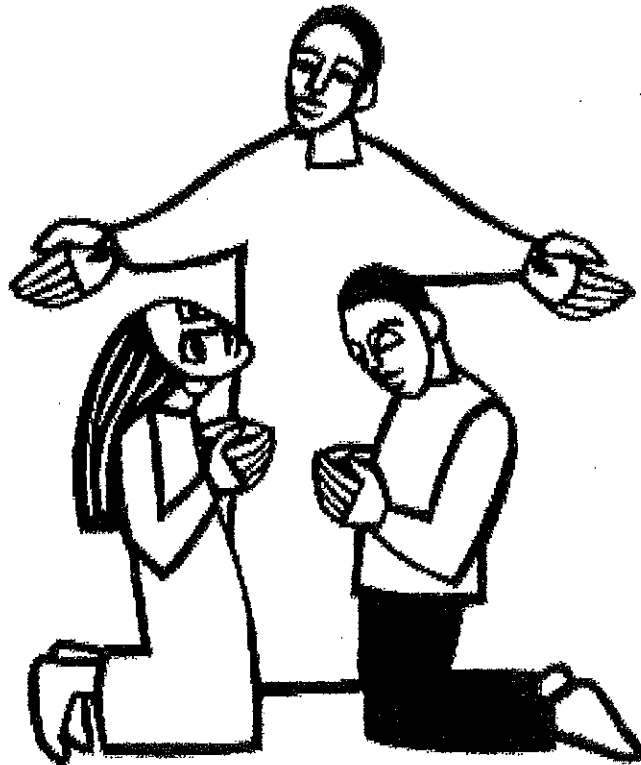


welcome to worship  
**TIME AFTER PENTECOST**  
September 6, 2026



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement**

5 Wyomissing Boulevard

Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081

610-375-3512 ♦ [www.atonementwyo.org](http://www.atonementwyo.org)

The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ The Rev. Molly Haggerty ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

PRELUDE

*Procession*

Lang

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN 731      *Earth and All Stars* — stanzas 1, 2, 5

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Lauryn

# READING

*Romans 13:8-14 (The Message)*

*The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.*

<sup>8-10</sup> Don't run up debts, except for the huge debt of love you owe each other. When you love others, you complete what the law has been after all along. The law code—don't sleep with another person's spouse, don't take someone's life, don't take what isn't yours, don't always be wanting what you don't have, and any other "don't" you can think of—finally adds up to this: Love other people as well as you do yourself. You can't go wrong when you love others. When you add up everything in the law code, the sum total is *love*.

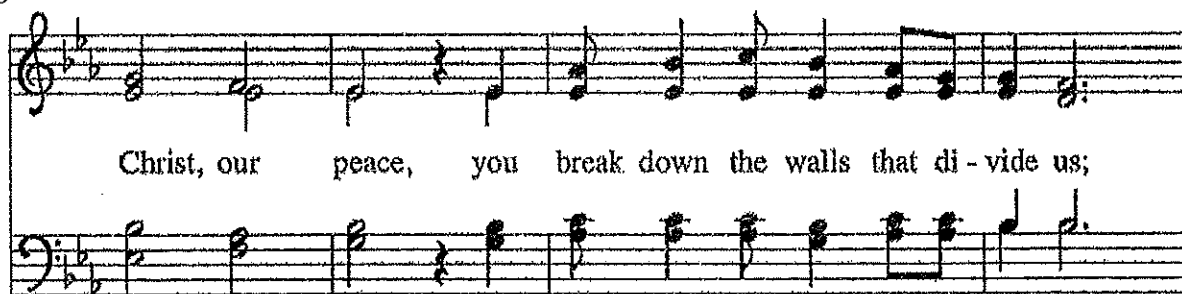
<sup>11-14</sup> But make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work that began when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute. We must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in sleeping around and dissipation, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Don't loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about! The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

