

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 30, 2023



Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Sunday Service - 9:30am

Sunday Bible Study – after Service

Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am

Rev. Paul Pollatz

(313) 565- 9445

5323 Southfield

Allen Park, MI 48101

(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
RINGING OF THE BELLS
PREPARATION

Pastor: Jesus' parables in today's Gospel are a bit difficult to understand. In the first the kingdom of heaven is hidden, like treasure in a field. In the second it is extremely costly, like a large, perfect pearl. And we rejoice that we have found the Kingdom and value it above all. But what about that third parable, in which angels sort evil and righteous people like fish being burned or saved? Can we sinner-saints be confident as that day approaches? We can, for our inclusion in the Kingdom is not because of anything we have done. First, God chose us to be a people for His treasured possession, the Old Testament Reading tells us. Then, explains the Epistle, "Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us" (Romans 8:34). Our heavenly Father sent His Son to give us His own righteousness. For our Lord, incorporating us in the kingdom of heaven was something to die for.

PREPARATION

HYMN

"O Worship the King" LSB 804 vs 1-4

O worship the King all glorious above
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love
Our shield and defender the Ancient of Days
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

O tell of His might O sing of His grace
 Whose robe is the light whose canopy space
 His chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form
 And dark is His path on the wings of the storm

This earth with its store of wonders untold
 Almighty, Thy pow'r hath founded of old
 Established it fast by a changeless decree
 And round it hath cast like a mantle the sea

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite
 It breathes in the air it shines in the light
 It streams from the hills it descends to the plain
 And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain

INVOCATION

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

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please be seated or kneel for the confession and absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God's ways are unsearchable; all things and we
 ourselves belong to Him.

People: **But we are not righteous, for we have done the
 evil He forbids. We are not upright in heart, for
 we have thought to save ourselves. We are not
 at peace, for we have led others astray in our
 thoughtless words. We cannot save ourselves.
 Forgive us and lead us in paths pleasing to You,
 gracious God.**

Pastor: Although you have sinned, God still surrounds you with His protection, like the mountains around Jerusalem. He never rests in His seeking to guide your hands to do good. He has sent His Word to turn your thoughts back to His grace and mercy. His peace is made sure for you in the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In His gracious love, God declares you to be His good and righteous children. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

WORD

HYMN

“O Worship the King” *LSB 804 vs 5 & 6*

**Frail children of dust and feeble as frail
In Thee do we trust nor find Thee to fail
Thy mercies, how tender how firm to the end
Our maker defender redeemer and friend**

**O measureless Might ineffable Love
While angels delight to hymn Thee above
Thy humbler creation though feeble their lays
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For God’s peace upon us and all who call out to Him, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For peace among this world's people, for whom Christ died, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For us here and for the Church around the world, gathered around Word and Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help us, heavenly Father, save us, gracious Lord, comfort us, O Holy Spirit, and defend us according to Your gracious will, O God.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord" LSB 651 vs 1-3

**I love Your kingdom, Lord
The place of Your abode
The Church our blest Redeemer saved
With His own precious blood**

**Beyond my highest joy
I prize its heav'nly ways
Its sweet communion solemn vows
Its hymns of love and praise**

**I love Your Church, O God
Your saints in ev'ry land
Dear as the apple of Your eye
And graven on Your hand**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Eternal Lord overall, open our eyes to see Your hidden, costly, yet universal kingdom,

People: that we may see our value in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus;

Pastor: through the same, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 7:6–9 ESV*

“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Here I am, Lord”
Sung by Ken Kosmalski

PSALM *Psalms 125*

Lector: Those who trust in the Lord

**People: are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved,
but abides forever.**

Lector: As the mountains surround Jerusalem,

**People: so the Lord surrounds His people, from this
time forth and forevermore.**

Lector: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on
the land allotted to the righteous,

**People: lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do
wrong.**

Lector: Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,

People: and to those who are upright in their hearts!

Lector: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways

**People: the Lord will lead away with evildoers! Peace
be upon Israel!**

EPISTLE Romans 8:28–39 ESV

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also

called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL AND VERSE *Romans 11:33, 36; Matthew 13:35b*

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Pastor: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia. I will open my mouth in parables;

People: I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:44–52 ESV*

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (we sing) Praise to You, O Christ.

PRAYER REQUESTS & ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please pass your prayer requests and yellow attendance cards to the individual sitting nearest the aisle and the ushers will pick them up during the singing of the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Amazing Grace” LSB 744 vs 1-3

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see**

**The Lord has promised good to me
His Word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures**

**Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
His grace has brought me safe thus far
His grace will lead me home**

**Yes when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven's joy and peace**

++ SERMON ++

The Kingdom of Heaven: To Die For
Text: Matthew 13:44–52

Theme: The kingdom of heaven is hidden, costly, and universal.

Goal: That all listening understand the kingdom of heaven in terms of its “wholeness” (universalness), hiddenness, and cost, seeing their value to God in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Sermon Outline

The Kingdom of Heaven Is Hidden, Costly, and Universal.

