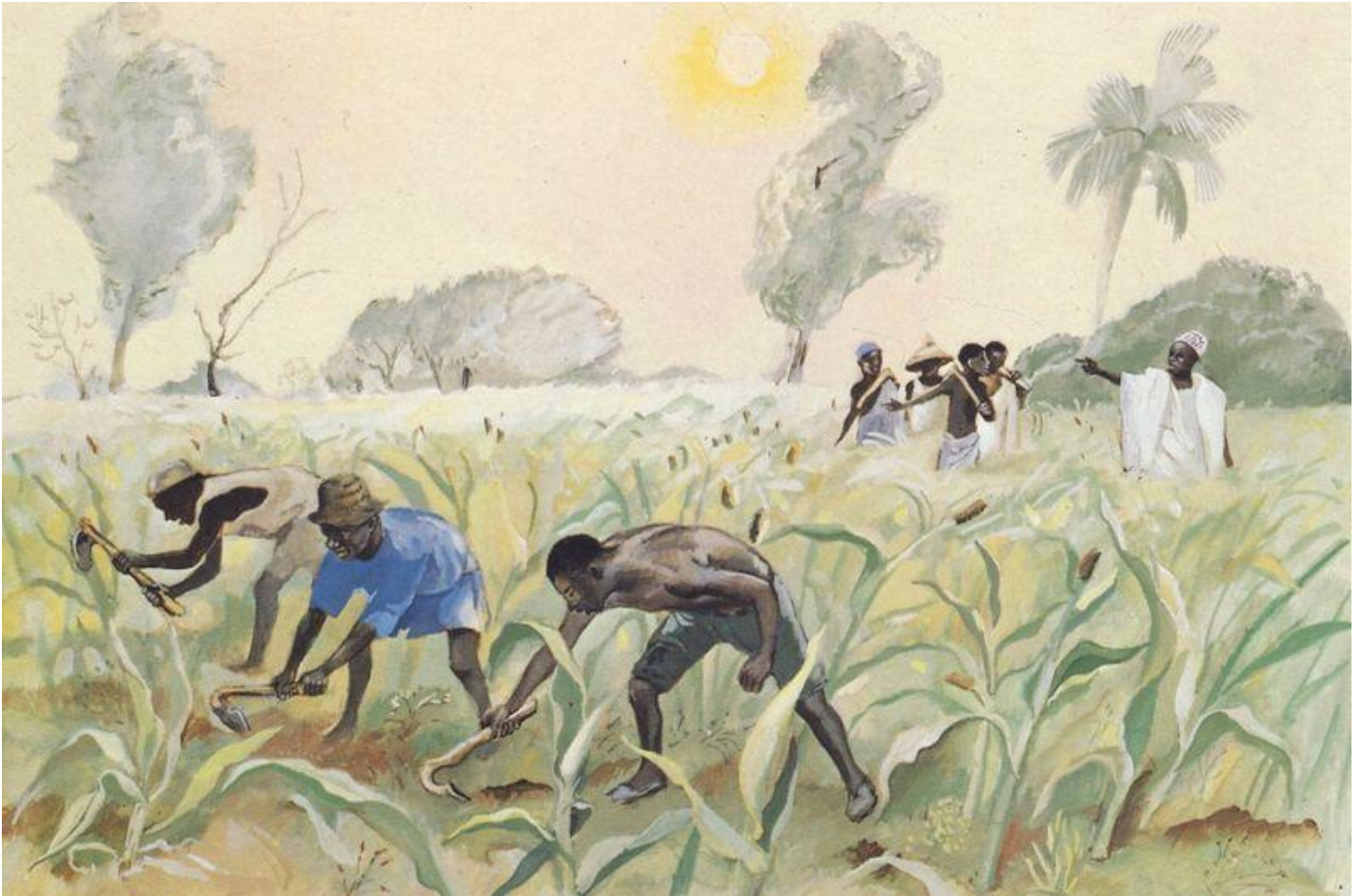


WELCOME TO WORSHIP

***Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026***



Community of JESUS MAFA, "The Late-arriving Workers." (Cameroon: 1973)

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Website Address:
www.holyspiritsecane.org
Church Email:
Holyspiritsecane@verizon.net
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9am – 2pm

To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn, and need comfort; to all who are friendless and need friendship; to all who are homeless, and need sheltering love; to all who pray, and to all who do not pray; to all who sin and need a Savior; to whomsoever will, this church opens wide its doors and in the name of Jesus Christ, says Welcome!

Welcome to Holy Spirit! Thank you for joining us today to worship the Living God! Through prayer, music, the proclamation of God's word and the sharing of a meal together we offer praise to God! Please come again and invite others to come with you. You are always welcome here at Holy Spirit!