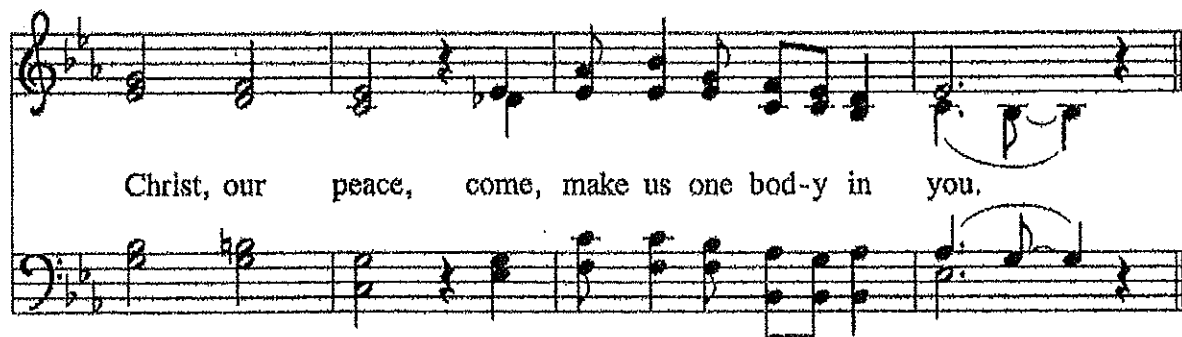
## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Christ, Our Peace*

*All sing three times*



Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di-vide us;



Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 18:15-20 (NRSV)*

*Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.*

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

## SERMON

Pastor Katie

*The assembly stands.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition concludes .... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

*The prayers conclude ... We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.***

## PEACE

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

## OFFERING

*If you brought an offering or your pledge card 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.*



OFFERTORY      *Child of God*

Summer Choir | Barry Ciabattoni, soloist

*Refrain (all sing):*    ♪ **When I look into the face of my enemy,  
I see a child of God, I see a child of God.  
When I look into the face of my enemy,  
I see a child of God, I see a child of God.**

*Solo:*    Forgiveness is the garment of our courage, the power to make the peace we long to know.  
Open up our eyes to see the wounds that bind all of humankind.  
May our shuttered hearts greet the dawn of life with charity and love. *Refrain*

*The assembly stands.*

HOLY COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Christ invites you to this table. All who are hungry and thirsty, come!

*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.*

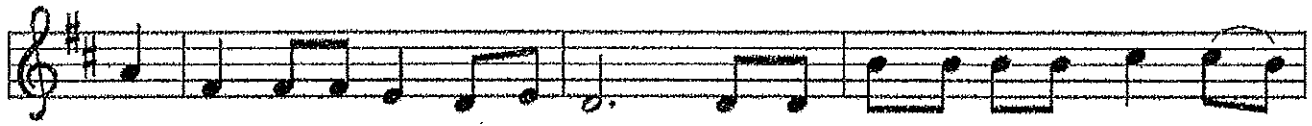
*Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!*

COMMUNION HYMN 466

*In the Singing*

COMMUNION HYMN

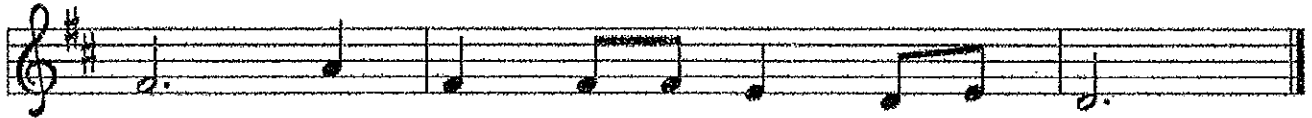
*God Bless to Us Our Bread*



*Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan, y da pan a los que tien - en*  
 God bless to . . us our . . bread, and give bread . . to all those who are



*ham - bre y ham - bre de jus - ti - cia a los que tien - en*  
 hun - gry, and hun - ger for jus - tice to those who are



*pan. Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan.*  
 fed. God bless to . . . us our . . . bread.