I. Like hidden treasure, the kingdom of heaven is hidden to the eye and revealed to faith.

II. Like a seeking merchant, the kingdom of heaven is precious to the seeker, worth giving all to have it.

III. Like a dragnet trolling the water, the kingdom of heaven is inclusive (catholic, universal), dragging everything ashore in the resurrection.

(Please stand as we prepare to confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.)

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: God has chosen us to be His treasured possession and has given His Son to die for us. Let us go to Him with all our concerns. For the Church around the world, that lay and clergy members alike seek to reveal the invisible treasure of God's love in Christ; for all who seek value in themselves, that they discover God's great love for them, and for all those who will face God's judgment at the end of the age, that they realize the forgiveness He offers in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For the leaders of the world's nations, that they seek to relieve conflict and ensure justice; for farmers and ranchers that they look for ways that

feed us all while caring for God's good earth; for all who go into harm's way in our communities and across the globe; and for all who work to meet the needs of those who are sick and suffering, Let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Guide, strengthen, and protect them all, heavenly Father.**

Pastor: For those near and dear to us in their various crises of health and long-term illness, all who are on our hearts and minds this present moment (we pause for silent prayer); the victims of flood, fire, or quake; and those who do not know where to turn, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Visit, sustain, and open doors of healing and peace according to Your gracious will, O God.**

Pastor: For ourselves, parents and children, singles and couples, young and old, that we strengthen one another in faith and love, in strength and confidence amid the conflicts and turmoil of this world, that God's love and grace be evident in how we care for one another, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Hear our prayer, heavenly Father, for we call to You in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

(Please be seated as the offering is being received and as we sing the offering hymn)

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” *LSB 781 vs 2-4*

**May we Thy bounties thus
 As stewards true receive
 And gladly as Thou blessest us
 To Thee our first-fruits give
 Oh hearts are bruised and dead
 And homes are bare and cold
 And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled
 Are straying from the fold**

**To comfort and to bless
 To find a balm for woe
 To tend the lone and fatherless
 Is angels’ work below**

SACRAMENT

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: (spoken) **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: (spoken) **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, 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 kept all Your gracious promises, who died for the sins of the

whole world, and from whom nothing in all creation can separate us. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and sing:

SANCTUS *(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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for in great love You sent Your Son to atone for the sins of the whole world. We rejoice to receive His body and blood in, with, and under this bread and wine for our salvation. Here we see Your eternal promises made visible; here we grasp the great price You paid; here we have a foretaste of the feast to come in the eternal kingdom of Your Son, our Lord. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: (spoken) **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: (spoken) **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.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“God Loved the World So That He Gave” LSB 571 vs 1 & 2

God loved the world so that He gave

His only Son the lost to save

That all who would in Him believe

Should everlasting life receive

Christ Jesus is the ground of faith

Who was made flesh and suffered death

All then who trust in Him alone

Are built on this chief cornerstone

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) 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, Lord our God, that You have again
assured us of inclusion in the kingdom of heaven
by giving us Your Son's body and blood to
strengthen our faith.

**People: As we depart, grant that in our words and
actions we might show forth the invisible,
priceless kingdom of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise” *LSB 917 vs 1, 2 & 4*

**Savior again to Thy dear name we raise
 With one accord our parting hymn of praise
 Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease
 Then lowly bending wait Thy word of peace**

**Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way
 With Thee began with Thee shall end the day
 Guard Thou the lips from sin the hearts from shame
 That in this house have called upon Thy name**

**Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life
 Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife
 Then when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease
 Call us O Lord to Thine eternal peace**

(Please be seated for some brief announcements)

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God!**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Dave Hamilton, Elder & Reader

Jim Bumgarner & Frank Pignanelli, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Closure:

August 7th – 10th

April will be on vacation

Church Closure for floor waxing:

August 9th – August 12th

Please do not enter the building as the floor needs time to dry.

BINGO!

August 2nd , 16th , 30th

Quilting

Every Thursday from 10am to 2pm

Family Fun Day

Sunday August 6th right after service

There will be a BBQ, yard games, singing, food & fellowship

Please bring a dish to pass. Sign up in Narthex.

Don't forget to bring your Family & Friends!

Attendance

Sunday July 23rd

9:30 am 31

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact Nancy Dajos at 313-982-7417. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Birthdays

Kim Armstrong – August 1st

Kathy King – August 2nd

Gabby VanHampler – August 4th

For the Shut-Ins

Judy Ohannasian, at home

Dorothy MacTavish, at home

Camell Faulk, at home

Phyllis Witte, at rehab

Melvin Kimbrough, at home

Lynn Mayfield, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

Ashleigh Halfacer, daughter of Ernie and Dawn Halfacer, with Leukemia

Tammy Tortenesi, Sophia's Mother, for relief from severe back pain

Melvin Kimbrough, at home, continue to pray for patience waiting for our Lord's strengthening powers

Trevor Ashley, friend of Paul Utica, dr's found bladder cancer

Brad Hackney, Pam Benford's Friend, Pulmonary Fibrosis & other health issues.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday July 30	9:30 am - Worship w/ HC
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Wednesday August 2	BINGO 6pm to 8pm
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Thursday August 3	10am Quilting
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Friday August 4	Office Closed
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Sunday August 6	9:30 am - Worship w/ HC
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