NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MASTER STRANGE LOVE

October 4, 2026



My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be. Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die? LSB *430:1*

Mount Hope Lutheran Church (313) 565- 9445
Sunday Service - 9:30am 5323 Southfield
Sunday Bible Study – after Service Allen Park, MI 48101
Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am

Rev. Paul Pollatz (734) 765–3468

Welcome! Members and Guests

We are blessed to have you here today. Please fill out the Guest/Member Attendance Card located in the pew rack in front of you. Guests please include your full address, zip code, and phone number. The cards will be collected by the ushers early in the service. Prayer Requests cards are available in the pew racks and should be handed to the ushers when the attendance cards are collected.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which Jesus' body and blood are given in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-30). When we receive the Holy Communion at a church, we are making a public statement that we agree with the teachings of that church (1 Corinthians 10:14-18). The Bible cautions us against receiving the body and blood of Christ in a manner that is spiritually harmful (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print worship guides are available at the ushers' stand.

Listening Devices

Listening devices are available; our ushers will be glad to assist you in signing one out for today's service.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available; our ushers will be glad to get them for you.

Wheelchair Accessible Seating

Wheelchair seating is located in the fifth row from the front of the church on the left and right side of the center aisle.

Church Nursery

Our Nursery is located in the Parlor, which is the first room next to the stained glass doors. The worship service can be heard in this room. The ushers can direct you to this room.

Our Divine Service, & Bible Studies

Our Divine Service is held on Sundays at 09:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Sundays after Service and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Our Bible studies are held Sep-May.

Our Vision Statement – Revitalize within, Reach out !

PRELUDE
THE RINGING OF THE BELLS
WORDS OF WELCOME
PREPARATION

Pastor: "God loves you." It is not like we have never heard that before. We may even have taken that fact for granted, thinking, **"Well, of course He does!** That's His thing! 1 John 4:8 says that **God *is* love**." Nevertheless, as our lives and circumstances unfold, through the uncertainties of sin and doubt and failure, many have come up short and been forced to wonder, **"How can God love me now?"** Love, after all, is always in direct proportion to our worthiness of it, to how lovable we are, right? The highest love of God, **agape**, can commonly be defined as the love of intelligence and corresponding purpose. This definition may seem at first to drain the whole idea of the depth of emotion or the value of love. But we discover the power of God's love even more as we are convinced of the greatness of our need our own sin and unworthiness. That's when the cross of Calvary and the sacrifice of Christ crucified shines forth as the highest, greatest, and almost unbelievable love of God for you—even you. Notice how many of today's hymns examine the depth and, yes, "strangeness" of the fact that God loves you.

(Please Stand)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN

"Thine Forever, God of Love" *LSB* 687

Thine forever God of Love
Hear us from Thy throne above
Thine forever may we be
Here and in eternity

Thine forever Oh how blest
They who find in Thee their rest
Savior guardian heav'nly friend
O defend us to the end

Thine forever Lord of Life
Shield us through our earthly strife
Thou the life the truth the way
Guide us to the realms of day

Thine forever Shepherd keep
These Thy frail and trembling sheep
Safe alone beneath Thy care
Let us all Thy goodness share

Thine forever Thou our guide
All our wants by Thee supplied
All our sins by Thee forgiv'n
Lead us Lord from earth to heav'n

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:4; 124:8; John 3:16*

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: to God my exceeding joy.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

People: that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the Confess of Sins and Absolution.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

2 Corinthians 5:14–15, adapted from KJV

Pastor: Beloved, "the love of Christ constrains us," because "He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them, and rose again." For the sake of the miraculous love of God, let us draw near to Him with a true heart and confess our sins and our need for God's love.

People: Lord God, heavenly Father, we confess to You that we have sinned against You through our fears and failure to live according to Your will and design. Because our love for You has faltered, so also have we not loved those whom You would have us call our neighbor. So certain are we of our sin that we have even wondered at times how You could still love us. Because of Your merciful invitation alone, we come before You, begging Your forgiveness solely and alone for the sake of the sacrifice of Your Son. O Lord, have mercy on us.

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

(Please Stand)

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 118:22–24; antiphon: v. 1*

People: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

KYRIE *(p. 152 & 153)*

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord

People: Lord, have mercy

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

People: Lord, have mercy

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy

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

People: Lord, have mercy

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord

People: Amen

*H*YMN OF PRAISE

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461 *v* 1

I Know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everliving head!

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Loving Lord God, reveal to us the depth of Your love that we learn greater love for You in return and that we grow in love toward our neighbors and one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 5:1–7*

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"10,000 Reasons"
Sung by Marie & Dave Brown

EPISTLE *Philippians 3:4b–14*

though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

VERSE *Matthew 21:42b*

People: Alleluia. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

People: (sing) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 21:33–46*

"Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken

away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: (sing) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PRAYER REQUESTS AND ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please pass your prayer requests and yellow attendance cards to the aisle and the usher will collect them during the singing of the hymn of the day. Guests are to fill out one side of the yellow cards and members the other side.

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"My Song Is Love Unknown" *LSB* 430 vs 1, 2, 3, &7

My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend,
My friend indeed,
Who at my need
His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then "Cru-ci-fy!"
Is all their breath,
And for His death
They thirst and cry.

Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

++ SERMON ++

MASTER STRANGE LOVE

Text: Matthew 21:33–46

Theme: By the very strange love of the Master sending his Son to his enemies, you have new life in his vineyard.

Goal: That everyone listening marvel at the Master's love in sending the Son and at the fruit he provides to the fruitless ones.

Sermon Outline

1. In the unusual behavior of the master in the parable of the wicked tenants, we see the character of God.
2. Strangely, the display of the master's wrath in the parable helps convey God's very strange love.
3. The Master's behavior that seemed foolish is actually marvelous in enabling you to bear fruit in his vineyard.

