



DEBT

September 13, 2026
16th Sunday after Pentecost

St. John Lutheran Church

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START COUNTDOWN SLIDE AT 9:20

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AT 9:25

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Congregation greets one another in the name of the Lord.)

GATHERING HYMN (TIMELINE)

How Great Thou Art pg 532 vs 1&2

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought word and deed by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given His Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

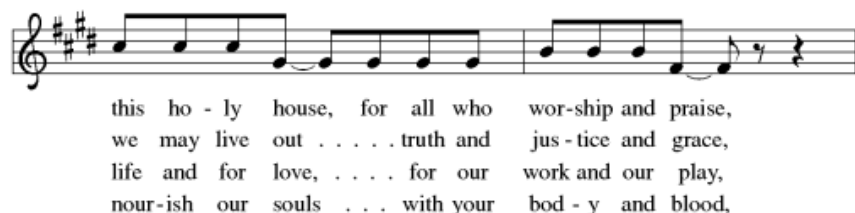
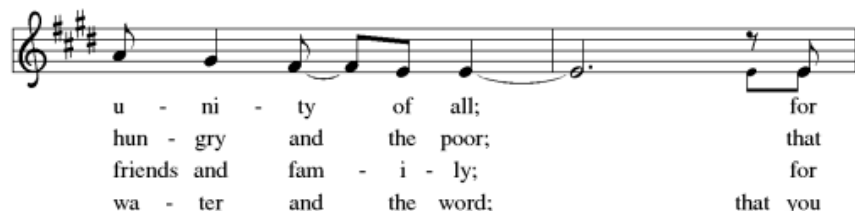
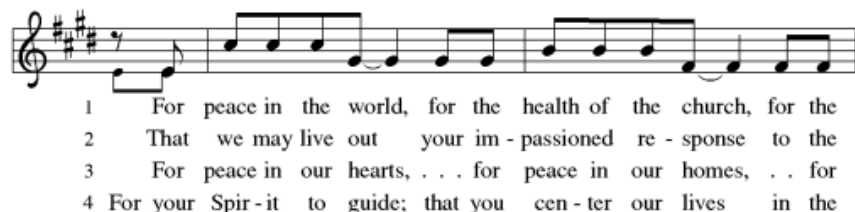
C: Amen.

GREETING

L: 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.

KYRIE ELEISON (TIMELINE)



HYMN OF PRAISE (TIMELINE)

Glory to God in the Highest...



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



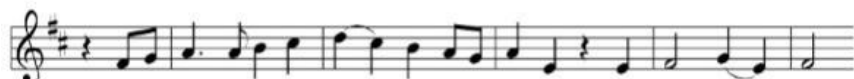
We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



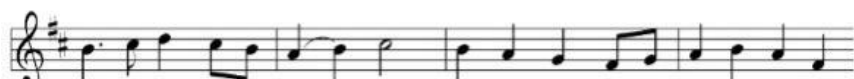
You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

GREETING (ACAPPELLA)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray...

C: O Lord, help your people to avoid the infection of the evil one, and with pure hearts to follow you, our only Lord. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 50:15-21

L: The First Lesson is from the 50th chapter of Genesis.

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 17 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." 19 But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20 Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. 21 So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L: Here ends the reading.

PSALM 103:1-12

L: We will read the Psalm responsively.

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

**2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—**

3 who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

**4 who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and
mercy,**

5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**6 The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

7 He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

**8 The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast
love.**

9 He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

**10 He does not deal with us according to our
sins**

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who
fear him;

**12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from
us.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 14:1-12

L: The Second Lesson is from the 14th chapter of Romans.

14 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. 5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. 7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." 12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

L: Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ACAPELLA)

L: Please rise in honor of the Gospel.



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.



21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with

me, and I will pay you.’ 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

“Forgive and Forgive and Forgive Again”

PRAISE SONG (VIDEO)

Forgive, Seventy Times Seven

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,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**Was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
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 again to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY (VIDEO)

We Give Thee but Thine Own LSB 781

OFFERING PRAYER

C: Gracious God, we are grateful that you welcome all who seek your love. Let these gifts be joined with our prayers, our presence, and our service, that we may live as faithful disciples. Use all that we offer to bring hope and healing to your people. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BENEDICTION

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING

CLOSING SONG (TIMELINE)

How Great Thou Art pg532 vs 3&4

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The LCMC Fall Gathering is Oct. 4-7 in West Des Moines, IA. The conference will be at Lutheran Church of Hope. Our council can send two delegates. Hotel and conference costs are paid by our church.

You must register by Sept. 10th. Contact Pastor Ann if you would like to attend!

Sept. 27th - Mission Festival - Caleb Meyer from The Salt Company -College Outreach Ministry from Citylight Church, Kearney. Plan to bring a side dish for a potluck meal after the service!

Continue to post pictures for Pastor boB's memory posters.

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Sept. 15 - @ 6:30 PM - Pastor Ann's Bible Study - Book of Romans Text Pastor Ann if you would like to Zoom In and Join us!

Sept. 16 - @ 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study

@ 9:00-12:00 Pastor Ann's Office Hours

@ 4:45-6:15 PM Confirmation Begins

Sept. 17 - @ 1:30 PM - Bible Study at Sunporch

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: Soups, peanut butter, hamburger and tuna "helper meals", tuna, cereal and any other food you would like to share. Toilet paper is always in need. "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:12-13

Sunday, Sept. 20

Scriptures for 17th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Psalms 27:1-13

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon Title: "Are you Envious of My Generosity?"

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OFFICE HOURS- WEDNESDAYS 9AM-NOON