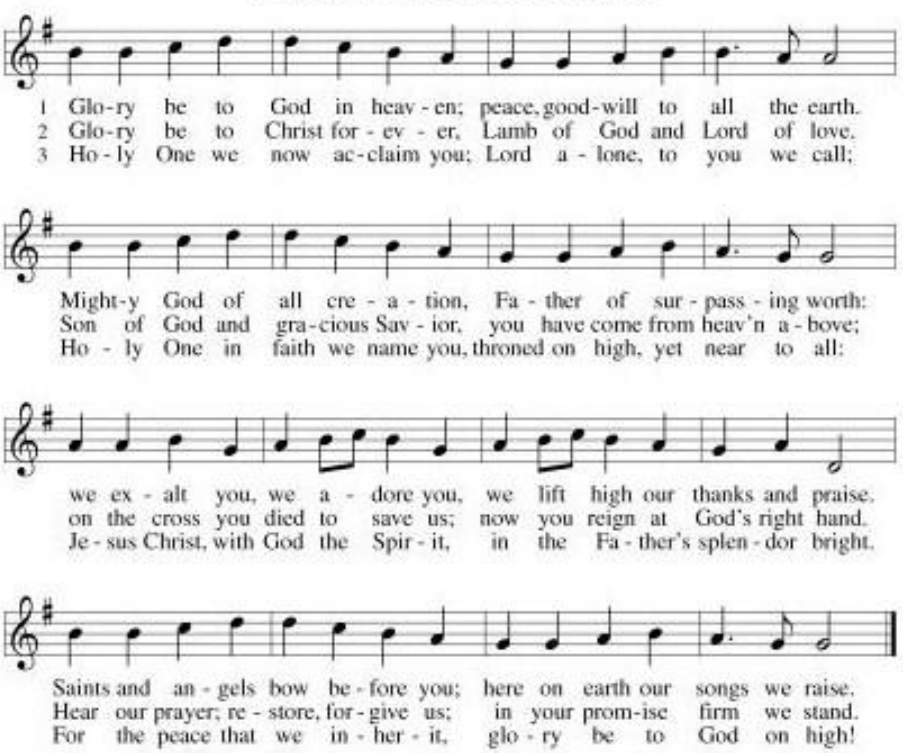
*** Kyrie**

Have Mercy on Us, Lord



***Hymn of Praise**

Glory Be to God in Heaven



***The Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray… **God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

1 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites
journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but
there was no water for the people to drink. 2 The people quarreled with Moses
and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel
with me? Why do you test the LORD?" 3 But the people thirsted there for water,
and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out
of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" 4 So Moses
cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready
to stone me." 5 The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take
some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which
you struck the Nile and go. 6 I will be standing there in front of you on the rock
at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may
drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 He called the place
Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD,
saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

…the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 **I will open my mouth in a parable;**
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times—
3 that which we have heard and known, and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from their children.
4 **We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds**
and the power of the LORD, and the wonderful works God has
done.

12 God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors,
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan,
13 **splitting open the sea and letting them pass through;**
making the waters stand up like walls;
14 leading them with a cloud by day, and all the night with a glow of fire;
15 **splitting the rocks in the wilderness**
and giving them drink as from the deep;
16 bringing streams out of a rock, making them flow down like a river.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13
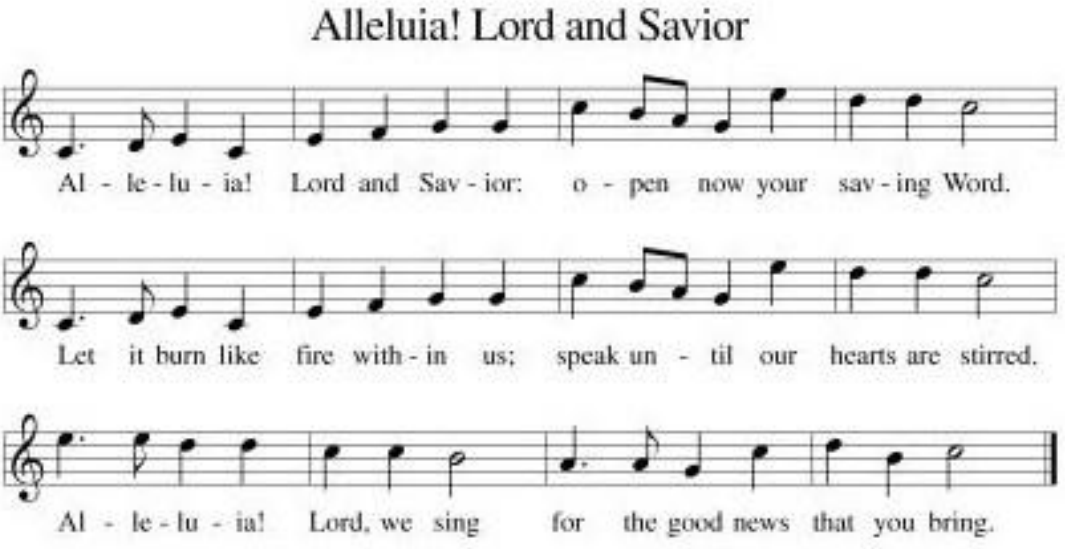
1 If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, 2 make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name that is above every other name, 10 so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

