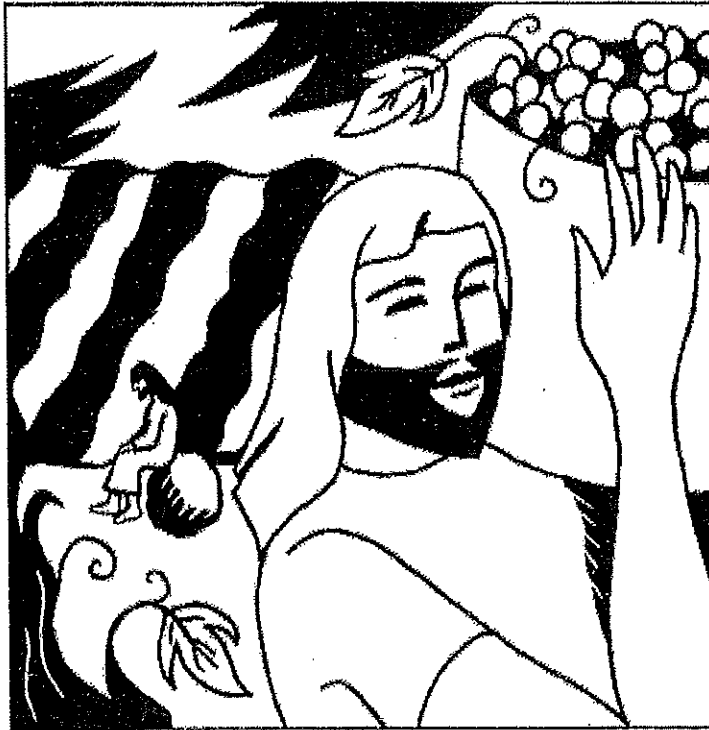


welcome to worship
TIME AFTER PENTECOST
September 27, 2026



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement

5 Wyomissing Boulevard

Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081

610-375-3512 ♦ www.atonementwyo.org

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

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 825

You Servants of God – stanzas 1, 2, 4

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: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Lauryn

READING

Philippians 2:1-13 (The Message)

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

2 ¹⁻⁴ If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you *care*—then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

⁵⁻⁸ Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human*! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

⁹⁻¹¹ Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father.

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

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 838

Beautiful Savior — stanza 1 only

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-32 (NRSVue)

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

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

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

SERMON

Pastor Molly

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.



OFFERING HYMN 807

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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 810

O Jesus, I Have Promised

COMMUNION HYMN 818

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

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 634

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! — stanzas 1, 2, 3, 6

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Tim Fields

JOIN US FOR FOOD & FELLOWSHIP in the narthex after worship today! Thank you to the **ATONEMENT SNACK PACK** for providing the sweet treats this morning.

Scripture taken from THE MESSAGE, copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20325. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Assisting with Worship

MaryLou Hall, greeter

Jerry Lubitz, head usher

Pete Caler, lector

Emmett Borelli-Hoh, assisting minister

Tom Endy, Crystal Shirk, sound booth

C. Louise Fair, Linda Lord, Oliver Lord, Tracy Ravert, communion assistants

Macy Lord, Chase Ross, nursery

Karen Sandloop, altar captain

Dami Johnson-Agiri, sexton

Karen Eddinger, guest organist

Katie Lyon, *Pastor*

Molly Haggerty, *Transition Pastor of Community Engagement*

Tom Yenser, *Deacon*

Jen Dauber, *Preschool Director*

Laurn Lacis, *Director of Children's Ministry*

Arthur Wyse, *Visitation Pastor*

Crystal Shirk, *Office Manager*

Amy Rogers, *Financial Secretary*

Tom Scornavacchi, *Mission Developer*

Michelle Endy, *Room Coordinator*

Ken Lord, *Congregational Health Advocate*

Ellen Bryan, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

klyon@atonementwyo.org

mhaggerty@atonementwyo.org

tyenser@atonementwyo.org

jdauber@atonementwyo.org

llacis@atonementwyo.org

awyse@atonementwyo.org

cshirk@atonementwyo.org

arogers@atonementwyo.org

tscornavacchi@atonementwyo.org

calendar@atonementwyo.org

klord@atonementwyo.org

ebryan@atonementwyo.org

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. Children from age 3 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. NURSERY is available for children preschool age and younger in Room F126.

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 10am-3pm Monday-Thursday.

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! There is currently an immediate need for men's clothing. Items can be placed in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION continues this fall in room F122 at 8:45am.

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION continues Sunday mornings throughout the fall - meet in the choir room Sunday mornings at 8:45am.

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.

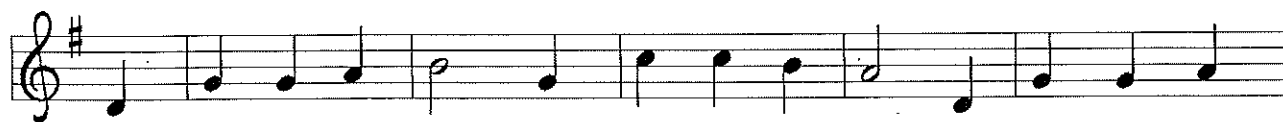
CROP HUNGER WALK is October 11 – join team Atonement as we take steps to fight hunger in our own community. We are also accepting donations through Sunday, October 26. Make your check payable to "Atonement" with "CROP Walk" in the check memo or notes field for online donations.

