

Seventeenth Sunday
after Pentecost

September 20th, 2026

Order of Service

7:45 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Prayer & Preaching (pg. 260)	DSI (pg. 151)
Hymns 826, 829, 837	Hymns 826, 829, 837, 832,
837	835
Wednesday Hymns	877,770
Sermon	Pastor Steve Mahlborg

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 55:6-9: Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-26: Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear. For I know that through your prayers and God’s provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will

be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know. I am torn between the two. I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Matthew 20:1-16: Jesus said, “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ ‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. They began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne

the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’ But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Serving in Worship Today

Elders	Jason Hecht; Ben Bekemeier, Dennis Thurston
Organist	Pam Bernreuter
Usher	Phil Reinbold; Matt Buchinger
Altar Guild	Mitzi Hill, Renee Marsrow
Financial Secretary	Carmen Mathews

Wednesday

Elders	Lucas Brown
Pianist.	Heiki Palm
Usher	Matt Buchinger

This week at St. Michael’s

Today	Worship Service 7:45 a.m. Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m. Communion 10:30 a.m. Voters Meeting after Late service
Mon	Bd. Of Education 6 p.m. LLL 7 p.m.
Tue	Adult Choir 7 p.m.
Wed	Worship Service 7 p.m.
Next Sun.	St. Michael’s 175 th Celebration Celebration Service w/ Pastor Gadeken 10 a.m. Celebration at the Park Hall 12-3 p.m.

175th Greetings: Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod President Matthew Harrison sends his greetings, giving glory and thanks to God as we celebrate our anniversary. His letter is available on the bulletin board.

175th Anniversary Christmas ornaments will be sold in the foyer after early and late services today for \$10.00. Limited amount still available. The Church Bells In The Forest books will also be for sale at a cost of \$12.00 per book.

Voters Meeting today after late service.

LLL will be meeting Sept. 21st at 7 p.m. in the overflow room. Our guest speaker will be Mark Eischer, Announcer and Production Advisor for The Lutheran Hour. Refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

Special Anniversary Celebration: Next Sunday we will have one worship service at 10:00. We welcome back Pastor Rob Gadeken and Chas Chaveriat as organist. Our worship service will feature special music and choirs led by Brian Heinlein. Please be aware that since we are expecting a large crowd, this will not be a Communion service. Check the bulletin and September newsletter for information on the dinner and festivities to follow.

Youth Group Ministry Sept. 27, 4:00-6:00 PM, we will be visiting Redemption Hill Ranch to learn about their mission and Equine therapy. A permission slip from them must be signed, and can be found in the foyer. We will meet at the ranch. Everyone who goes through their non-profit program is given a Bible so for the "cost" of this trip they said if we wanted to donate Bibles they will always take them. So please, if possible, bring a Bible to donate to their mission. Learn more about their program at: [https://www.redemptionhillranch.org/who we are](https://www.redemptionhillranch.org/who-we-are).

Anniversary Envelope will go to Home Purpose.

Protect Young Eyes: “Digital Discernment: Creating a Tech-Ready Family in the AI Age.” Mon. September 28th. A free presentation to help you learn ways to overcome challenges from today’s digital world. More information and registration can be found on the bulletin board in the foyer. Sponsored by the St. Michael’s PTL.

Sisters of Ruth will be going to the CountryView Store in Snover on Wed. October 7th. We will meet at the church and leave at 10:30 a.m., and have lunch at the store. If you have any questions, please contact Luann.

Mary Martha is accepting Orphan Grain Train School/Hygiene Kit donations. Shopping lists can be found on the bulletin board in the foyer. More information can be found in the September newsletter.

Adult Choir meets in the church basement on Tuesday’s at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always welcome!

Job Opening: Job Opening: Parish Music (part time position). Interested candidates should call/text Lisa Schultz at (989) 529-1710..

DID YOU KNOW? Thrivent members can apply for two Action Team Projects each year, with \$250 available for each project! That means your membership could provide up to \$500 each year to help support our church, school, and outreach programs. We want to put these funds to work in our community! Volunteers are available to help you coordinate a project, complete the application, and put the funds to good use. Contact 989-239-6999 or ramprod@frank.enmuthfestivals.com Let’s team up and make a difference! Pam Mossner-Outreach

What is the St. Michael’s Lutheran Church Endowment? An endowment is like a permanent savings account for a church or charity. The original money is never spent; instead, it is invested to make more money, and the earnings are used to pay for needs of the church. The more investment, the more returns are dispersed. A gift given to the Endowment Fund is a FOREVER gift. Question? Contact Pam Bierlein, Jean Rodammer, Jeff Hecht, Dave Rodammer or Kevin Kern.

Notes from the School

Raider Water Bottle/Tumbler Sale: MI Laser Customs in Hemlock is once again offering two different sizes of water bottles and a tumbler in maroon, Raider logo, and custom engraving on the front and side of each product. Samples can be seen at school in the display case next to the office and order forms can be found in the foyer. All order forms and payment due to the school office by September 25.

School Chapel: Please join us every Wednesday at 8:42 for weekly chapel. We usually meet in the gym and occasionally at church. Come see our students proclaim the Gospel of Jesus!

Come and support your Raiders next week!
Boys Soccer.
Mon. Sept. 21st. @ Holy Cross/Bethlehem 4:30 P.M.
Thurs. Sept. 24th. . . @ Christ the King 4:45 P.M.

Other News

The Lutheran Hour airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Next Sunday: "Teachable" *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler*; To be a disciple is to be a learner. Jesus loves you enough to make you teachable. Matthew 21:31

<u>Attendance</u>	
September 13 th	155
German Service.	74
September 16 th	65

Prayers

Health

Don Basel; Arlene Bierlein; Gretchen Comstock; Michelle DeCoe; Ben Dzioba; Don Duperon; Ron Frank; Diane Karst; Jim Karst; Margaret Schemm; Mike Weiss

Sympathy

Tom Mossner & family, at the death of his wife Julie Mossner

Thanksgiving

Dave and Sally Janson; 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mission

Rev. Steven and Martha Mahlborg serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as missionaries in Sri Lanka. Steven partners with the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) in Sri Lanka to share the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Prayer of the Day

"Heavenly Father, without whose blessing we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen."

Next Sunday, Our Guest Pastor;
Pastor Robert Gadeken

Pastor Gadeken was born in Laurel, Nebraska, and attended the University of Nebraska, teaching high school English for a short time. After completing a master's degree in English at UNL, and attended Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He then served Grace Lutheran Church, Storm Lake, Iowa, and St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Utica, Nebraska, before accepting the call to St. Michael Church and School, Richville. Pastor Gadeken is a strong supporter of Lutheran Education, serving mostly in congregations with schools. He retired in 2020 and moved to St. Louis, Missouri, to be near family. In retirement he has served as vacancy pastor for two congregations and written a book, "Slaves of Christ: A First Century Understanding for Twenty-First Century Christians" (Wipf & Stock: 2025).

While at UNL, he met and married Cheryl Buss from Plainview, Nebraska, who has been a devoted wife and mother/grandmother ever since. The couple have three grown children: two who now live in St. Louis and one who lives in London, England. They have six grandchildren and they try to spend as much time as possible with them. For September 27th, his theme will be Psalm 146:5-6, "Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever" (ESV).

(The whole bio. can be found on the bulletin board in the foyer.)