

welcome to worship
TIME AFTER PENTECOST
September 21, 2025 ♦ 10:00 am



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement
5 Wyomissing Boulevard
Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081
phone: 610-375-3512 ♦ www.atonementwyo.org
The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

The assembly's responses are in bold print.

PRELUDE

Deep River

African American spiritual, arr. Held

WELCOME

Pastor Katie

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

The assembly stands.

GATHERING HYMN 669

Rise Up, O Saints of God

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Lauryn

READING

Amos 8:4-8 (The Message)

⁴⁻⁶ Listen to this, you who walk all over the weak, you who treat poor people as less than nothing, Who say, "When's my next paycheck coming so I can go out and live it up? How long till the weekend when I can go out and have a good time?" Who give little and take much, and never do an honest day's work. You exploit the poor, using them—and then, when they're used up, you discard them.

⁷⁻⁸ GOD swears against the arrogance of Jacob: "I'm keeping track of their every last sin." God's oath will shake earth's foundations, dissolve the whole world into tears. God's oath will sweep in like a river that rises, flooding houses and lands, And then recedes, leaving behind a sea of mud.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

A leader sings the words in parentheses

Refrain (Listen now for the gospel!) ♪ Alleluia!
(It is God's word that changes us!) ♪ Alleluia!

♪ **Come, Holy Spirit, melt and break our hearts of stone,
until we give our lives to God, and God alone.** *Refrain*

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13 (The Message)

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

16 ¹⁻² Jesus said to his disciples, "There was once a rich man who had a manager. He got reports that the manager had been taking advantage of his position by running up huge personal expenses. So he called him in and said, 'What's this I hear about you? You're fired. And I want a complete audit of your books.'

³⁻⁴ "The manager said to himself, 'What am I going to do? I've lost my job as manager. I'm not strong enough for a laboring job, and I'm too proud to beg. . . . Ah, I've got a plan. Here's what I'll do . . . then when I'm turned out into the street, people will take me into their houses.'

⁵ "Then he went at it. One after another, he called in the people who were in debt to his master. He said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

⁶ "He replied, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.'

"The manager said, 'Here, take your bill, sit down here—quick now—write fifty.'

⁷ "To the next he said, 'And you, what do you owe?'

"He answered, 'A hundred sacks of wheat.'

"He said, 'Take your bill, write in eighty.'

⁸⁻⁹ "Now here's a surprise: The master praised the crooked manager! And why? Because he knew how to look after himself. Streetwise people are smarter in this regard than law-abiding citizens. They are on constant alert, looking for angles, surviving by their wits. I want you to be smart in the same way—but for what is *right*—using every adversity to stimulate you to creative survival, to concentrate your attention on the bare essentials, so you'll live, really live, and not complacently just get by on good behavior."

¹⁰⁻¹³ Jesus went on to make these comments:

If you're honest in small things, you'll be honest in big things;

If you're a crook in small things, you'll be a crook in big things.

If you're not honest in small jobs, who will put you in charge of the store?

No worker can serve two bosses: He'll either hate the first and love the second

Or adore the first and despise the second. You can't serve both God and the Bank.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Katie

The assembly stands.

PROFESSION OF FAITH (South Indian)

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes ... God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude ... in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

If you brought an offering today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Scan the QR code to the right.



Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews. Check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!

OFFERTORY

Let Justice Roll

As you seek your fame the meek are left – trampled beneath your feet.

As you hoard your wealth, the poor from whom you steal wail in the street.

All sing refrain:

♪ **So let justice roll on like a river**

And righteousness like an always present, ever-flowing stream.

Your worship comes as empty noise – clanging in my ears.

What good to me your fancy feasts? Dry your neighbors' tears. *Refrain*

The voice of God cries out to us, you have so much to give.

Seek good and flee from evil. How else can you live? *Refrain*

The assembly stands.

