

Sharing the Bread of Life
St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

September 14th, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM



Worship Leaders for Today:

Leaders: Betty Johnson

Assisting Leader: Janice Skillen

Cantor: Paul Rupprecht

Technical Specialist: Michael Lindahl

Sacristan: Nancy Crivello

Introduction to the Day

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

Old Testament: Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

Psalms: Psalm 51:1-10

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)

New Testament: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

FRIENDS IN CHRIST

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Holy Cross Day

Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179

A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, died 1961

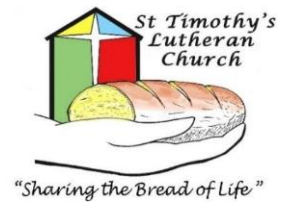
A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 (TFF)

A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the leader begins.

LEADER: In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
who was, who is, and who is to come.

ALL: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

LEADER: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: Most merciful God,

ALL: 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.

Please rise in body or spirit.

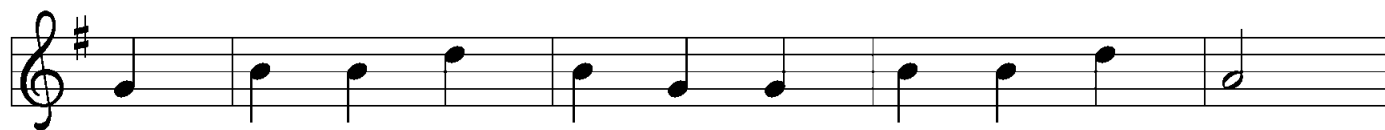
GATHERING HYMN: #834 Immortal, Invisible, God only wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun-tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun-tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang-eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen-dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

GREETING *During this time, the Leader and the Assembly greet each other*

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

ALL: And also with you.

KYRIE



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**
Christ, . . . have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN: # 410 All glory be to God on high (v 1)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, who has the world be -



friend - ed; to us no harm shall now come nigh, the



strife at last is end - ed. God shows good - will to



Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485–1550; tr. composite

Music: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH, plainsong; adapt. Nikolaus Decius

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

LEADER: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 32:7-14

ASSISTING LEADER: A reading from the Book of Exodus.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

PSALM: 51:1-10

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness,

and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my offenses,

and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;

so you are justified when you speak, and right in your judgment.

Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,

a sinner from my mother's womb.

Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,

and would have me know wisdom deep within.

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;

that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins,

and blot out all my wickedness.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me.

NEW TESTAMENT: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

ASSISTING LEADER: A reading from the Book of 1 Timothy.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

ASSISTING LEADER: Word of God, word of life.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

LEADER: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please rise in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #588 There's a wideness in God's mercy



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.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LEADER: Please feel free to unmute yourselves to join in these prayers of the people. Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy. God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: Merciful God, we ask forgiveness for the ways we have neglected and harmed this earth and its creatures. Confirm our commitment to care for all you have made, and grant us wisdom and strength to take action toward restoring your creation to its fullness. God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: Merciful God, govern all who hold positions of power and authority. Instruct them to make just decisions that serve the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace. God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: Merciful God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain, especially:

(pause as members of the community name those in need of God's clear presence)

Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy. God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: Merciful God, bind us together as a community of forgiveness and love. Supply us with humility to seek forgiveness when we have wronged one another and generosity to extend mercy when we have been wronged. God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: And for what else do the people of God assembled here pray or give thanks?

(pause as members of the community raise thanks and concerns either muted or unmuted)

God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: Merciful God, we remember in love those who have departed this life, especially:

(pause as members of the community raise up the names of the blessed dead in whose communion we remain)

Console those who mourn, and give them the hope of resurrection. God of grace,

ALL: Receive our Prayer.

ASSISTING LEADER: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

ALL: Amen.

PEACE

LEADER: The peace of Christ be with you always..

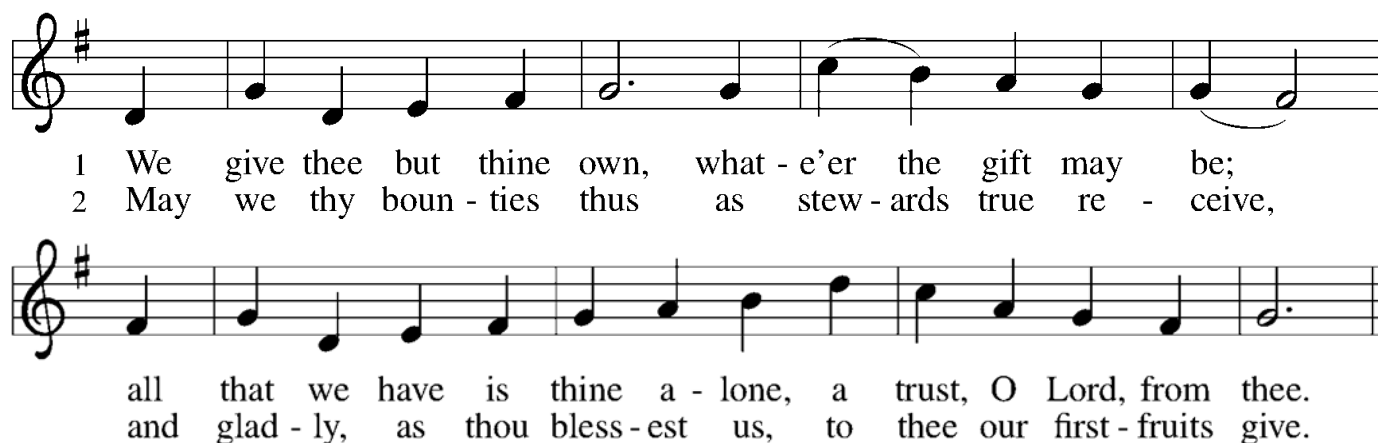
ALL: And also with you.