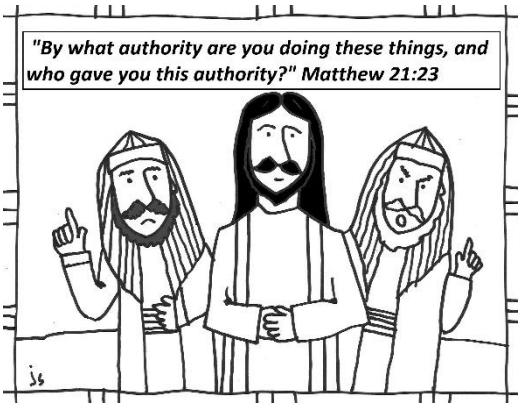
12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

…the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*



***Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32**



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

....**Glory to you, O Lord.**

23 When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief
priests and the elders of the people came to
him as he was teaching and said, "By what
authority are you doing these things, and
who gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one
question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I
do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of
human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,'
he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'Of
human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet."
27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither
will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said,
'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29 He answered, 'I will not,' but later
he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the
same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did

the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

Sermon – Pastor Carol Jeunnette

 ***** *O Jesus, I Have Promised* ELW 810

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.
A brief silence.

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**
We pray for Michael, Bill, Lynn, Julie, Janet, Crystal, Trish, Kathy, Sean, Tim, Don, Sharon McGinty, Ken, David, Elsie.
Birthday: Pam Mueller – September 28

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.

***Sharing of the Peace**
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**
Share the peace with each other as you are comfortable.

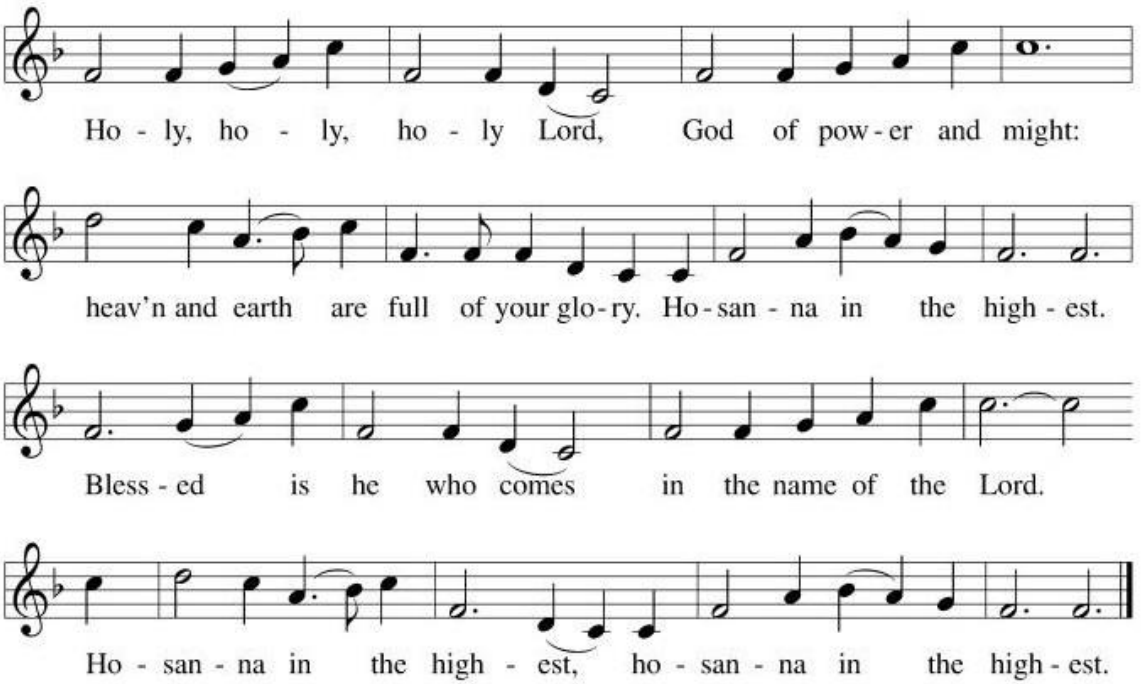
*** Offering Prayer**
Let us pray… **God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**
(Please place your gifts in the basket
at the back of the Sanctuary as you depart)

