

WELCOME
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH – Sunday, October 16
19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST-NOVEMBER WORSHIP 8:30 AM

CONTACT US

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WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so happy you've joined us today. If you have any questions about our service or facilities, please reach out to an usher. If you are a guest please fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

The children will be invited up front during the children's message – please feel free to join us!

All who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing only, come with your hands folded.

If you are looking for a church home, know you are always welcome here.

OUR MISSION

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you!

Introduction

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE BY Cassie Gorman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**Please stand as you are able.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN: ELW 514 O Word of God Incarnate

**1 O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance
that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps,**

shines on from age to age.

2 The church from you, dear Master,
received the gift divine;
and still that light is lifted
o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
that, all life's voyage through,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands
still guides, O Christ, to you.

3 Oh, make your church, dear Savior,
a lamp of burnished gold
to bear before the nations
your true light, as of old;
oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims
by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see you face to face.

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, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

**Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

○ Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.*Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

A reading from Genesis

²²The same night [Jacob] up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me."²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob."²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed."²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him.³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 121

My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. (Ps. 121:2)

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you as sleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD you;

the LORD your shade at right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will sustain your life.

⁸**The LORD watches over your going out and your in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

A reading from Timothy.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it,¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires,⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and

wander away to myths.⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

**Please stand as you are able for the Gospel.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Lord and savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

The holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people.³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.'⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone,⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says.⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Please be seated.*

SERMON: Rev. Dan Mixdorf

HYMN OF THE DAY: WOV 778 O Christ the Same

**1 O Christ the same, through all our story's pages--
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;**

eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,
unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies and set the stars ablaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

2 O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love in triumph glorified.
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven--
O Prince of life, in all your saving power;
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given:
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

3 O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain;
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

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

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For all the baptized, that they become skilled in compassion and grace and equipped to share the good news with all. Grant your followers persistence in proclamation and prayer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For air and sky, clouds and sun, that they provide rain to parched land and relief to flooded ground. Renew and restore our polluted atmosphere and empower us to be worthy stewards of creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For judges, juries, and all who work in the judicial system, that they desire wisdom, seek truth, rule with fairness, and have the courage to do what is right. Eliminate oppression and injustice in our criminal justice system. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For all who are lonely, especially those who have newly arrived in an unfamiliar city or country, political prisoners without recourse to justice, hospital patients without visitors, and any who are ill or grief-stricken. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those in our congregation and community engaged in advocacy work (*local ministries may be named*), that with the persistence of the widow, they lift their voices in seeking justice on behalf of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For those who have taught us faith and now rest in your heavenly peace (*especially*), that we remember and give thanks for these saints who shared the gospel through word and deed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

**Please remain standing as you are able.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

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.

DISTRIBUTION

**Please be seated.*

Friends of Jesus, receive nourishment for your journey. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Please stand as you are able.*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God,

through this meal you have bandaged our wounds

and fed us with your mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others,

both friend and stranger,

that all may come to know your love.

This we pray in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God of peace,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you, comfort you,

and show you the path of life

this day and always.

Amen.

**Please be seated.*

CLOSING HYMN: ELW 729 The Church of Christ, in Every Age

- 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age
beset by change, but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.
- 2 Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.
- 3 Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.
- 4 For he alone, whose blood was shed,
can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread
and feed the starving multitude.
- 5 We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord;
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word.

DISMISSAL BY CHILDREN

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

And have fun doing it.

We will! Amen!

POSTLUDE by Cassie Gorman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please keep in your prayers: Dennis Bushkofsky (cancer) and Renee McAtee

Sunday worship services will be at **8:30 am August-November.**

Prayer Shawl meets Tuesdays, 10 AM - noon. Enjoy fellowship while knitting and crocheting. New members welcome. The shawls and blankets are shared with those who are ill, grieving, and in need of comfort.

The 30th annual Dunkerton Fall Market: will be held October 29th from 9am to 3pm at the Dunkerton Community School. Two full gyms, filled with a variety of 70 crafters and vendors! Breakfast, lunch, and pie will be served. Homemade whole pies will be available to purchase. Free will donations taken. All proceeds support Dunkerton's Four-Year School Trip. This trip gives all high school students and opportunity to participate in an educational 3-day trip to a larger city, like Chicago.

Like us on Facebook at Dunkerton Fall Market and follow the 2022 Dunkerton Fall Market event, we will highlight vendors leading up to the show. Can't wait to see you on October 29th!

Military members: Jordan and Justin are home safe and sound. They are still in and attached to the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City where they are doing their normal monthly drills. Jeryn Loyd is in the Army Reserves and is a student at Iowa State. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We'd like to remember them in our prayers.

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Rev. Dan Mixdorf

Music: Cassie Gorman

Usher: Merritt & Connie Jones

Greg and Crystal Lysne

Reader: Christy Phillips

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday October 16th: 8:30am Worship and Communion

Monday October 17th: 1pm LWR Quilting

Tuesday October 18th: 10am-12pm Prayer Shawl

Wednesday October 19th:

6pm Confirmation

6:15 Worship Wednesday

Sunday October 23rd: 8:30am Worship and Communion

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance **10/09/22:** 17

Current **9/16/22:**

Checking: \$\$10,504.47

Savings: \$20,966.32

Offering: **10/09/22**

Current: \$1,175

Benevolence: \$107

Improvement: \$355

Jubilee: \$365.32

PASTORS COMING TO ALC:

Oct 16 Rev. Dan Mixdorf

Oct 23 Rev Gary Johnson

Oct 30 Rev Phil Borleske

Nov 6 Rev Kyle Barton & Mike Knpp

Nov 13 Rev Phil Borleski

Nov 20 Rev. Dan Mixdorf

We are still working on other Sundays.