OFFERING

In thanksgiving for all God has given us we offer the first fruits of our labors for the mission of the church and the care of those in need. In addition to giving in our offering plate, you are welcome to give in one of two ways: 1) By mailing your gift to St. Timothy's at 9000 Kildare Ave, Skokie, IL 60076; or 2) By giving online via the QR code in the back of the bulletin or the link on our website: sttimothyskokie.org.

LEADER: We worship God with our offering.

OFFERING SONG



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER

LEADER: Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

ALL: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

LEADER: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray together as Jesus taught us:

ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Please rise in body or spirit.

BLESSING

LEADER: 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.

ALL: Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DISMISSAL

ASSISTING LEADER: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

POSTLUDE The Closing Hymn with an organ variation after each verse.

Hymn #544 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing

- 1 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing,
worship, thanks, devotion voicing:
glory be to God on high!
Christ, your cross and passion sharing,
by this eucharist declaring
yours the final victory.
- 2 Scattered flock, one shepherd sharing,
lost and lonely, one voice hearing,
ears attentive to your word;
by your blood new life receiving,
in your body, firm believing,
we are yours, and you the Lord.
- 3 Sins forgiven, wrongs forgiving,
we go forth alert and living
in your Spirit, strong and free.
Partners in your new creation,
seeking peace in ev'ry nation,
may we faithful foll'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902-1983, alt.
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IN OUR PRAYERS

You are invited to pray for those listed throughout the week using this or another prayer:

Living God, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing, especially (*Speak names here*).

When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday

John and Nancy Lang, Phillip DeRosa, Louise Nygard, Brian and Jackson Siegel, Susan Prichodko, Bill Yeager, Jim and Laurel Nelson, Pat Flaherty and Sandy Waterhouse, The Family of Michael Rapp, Irene Hildner

Monday

Esther Hildner
Marci Stanley
John Stanton
Robert Skillen
Russon and Gloria Brown
John Kueter
Bob Miller

Tuesday

Martilias Porreca
Janet Johnson
Susan Jensen
Jennie Ramirez
Linda and Paul Wold
Eileen Cooney
Jennifer Kinsella

Wednesday

Elaine Morgan
John Fergus
Michael Halliwell
Marlene Hawkins
Joanne and Colin Haeberlin
The family of Simon Kerslake
The family of William D. Murphy

Thursday

Christine Haeberlin
Jan Karp
The Family of Maisa Abudayyeh
The Family of Rosita Cueva
The Family of Larry Ruegg
Helene Preisig
The Family of Patricia Study

Friday

Jim Henderson
David Householder
Phil and family
Lynn Tomey
Miriam Lietz
Virginia McLaughlin
Paul Luke

Saturday

Liam Hansen
Patrick Hansen
Sheila McDiarmid
The Family of Joseph Pucher
Bill Maki
Dick and Joan Nelson
Pennie Olson

NOTE: We are happy to include friends and loved ones. Please contact the church office to renew or add a prayer request, or to let us know it is time for a prayer of thanksgiving.

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church
(847) 676-1300
9000 Kildare Ave. Skokie, IL 60076
www.sttimothyskokie.org

THIS WEEK AT ST. TIMOTHY'S, SEPTEMBER 14th TO SEPTEMBER 20th

Sunday	10:30am	Service Of the Word
	11:30am	Fellowship
Monday	7:00pm	Zumba
Tuesday	6:30pm	Council meeting
Wednesday	7:00pm	Zumba
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		

NEXT WEEK AT ST. TIMOTHY'S, SEPTEMBER 21st TO SEPTEMBER 27th

Sunday	10:30am	Peg Otte / Birthday Sunday
	11:30am	Fellowship
Monday	7:00pm	Zumba
Tuesday		
Wednesday	7:00pm	Zumba
Thursday		
Friday	9:45am	Sack Lunch
Saturday		

ASSISTING MINISTER Mandy Steegmueller

SAVE THE DATE

Sack Lunch

Come and join us for our next Sack Lunch opportunity on Friday, September 26th in Fellowship Hall at 9:45 am! For more information, please reach out to Janice Skillen or call the church office at (847) 676-1300.

Coffeehouse Presents

Join St. Tim's Coffeehouse on Saturday, October 11th for "The Dangling Participles" presented in partnership with WFMT featuring Sam Robbins! To learn more and buy tickets, visit sttimothyskokie.org/coffeehouse.

Hospitality Team

Are you looking for a new way to serve? Consider joining our Hospitality Team, which provides the refreshments for fellowship hour after worship every Sunday! There are plenty of opportunities to serve! To learn more and sign up, call the church office.

A Message from Global Refuge

Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services) received a stop-work order from the government calling for us to immediately stop serving the nearly 6,000 newly arrived refugees in our care. These children and families fled war, violence, or persecution and came to the United States through the official U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. They arrived with little more than the clothes on their backs and rely on the initial assistance Global Refuge provides for urgent needs like housing, food, healthcare, finding work, and enrolling their children in school. Your gifts are the only way we can assure that refugees in our care can access the essential resources promised to them. Provide critical support to newly arrived children and families today at globalrefuge.org/withrefugees.

LINK FOR ONLINE GIVING

To give online, follow the QR code below, or visit our website: sttimothyskokie.org.



Thank you for your generosity!

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