The Meal

***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 him thanks and praise.

***Proper Preface**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
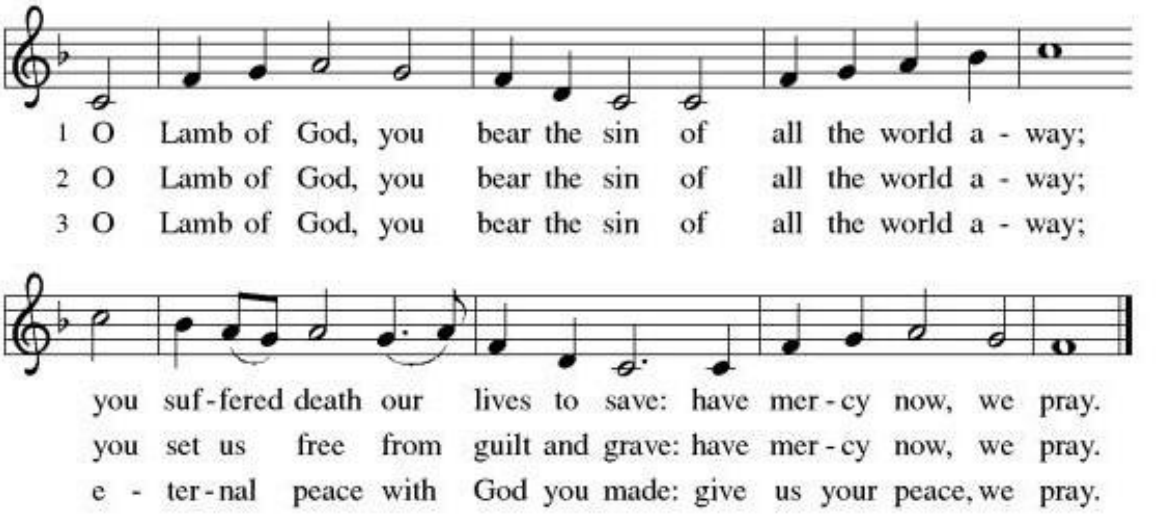


***Eucharistic Prayer**

***Lord's Prayer** *(traditional version)*

***Invitation to Communion**

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

Please come forward as you are able to receive communion.



***Post-Communion Blessing**

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

***Prayer after Communion**

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.**

* *On Our Way Rejoicing* ELW 537

Announcements for the Good of All

***Dismissal**
Go out in joy and grow in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Peace Lutheran Announcements for September 27, 2026
Church Website: www.peacelutheranburlington.org
Church Email: peacelca@gmail.com
Pastor Carol's email: pastorcarol.peace@gmail.com
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
Attendance for Sunday, September 20, 2026 –23 confirmed, 2 unconfirmed
General Offerings $1,765.00 Mt Meru $64.00
Worship Assistants for today – Council member in charge: Sharon Ryd, Lector: Sharon Ryd, Communion Assistant: Janet McGinty, Offering counter: Sharon Ryd, Tech: Sean McGinty

Office Hours… Pastor Carol's office hours are Wednesday from 9am to noon. Feel free to stop in and say "hello." She can also be reached by phone, if needed. (303) 909-3064.

Compassionate Corner… This month our giving will focus on this adult daycare. Their wishes are for art supplies such as coloring books, yarn, glue, construction paper, children's books or easy reading, etc. Gently used is fine.

Community Meals… As part of our Anniversary celebration, tomorrow we will be hosting a free meal for the community with one session at 11:30am-1:00pm and again at 4pm-5:30pm. We will need volunteers during each of these sessions. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Pet Blessing… Next Sunday, Oct. 4 we will be having a pet blessing. Please *don't* bring your pet to church, but we would love to have photos of your pet, if you wish. Bring the photo to church, and if you can get it to Sharon ahead of time, she can include the photos in the slides at the beginning of worship.