HOLY COMMUNION

We praise you, all-holy God, **our maker, our lover, our keeper.**

for the universe beyond our knowing, **for lands and seas and all their animals,**

for friends and strangers and family, **for homes and businesses and schools.**

We praise you for your covenant people, **for Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam,**
and for centuries of faithful Christians, **for Mary and Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul.**

We praise you for your Son Jesus Christ, **who saves us from sin and from evil,**

who on the night before he died 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.**

INVITATION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

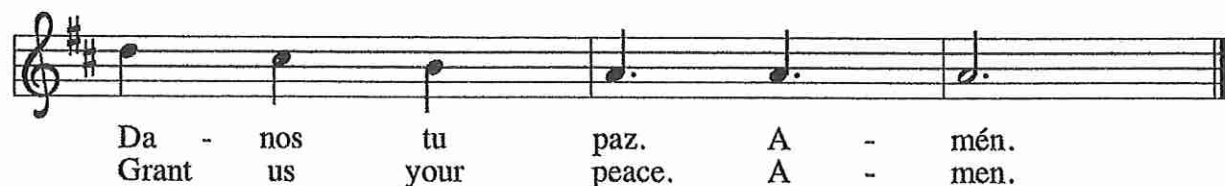
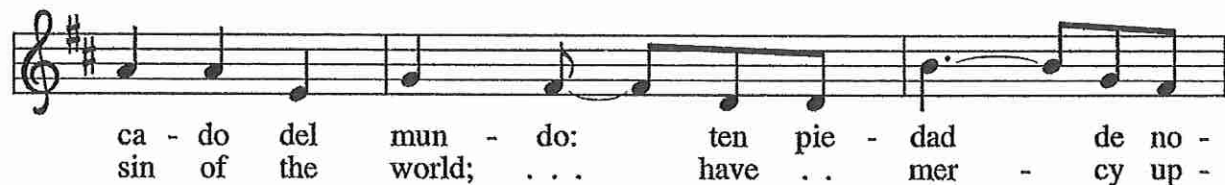
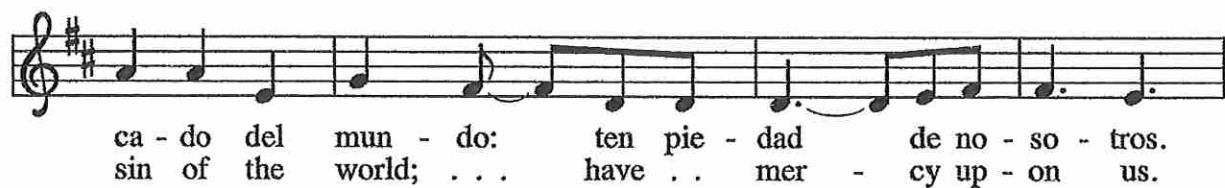
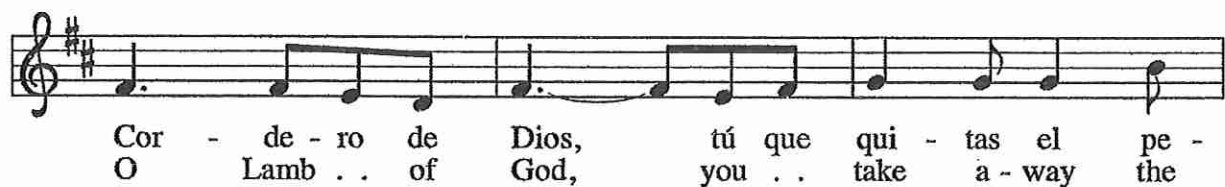
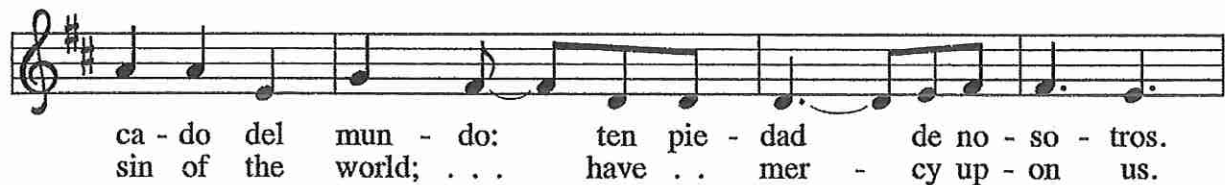
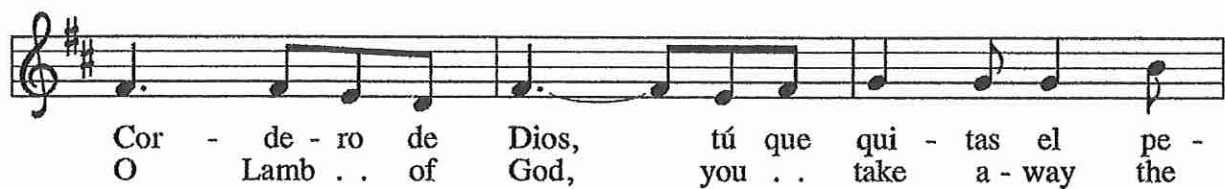
The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Sing in Spanish or English



COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 588 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

ELW 692 *We Are an Offering*

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 717 *Let Justice Flow like Streams*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Let Streams of Living Justice* Holst, arr. Behnke

Text: Zimbabwean traditional; tr. John L. Bell, b. 1949 Tr. © 2002 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-742295.

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Assisting with Worship

Carolyn Wheeler, greeter

Jerry Lubitz, head usher

Pete Calder, lector

Sharon Calder, assisting minister

Tom Endy, Max Romig, audio/visual

Joanne Gabel, Patty Lehr, Bryan Wang, Karen Wang, communion assistants

Cathy & John Durand, nursery

Karen Sandloop, altar captain

Dami Johnson-Agiri, sexton

Ellen Bryan, soloist

WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community! Together we are on the journey of discipleship with Jesus, who guides us from worship to formation, from formation to fellowship, and from fellowship to Christ-like servanthood.

HEARING DEVICES are available for those who have trouble hearing the service—ask an usher or stop by the sound booth on your way into the worship space.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available at the entrance to the worship space. Children from 3 years of age to 2nd grade are invited to experience worship geared just for them—follow the CHILDREN'S CHAPEL leader to the privacy room after the Children's Message. Children will return to their families for communion.

CHURCH NURSERY for preschool aged children and younger is in Room F126 during 10:00 am worship.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space. A FAMILY RESTROOM with a changing table is also located in the Privacy Room at the back of the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Monday—Thursday, 10:30am—2:30pm, or by appointment.

ATONEMENT VOLUNTEERS SERVE AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE the third Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Eisenbrown at 484-332-8788 if you would like to join the team.

FAITH FORMATION for adults will continue throughout the fall in room F122 at 9am. Children will resume meeting Sunday, September 21.

DONATING TO THE COMMUNITY AID THRIFT SHOP can benefit Common Ground. Use the code **50244** when you make a donation.

DONATIONS FOR COMMON GROUND are being collected in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex. You can also donate using our Amazon wish list, available by going to atonementwyo.org and selecting Common Ground from the top menu of the home page.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER will be served every Wednesday at 6pm in Lundin Hall, followed by Common Ground worship at 7. Everyone is invited!

CROP HUNGER WALK teams are forming for Sunday, October 12. To join Team Atonement or make a donation, use the link found on the home page of atonementwyo.org. Contact Michelle Endy at calendar@atonementwyo.org with questions.

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS will be September 28. Lutheran World Relief will then send them around the world to those in need and shipping costs are quite high. If anyone would like to donate to LWR to help defray shipping costs, please make a check out to Atonement with LWR in the memo line.

PICKLEBALL play is on a break while the gym floor is being refinished. Check the weekly announcements for when we will resume Sunday afternoon play.

RABBI BRIAN MICHELSON will be coming again to talk about the Hebrew Bible on Sunday, October 19 during the faith formation hour: 8:45-9:45 in Lundin Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

669

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;

Christ rose tri - um-phantly that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936
 Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893
 Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

FESTAL SONG
 SM

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

588



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

We Are an Offering

692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
Music: Dwight Liles
Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

Let Justice Flow like Streams

1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,

en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.