We welcome the participation of all in worship. This worship bulletin is inclusive and contains the order of worship and all music you will need to participate. We sit and stand where indicated (*) in reverence to God; do what is comfortable for you. The people respond where indicated in **boldface** type.

A: Worship Assistant C: Congregation P: Presider

If you are having difficulty reading the bulletin, we have enlarged print bulletins available. Please ask the usher.

Visitors, please fill out a communion card and place in the offering plate.

Members, please fill out a communion card at least once per month and place in the offering plate.

OUR MISSION
“KNOW CHRIST! GROW! SPREAD GOD’S LOVE!”

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ GATHERING +

(Please stand as you are able)

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: May we remember

C: That God created.

P: May we remember

C: That God liberated.

P: May we remember

C: That God fed.

P: May we remember

C: That God is *still* creating, God is *still* liberating, And God is *still* feeding us.

P: Let this be our story.

C: Let this be where we begin. Let us worship holy God.

***CONFESSIOIN AND FORGIVENESS**

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

P: Blessed be God: ✠ the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

P: Holy God,

C: We admit to remembering the wrong things.

We remember worldly lessons like, “Everyone for themselves,”

“An eye for an eye,” and “All is fair in love and war.”

And yet, we forget to trust in God’s grace and mercy for all of us,

To love our neighbors as ourselves,

And to live like the body of Christ.

Why is it so hard to remember the right things?

Release us from our muscle memory and

Re-center us in a new place,

A fresh place,

A space grounded in your love.

Help us to receive your word anew,

And to consider stewardship not with the world’s rules,

But with your rules.

Help us remember.

With hope we pray, Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God’s compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a
new way for us. In Christ, ✝ your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

***GATHERING SONG: Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading**

Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.

1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.

(Cont'd)



Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

Refrain



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly;

C: And even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated for the Liturgy of the Word.)

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴ And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms: 145:1-8

- ¹ I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- ² **Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**
- ³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.
- ⁴ **One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**
- ⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.
- ⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**
- ⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
- ⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously

granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

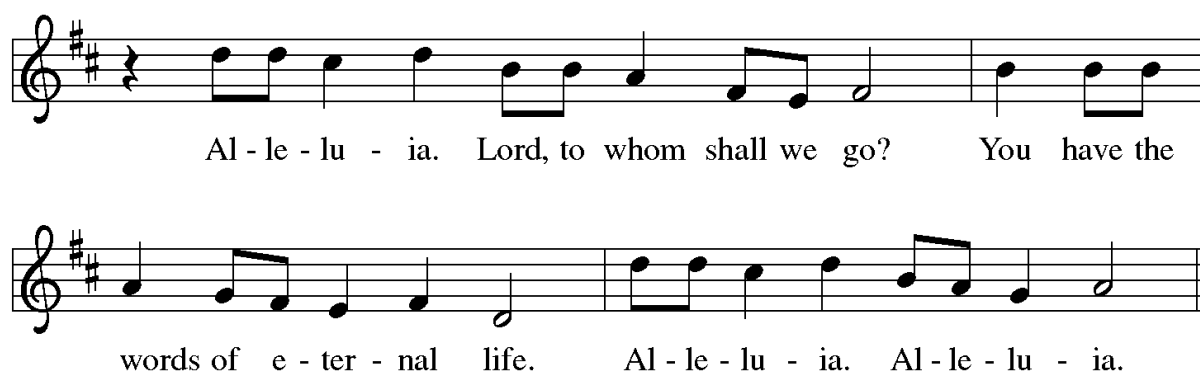
Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please remain seated.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Setting 3)



GOSPEL: *Matthew 20:1-16*

P: The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his

manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: This is the Good News of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Christopher Drummond

(Please stand as you are able)

***HYMN OF THE DAY: There’s a Wideness (ELW 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.

(Cont'd)



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.

***APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(Please remain standing)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(response after: Hear us, O God)

C: Your mercy is great.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, 'Peace be with you'.

“LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH”

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Parent, siblings all are we

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow,

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

(Please be seated for the Offering and The Great Thanksgiving.)

OFFERING:

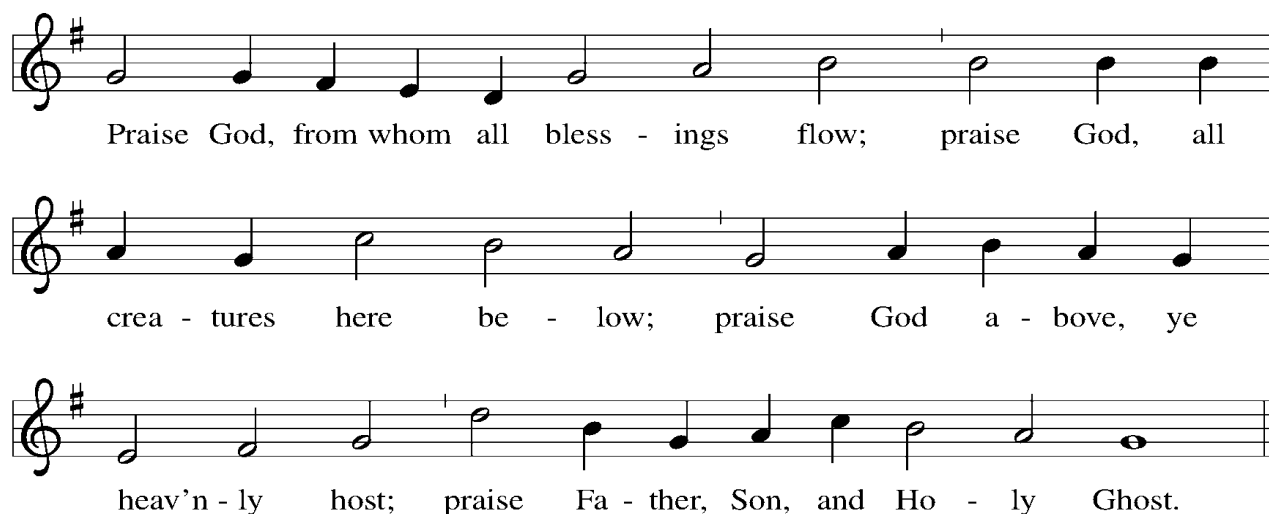
A: We worship through our tithes and offering. Now let us joyfully respond to God's goodness, through our personal giving.

It is only through your giving that the ministry and mission of Holy Spirit continues. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their generous giving. Offerings can also be dropped in the mailbox or mailed in.

As the Offering is presented at the Altar, we sing:

DOXOLOGY

(ELW 885)



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

A: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.

C: Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in
love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

(Please remain seated.)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: God is with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

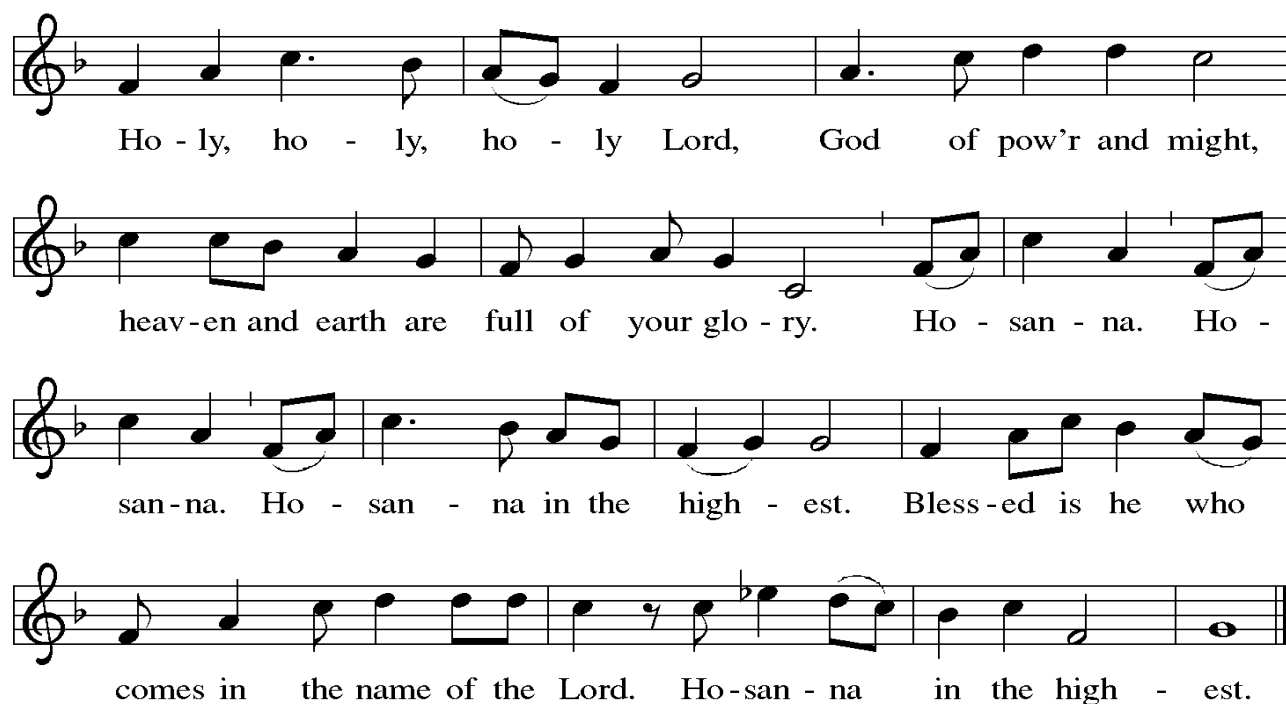
C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy [...] And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven: we praise your name and join their unending hymn, as we sing:

(Setting 3)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
 You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

**C: You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
 so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
 but have eternal life.**

On the night before he died, our Lord Jesus 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled ✙ with your heavenly benediction,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God—Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of life,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C: Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Holy Communion, we encounter the Real Presence of Jesus Christ as we reverently receive the consecrated bread and wine. Everyone is invited to receive this Sacrament—without exception; however, if you would prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest and the pastor will know to give you a blessing. Gluten free bread is available.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

(Please be seated)

COMMUNION SONG: As the Grains of Wheat (ELW 465)

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

(Cont'd)

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

(Please stand as you are able.)

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. Eternal God,

C: You have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

+ SENDING +

***BLESSING**

P: Please bow your heads. [...] And the blessing of our most-loving God:

✠ Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of life be with you this day and always.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: Rise Up, O Saints of God! (ELW 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 - phant 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!

***DISMISSAL**

A: God is love.

C: Jesus teaches us to love.

A: Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us

C: Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

A: Therefore, let us go forth rejoicing in the power of God's Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALTAR FLOWERS are dedicated to the Glory of God in loving memory of John Downey our Dad by Diana and Dolores Downey.

Aug's Income: \$ 13,407

Aug's Expense: \$ 11,376 Average Attendance: 21

MINISTERS – ALL BAPTIZED PEOPLE OF GOD**Scheduled to serve 9/20**

Donna G. – Assisting Minister
Gary P. – Ushers
Colahans – Counters
Meghan G. – Altar

Scheduled to serve 9/27

Alan S. – Assisting Minister
Colahans - Ushers
Colahans - Counters
Volunteer. - Altar

*******WEEKLY CALENDAR*******

Mon, Sep 21	5:30pm – She Moves Fitness (Hall) 6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm)
Tue, Sep 22	5:30pm – She Moves Fitness (Hall)
Wed, Sep 23	5:30pm – She Moves Fitness (Hall) 6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm) 7:30pm - AA (Hall)
Thu, Sep 24	5:30pm – She Moves Fitness (Hall) 7:00pm – AA (Hall) 8:00pm – AA (Mtg Rm)
Sat, Sep 26	10:00am – AA (Hall) 11:00am – DA (Mtg Rm)
Sun, Sep 27	10:15am – Worship 12:30pm – Song of Praise

*******PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS*********Healing:**

Annie Berner
Eileen Maloney
Lisa McDonough
Hugh Mullarkey
Lois Saunders
Betty Lake
Anne Rainsford
Dolores Maurer
Marie Schall
Jack Bierling
Joan & Harry Chaykun

Jackie Bernduer White
Jackie Dewitt
Maureen Colahan
John Turner
Nick Img
Sue Thomas
Jean Cilurso
Phyllis Horton
Lou Vallies
Linda Martin
Bill McVian

*Nikki Miller
Shirley May
Cookie Heaps
Stephen Colahan
Donna D'Agostino*

*Suzie Thomas
Scott Ferguson
Johnathan Igoe
Sonya Baxter*

(If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please call the office)

Also please remember in your prayers homebound members: Ruth Dell'Orefice, Jane Croghan, Diane Kuhn, Hank Kuhn, Janet Kline, and Bob Kerns.

Men & women in our armed forces, firefighters, police officers and emergency services personnel.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

COFFEE HOUR – Please stay today for our coffee hour, sponsored by Shawn, Denis, and Alan Dadonna in the meeting room following service.

ALTAR – We are in need of volunteers for October or November to set up and take down altar each week. Can you volunteer for a week? Please see sign up list on bulletin board in front of office.

ALTAR FLOWERS - THANK YOU everyone who signed up to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year. 2026 Flower Chart is now on the bulletin board. Please take a dedication form when you sign up and return to office. **Flowers are \$20 per vase.**

BULLETIN COVERS – There is a sponsor sign-up sheet to sponsor special bulletin covers for special occasions. The cost is \$15.00. Please see sign-up sheet outside the office.

BOTTLE CAPS – We are no longer collecting bottle caps. Thanks for your previous support of this project.



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church and Nursery School
2545 Franklin Avenue, Secane, PA 19018
Office: 610-544-2707

OUR STAFF

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Pastor – The Rev. Christopher Drummond

Director of Music – Samuel Stevenson

Office Secretary – Jeanne Warner

Holy Spirit Nursery School

Pre-K Teacher – Nancy Harris

Teaching Assistant – Colleen Hall

Pre-School & MMO Teacher – Shelly Avila

Teaching Assistant – Michelle Brackin

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