



"The harvest is plentiful, but
the laborers are few;
therefore plead with the Lord
of the harvest to send out
laborers into His harvest."

Luke 10:2

September 27, 2026
18th Sunday after Pentecost

St. John Lutheran Church

Pastor Ann M. Auten
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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

House of the Lord (VIDEO)

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.

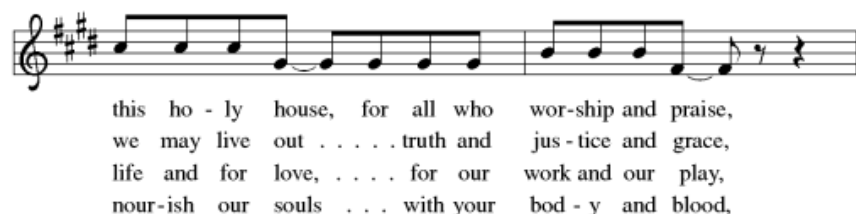
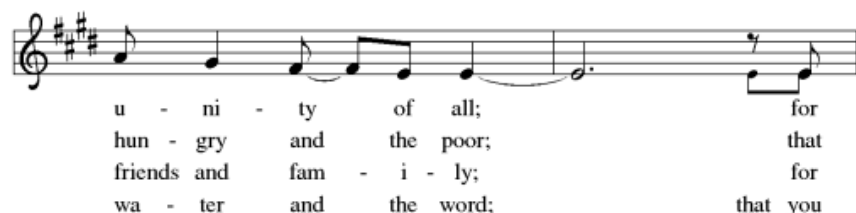
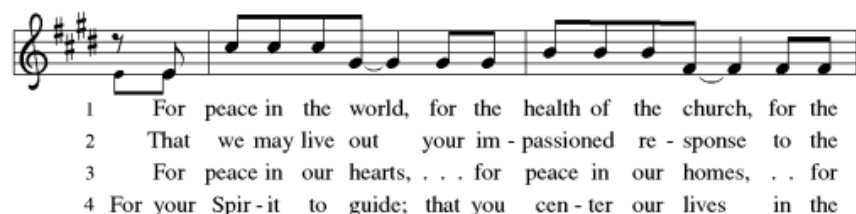
C: Amen.

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 (ACAPELLA)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray...

C: Heavenly Father, when called to do your will, we often respond with enthusiasm, yet in our human weakness, we fail to follow through. Strengthen us with your grace poured out through your Son, so that we may overcome our weakness and follow you in the way of life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

L: The First Lesson is from the 18th chapter of Ezekiel.

18 The word of the Lord came to me: 2 What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? 3 As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 4 Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die. 25 Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? 26 When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. 27 Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall

save their life. 28 Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. 29 Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? 30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live. L: Here ends the reading.

PSALM 25:1-10

L: We will read the Psalm responsively.

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

2 O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly
treacherous.

**4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.**

5 Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

**6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your
steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my
transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

8 Good and upright is the Lord;

therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right

and teaches the humble his way.

**10 All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love
and faithfulness,**

**for those who keep his covenant and his
decrees.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 1:1-8

L: The Second Lesson is from the 1st chapter of Acts.

1 I wrote the first narrative, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach 2 until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After he had suffered, he also presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 While he was with them, he commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father's promise. "Which," he said, "you have heard me speak about; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days." 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

L: Here ends the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ACAPELLA)

L: Please rise in honor of the Gospel.



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 10:1-3

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th chapter.



10 After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two others, and he sent them ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself was about to go.

2 He told them, "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest. 3 Now go; I'm sending you out like lambs among wolves.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

The Harvest is Abundant – Pastor Caleb Meyer

PRAISE SONG

Yes I Will (VIDEO)

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

That's Who I Praise (VIDEO)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

PASTOR ANN M. AUTEN

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OFFICE HOURS- WEDNESDAYS 9AM-NOON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Festival Today! Join us for a delicious potluck dinner after service as we hear Caleb Meyer's presentation on the Salt Company at Citylight Church.

New Bible Study! Beginning Oct. 13th for 10 weeks. Right Now Media presents the book of Daniel. We will read and study the 12 chapters of Daniel. The movie "Daniel and the Fiery Furnace" is playing in theaters now. During the Jewish exile to Babylon, Daniel and his friends faced trials as Babylon's armies conquered Jerusalem. Their faith is tested under fire! Come and learn about Daniel and go to the movie with us!

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Sept. 29th - @ No bible study for tonight.

Sept. 30th - @ 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study.

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

@ 4:45-6:15 PM Confirmation

October 1st - @ 1:30 PM - Bible Study at Sunporch

Future Dates:

October 3rd - @ 11:00 AM Pastor Bob Sinclair - Funeral Service

October 4th-6th - Pastor Ann at Annual Gathering

October 6th - @ 6:30 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

October 7th - @ 7:00 PM Youth Cookout at the Parsonage

October 8th - @ 6:30 PM - Pizza Party with Pastor Siimon Haamer

Pastor Bob's Committal will be at St John at 11am on October 3, 2026. The Memorial service will be live streamed on the St John YouTube channel.

Alvin (Irish) Kussman turns 98 years young on September 28. His family would like to bless him with a card shower for his birthday. Cards can reach him at Sun Porch 920 E. Kansas Ave. Smith Center

Pantry Items Needed: 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, Oct. 4

Scriptures for 19th Sunday after Pentecost

1st Reading: : Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:7-18

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Sermon Title: "Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Who is Really in Charge?"