BERKS SONFONIETTA will present *Conversations in C: The Triple Concerto* Saturday, October 3 at Atonement. Details and tickets available at berkssinfonietta.org.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet tonight, 5:30-7:30pm in Lundin Hall (not after worship), where we will join the YOUTH GATHERING for all youth grades 6-12. See Pastor Molly with questions.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to discuss the future of the Community Center will be held after worship October 4. An email with details was sent out last week, contact the office if you have not received it. Please plan to join us if you are able.

SCOUT POPCORN will be for sale by Lina Brensinger in the narthex today after worship.



1 You ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a -
 2 As-cend-ed on high, al-might-y to save, yet still he is
 4 Then let us a-dore and give him his right, all glo-ry and



broad his won-der-ful name; the name, all-vic-to-rious, of
 nigh, his pres-ence we have. The great con-gre-ga-tion his
 pow'r and wis-dom and might, all hon-or and bless-ing, with



Je-sus ex-tol; his king-dom is glo-rious and rules o-ver all!
 tri-umph shall sing, as-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus, our king!
 an-gels a-bove, and thanks nev-er ceas-ing, and in-fin-ite love!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 838

Beautiful Savior – stanza 1 only

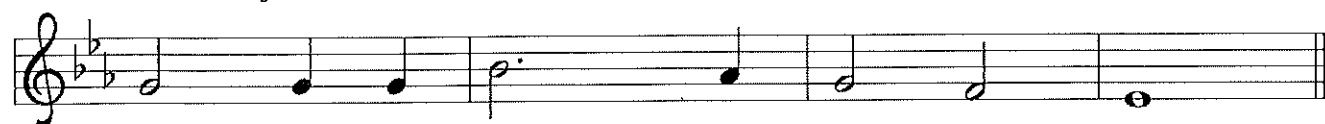
1 Beau-ti-ful Sav-ior, King of cre-a-tion,



Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru-ly I'd love thee, tru-ly I'd serve thee,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb-en-e-zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar-rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet-ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo-ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je-sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev-er to a-dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
 he, to res-cue me from dan-ger, in-ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a-bove.



810

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

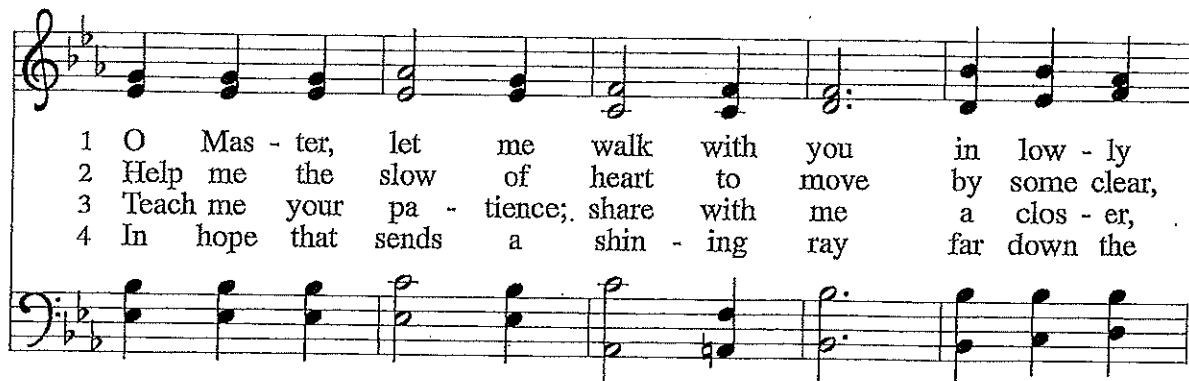
re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

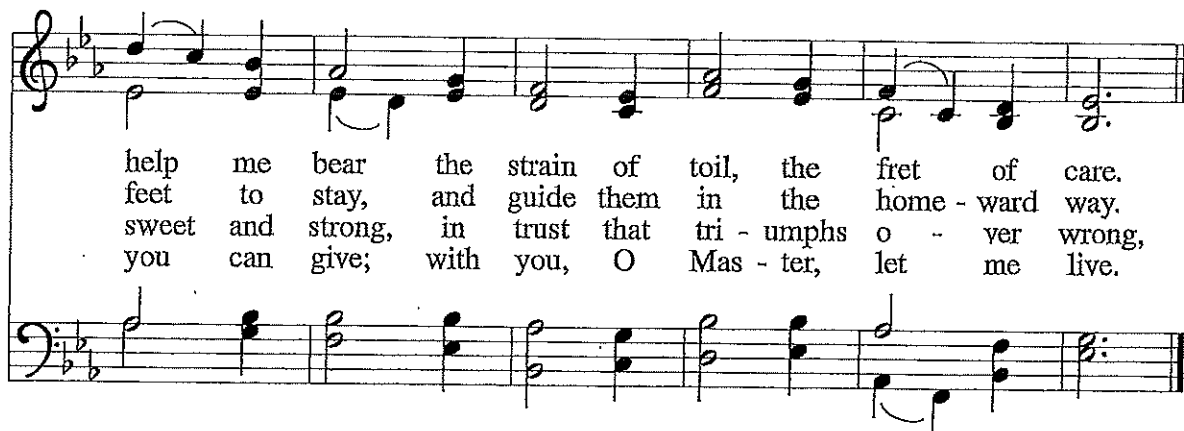
818



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.
Music: H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

MARYTON
LM



- 1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
 6 Oh, that with yon - der sac - red throng we at his feet may fall!



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 We'll join the ev - er last - ing song and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 We'll join the ev - er last - ing song and crown him Lord of all.