*The assembly stands.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 864

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven* — stanzas 1, 2, 3

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy! Bring peace to the world. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Tuba Tune*

Lang

### Assisting with Worship

MaryLou Hall, greeter ♦ Mick Bryan, head usher ♦ John Lehr, lector  
Tyler Good, assisting minister ♦ Karl Allmendinger, Oliver Lord, sound booth  
Gail Dawson-White, Precious Johnson-Agiri, Barb Mishler, Carolyn Wheeler,  
communion assistants

Karen Sandloop, altar captain ♦ Matt Lepera, sexton  
Barry Ciabattoni, soloist ♦ Atonement Summer Choir

THE ATONEMENT STEWARDSHIP TEAM will be set up in the narthex after worship today.  
Stop by the table to see how you can REACH OUT with us this fall!

|                                                                  |                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Katie Lyon, <i>Pastor</i>                                        | klyon@atonementwyo.org         |
| Molly Haggerty, <i>Transition Pastor of Community Engagement</i> | mhaggerty@atonementwyo.org     |
| Tom Yenser, <i>Deacon</i>                                        | tyenser@atonementwyo.org       |
| Jen Dauber, <i>Preschool Director</i>                            | jdauber@atonementwyo.org       |
| Lauryn Lacis, <i>Director of Children's Ministry</i>             | llacis@atonementwyo.org        |
| Arthur Wyse, <i>Visitation Pastor</i>                            | awyse@atonementwyo.org         |
| Crystal Shirk, <i>Office Manager</i>                             | cshirk@atonementwyo.org        |
| Amy Rogers, <i>Financial Secretary</i>                           | arogers@atonementwyo.org       |
| Tom Scornavacchi, <i>Mission Developer</i>                       | tscornavacchi@atonementwyo.org |
| Michelle Endy, <i>Room Coordinator</i>                           | calendar@atonementwyo.org      |
| Ken Lord, <i>Congregational Health Advocate</i>                  | klord@atonementwyo.org         |
| Ellen Bryan, <i>Pastoral Care Coordinator</i>                    | ebryan@atonementwyo.org        |

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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.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available with the ushers. The nursery will not be staffed for the summer, but the PRIVACY ROOM at the back of the church is available for families who would like a little extra wiggles room.

CHURCH NURSERY will return for 10:00am worship next Sunday, September 13.

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.

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 10am-3pm Monday-Thursday. The office will be closed Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.

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

FOOD DONATIONS of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable, non-expired items for Lutheran Pantry are always accepted in the grocery cart in the narthex.

COMMON GROUND DONATIONS of clothing and toiletries are always welcome! Items can be placed in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex.

PRESCHOOL still has openings in the Tuesday/Thursday 3-year-old class. Contact Jen Dauber at [jdauber@atonementwyo.org](mailto:jdauber@atonementwyo.org) for information.

OUR LANDSCAPING TEAM is looking for new members! Contact John Lehr for details at 610-304-6818 or [johnt.lehr@gmail.com](mailto:johnt.lehr@gmail.com).

ADULT FAITH FORMATION in room F122 will begin at 9am next Sunday, September 13. Beginning the following Sunday, September 20, it will begin at 8:45am.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION will resume Sunday, September 20, at 8:45 in the choir room.

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.

CROP HUNGER WALK is October 11 – join team Atonement as we take steps to fight hunger in our own community. We are also accepting donations through Sunday, October 26. Make your check payable to "Atonement" with "CROP Walk" in the memo or notes field for online donations.