By the Very Strange Love of the Master Sending His Son to His Enemies, You Have New Life in His Vineyard.

(Please Stand)

NICENE CREED

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was

buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the Prayers of the Church)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, Your apostle John wrote**, "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are"** (1 John 3:1). As Your children, then, we come before You crying, **"Abba! Father!"** For the mystery of Your gift of our lives, Your good creation, and Your holy will of love and salvation, we praise You without end. Help us to live in Your love and praise, giving thanks every day for Your provision of life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your goodness, O Lord, keep and preserve Your holy church in the true faith, proclaiming the pure, heavenly doctrine of Your Word and being constantly strengthened in Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your Spirit, we pray You to guide all who are in the authority of government in our land and in all the nations of the earth, that we dwell in peace and rely on Your provision of justice and freedom for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized and for any who are in trouble, doubt, or fear of death. Grant Your healing gifts and merciful presence to save and deliver all who look to You for help in every need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Receive, O God, our bodies and souls and all our talents, together with the offerings we bring, as You have purchased us by the blood of Your Son to be Your own, that we may live under Him in His kingdom. Help us live by true faith to prepare for the world to come, doing the work You have given us to do while it is day. And when our last hour comes, support us by Your power and receive us into Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us" LSB 851 vs 1

Lord of glory You have bought us
With Your life-blood as the price
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand

(Please Stand)

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who makes us more than conquerors through His love and has given us eternal

comfort and good hope through grace. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS *(we sing) LSB 195*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory
Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He, Blessed is He
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said**: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."**

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: **"Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Jesus Loves Me" LSB 588

Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak but He is strong

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so

Jesus loves me He who died
Heaven's gate to open wide
He has washed away my sin
Let His little child come in

Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so

(Please Stand)

THE POST-DISTRIBUTION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (we sing) TLH p. 29-30

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face
of all people, a light to lighten the
Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, both for Your command to believe and for the faith to receive this salutary gift, and we pray that as Christ's redeemed people we show forth the light of Your grace and love to our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN

"Christ Is Our Cornerstone" *LSB* 912

Christ is our cornerstone
On Him alone we build
With His true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled
On His great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above

Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore
And may that grace once giv'n
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the best
To endless rest
Are called away

Oh, then with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim
In Joyful song
Both loud and long
That glorious name

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated for Announcements)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor
Marie Brown, Organist
Glenn Cairns, Elder
Jim Bumgarner, Reader
Jim Bumgarner, Frank Pignanelli, Sophia Panich, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Service Opportunity

Donations of Cereal boxes for Blessed Hope Food Pantry. Please place them in grey box by mailboxes.

Quilting

Every Thursday from 10am to 2pm

Attendance

Saturday September 26th	5:00pm
Sunday September 27th	9:30 am 33

Prayer List If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact Donna McCall at (313) 389-9626. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Marilyn & Bill Switter – October 4th

Gabielle & Mike Vanhampler – October 10th

Birthdays

Jim Bumgarner – October 8th

Denis Glueck – October 8th

Phyllis Witte – October 10th

For the Shut-Ins

Mack Mayfield, at home

Louis Bigliardi, Assistant Living

Joan Hafkesbrink, at Beaumont Commons

Carmell Faulk, at home

Phyllis Witte, at Aerius Health Center

Lynn Mayfield, at home

Joy Mead, Ashford Court

Bill Switter, at home

For Those Who Are Sick / Healing / Special Circumstances

Morgan Stamp, daughter of Lucy and Shaun Stamp, hospitalized in South Carolina with gall bladder problems, she is also pregnant;

Gabe, one of our youth group members, in the hospital after being struck by a car a week ago Friday, while he was crossing a street on his bike; the Doctor states that he probably will be off his feet for six months;

The Family of Pastor Terry L. Cashmer, Pastor Emeritus at Christ the King in South gate on Trenton Road, was called to glory September 18, 2026; Celebration of Life for Pastor Terry was September 25, 2026; Pastor Pollatz & Ruth were in attendance;

Jim and Cheryl Smith, with Mother Patricia, pray for safety as they travel

Sherri Condon, Nancy Dajos' daughter, Sever pain in arm and shoulder, might need surgery.

Nancy Dajos' & Kim Armstrong, prayers for strength in navigating this hard time with Sherri

Mac Mayfield, hospitalized at Annapolis Wayne

The Family of Bernie Mayfield, called to glory

Walt, Shirley's friend, hospitalized

Jim Bumgarner, recovering from falling

Logan Knapik, friend of the Pignanelli's, Logan has had the 4th surgery on her ankle;

Joe Pelzman, In Assisted Living and blind. Not a lot of family support. Pray for his comfort

Pastor David Bugess, update, recovering from pneumonia at home

Amanda Mardigian, friend of Frank and Laurie Pignanelli, upcoming back surgery

Kirk, ill, and doing poorly

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday October 4	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service
Monday October 5	Office Open 9am – 1pm
Tuesday October 6	Office Closed
Wednesday October 7	Office Open 10am – 2pm Bible Study 10:30am
Thursday October 8	Office Open 10am – 3pm Quilting 10am - 2pm
Friday October 9	Office Closed
Saturday October 10	Saturday Night Church 5pm
Sunday October 11	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service

Mt. Hope Church 15th Annual



AND



Saturday, October 24, 2025

4:00-6:00 pm

We need donations of hot dogs, chips, buns, pop and monetary. We are also looking for people to decorate your car with a biblical or fall harvest theme and provide candy to pass out.

Please arrive before 3:00 pm to secure a spot.

If you have any questions, please call Frances Ladach @ 313.333.6168