

Welcome to



September 13, 2026
16th Sunday
After Pentecost

The vision of Gethsemane Lutheran Church is to:
GROW UP in His Word,
GROW OUT in his Ministry,
GROW TOGETHER in His Love.

Pastor James Jennings
Preschool Director: Kim Perry
Administrative Assistant: Schawna Briney
Organist: Hsiao-Lan Wang
Elder on Duty: Curtis Sitz & Mike Byerley

+ PRELUDE +

+ WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS +

+ OPENING HYMN +

968 MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; My Lord, what a
morn-ing; Oh, my Lord, what a morn-ing, When the
stars be-gin to fall, When the stars be-gin to fall.
1 You'll hear the trum-pet sound, To wake the
2 You'll hear the sin-ner cry, To wake the
3 You'll hear the Chris-tian shout, To wake the
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
na-tions un-der-ground, Look-ing to my God's right
Refrain
hand, When the stars be-gin to fall.
hand, When the stars be-gin to fall.
hand, When the stars be-gin to fall.

Text and tune: African American spiritual

Text and tune: Public domain

+ INVOCATION +

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

P 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.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

KYRIE

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship
and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



G 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.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 103:1–12; antiphon: v. 13

¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,* and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!
²Bless the LORD, | O my soul,* and forget not all his | benefits,
³who forgives all your in- | iquity,* who heals all your dis- | eases,
⁴who redeems your life | from the pit,* who crowns you with steadfast love and | mercy,
⁵who satisfies | you with good* so that your youth is renewed like the | eagle's.

⁶The LORD works | righteousness* and justice for all who | are oppressed.
⁷He made known his ways to | Moses,* his acts to the people of | Israel.
⁸The LORD is merciful and | gracious,* slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
⁹He will not | always chide,* nor will he keep his anger for- | ever.
¹⁰He does not deal with us according | to our sins,* nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.
¹¹For as high as the heavens are a- | bove the earth,* so great is his steadfast love toward those who | fear him;
¹²as far as the east is | from the west,* so far does he remove our transgres- | sions from us.

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 18:21–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

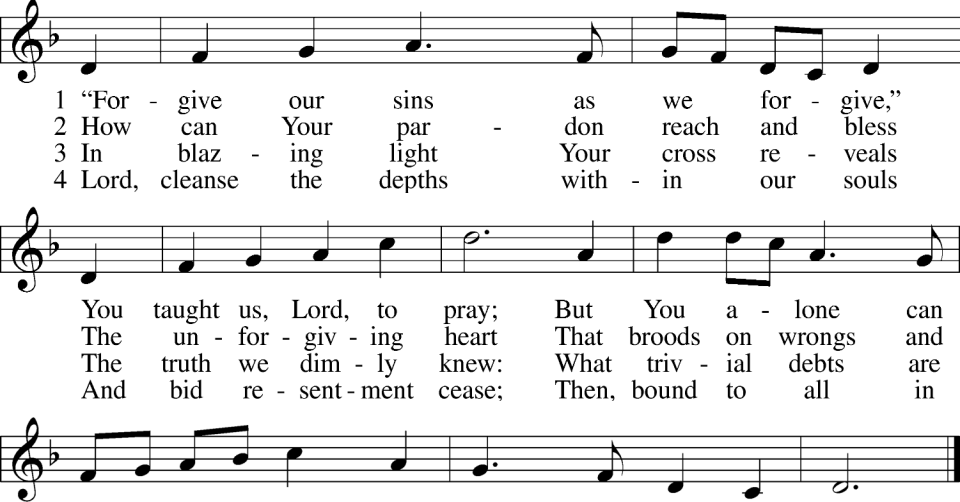
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE

+ HYMN OF RESPONSE +

843 “FORGIVE OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE”



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,”
2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls

You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in

grant us grace To live the words we say.
will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
owed to us, How great our debt to You!
bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–87, alt.
Tune: A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony, 1820, Harrisonburg
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APOSTLES’ CREED

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

P 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 HYMN +

895 NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

Musical score for the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God". It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices, 2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us, 3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given, Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices; With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us, The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven, Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed, The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore; With countless gifts of love And still is ours to-day, And free us from all ills In this world and the next! For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

+ POSTLUDE +

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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What’s Happening @ Gethsemane

Sunday Morning Bible Classes @ 10:15 a.m.
Stay for coffee and cookies after the 9 a.m. worship service then join a Bible class!

Women’s Bible Study: “Bless These Lips” –
Led by Maria Keeling – Meets in the Library

“Luther’s Small Catechism” – Led by Pastor James Jennings – Meets in the Life Center

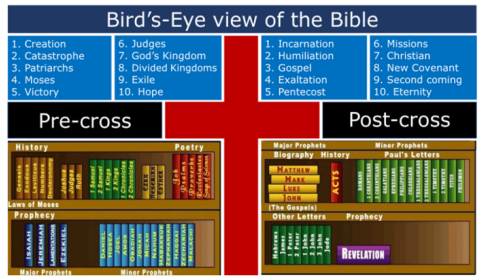
Flowers for September 13th:

By Ernest and Isabell Pali who will celebrate 60 years of marriage on September 15th.

By Kathy and Lonnie Angst who will celebrate 64 years of marriage on September 15th.



Card Games
Join us on Sunday, September 20th in the Life Center for card games at 11:30am.



Join us as we take a “Bird’s Eye” view of all of the books of the Bible. Some of the basics we probably already know and some facts that maybe we didn’t know or think of!

Tuesday mornings @ 10am
in the Gethsemane Library



September 14th from 10 to 1 pm.
For those of retirement age for fellowship and games, followed by devotion and potluck meal at noon.
RSVP to Maria Keeling.

Rev. James Jennings – Pastor
Gethsemane Lutheran Church and Preschool
4040 Watonga Blvd.
Houston, TX 77092
ph: 713-688-5227

email: glchouston@sbcglobal.net www.gethseamnelutheran.org
YouTube: [@gethsemanelutheran4096](https://www.youtube.com/@gethsemanelutheran4096) Facebook: Gethsemane Lutheran, Houston