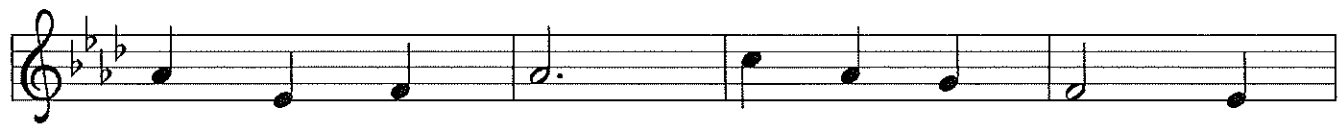
FAMILY CORNER at the WEST READING FALL FESTIVAL will be hosted jointly by Atonement and Reading City Church. Stop by the stewardship table after worship to see how you can help!

PRESCHOOL 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CARNIVAL will be after worship next Sunday, September 13. Everyone is invited to join us for food, games and prizes, music, face painting, and more!

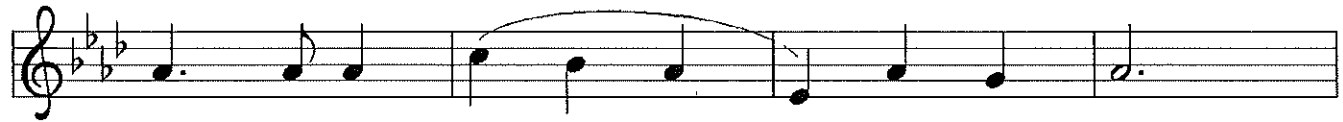


GATHERING HYMN 731

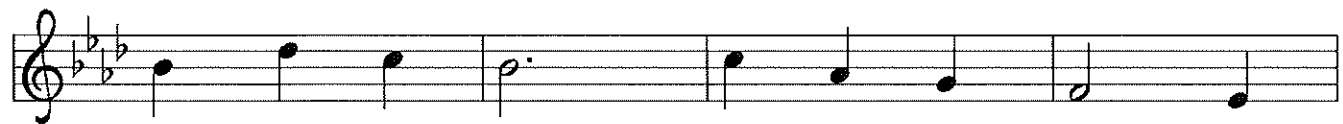
*Earth and All Stars* – stanzas 1, 2, 5



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!  
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!  
 5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



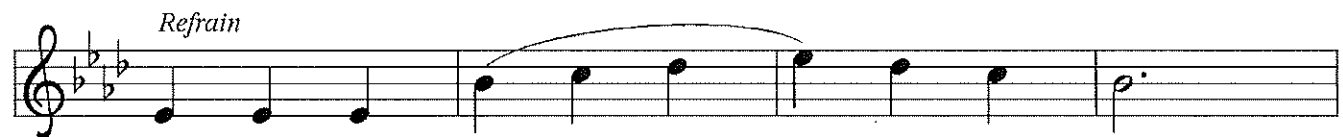
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



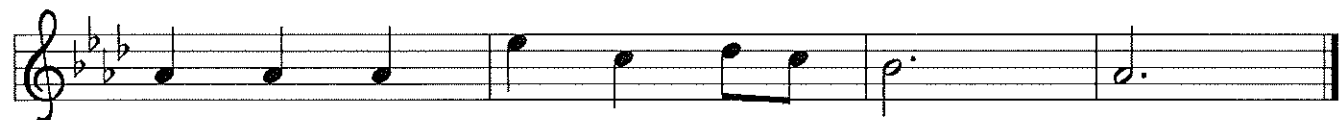
Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!  
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,  
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



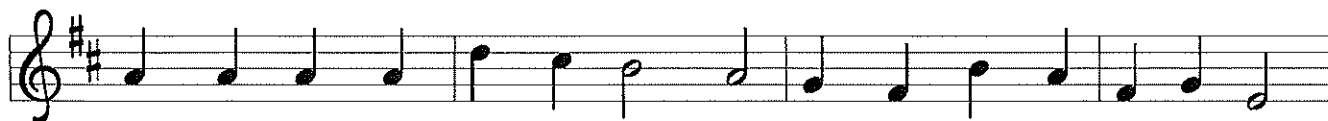
in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,  
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.  
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.  
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.  
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un-chang-ing on.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!