FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



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Website: lutheranmercedes.com

Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor 956.463.1305 eweber10@aol.com

> Sunday 9:00 A.M. Worship Service

> > 10:30 A.M.

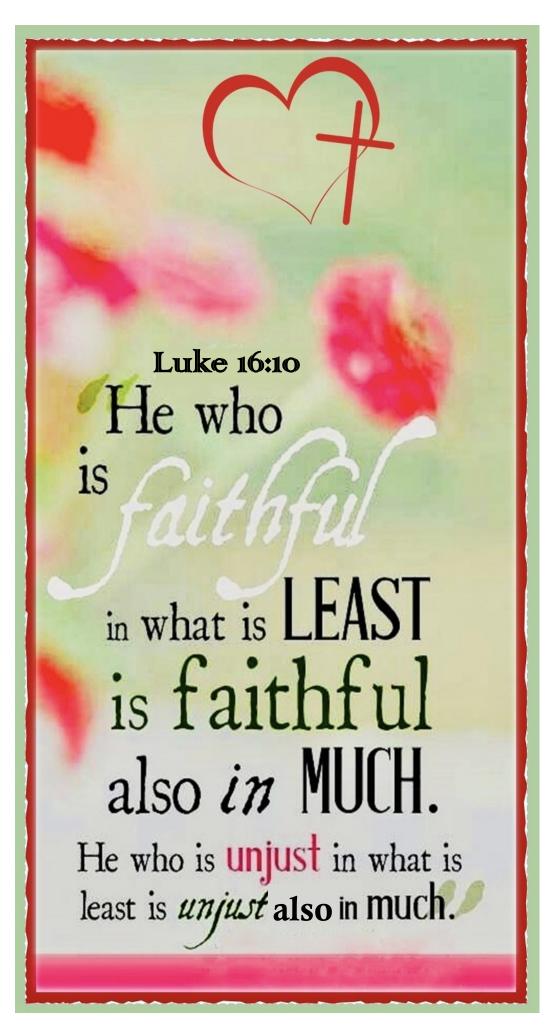
Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School

Holy Communion: Every Sunday

www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/

Website: Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs., M-F 8 am to 12 pm



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 21, 2025

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10;1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32). Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Almighty God, Your Word both condemns and heals, and Your judgment reveals my desperate need as well as Your gracious love for me. Give me a clear vision of Your mercy and grace, that I may be an instrument of Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - The Divine Service is unlike our other activities during the week—in the marketplace, our place of employment, or our school—where we struggle to be "the people of God" amid the temptations and confusing details of living in a world still disfigured by sin, tragedy, selfishness, and death. By our own fault, we daily fall short of our calling as Christians. We are reminded today of the judgment of God's Law by the prophet Amos against our worry over money and our own needs that distract us from the often greater needs of others and even our own true need of faith and reliance on God above all. Each day of the week, the demands of the Ten Commandments of God call us back to our need for forgiveness and God's mercy, grace, help, and love. So, we gather here for Divine Service, that is, God attending to our real needs. We come to repent of our sin and failure, and to receive forgiveness and new life and hope. That forgiveness and hope comes solely from the God who "loved the world" so much "that He gave His only Son" to die for you (John 3:16). We do not have to wait and wonder until the Day of Judgment. By your Baptism into Christ, by His mighty and reliable Word of forgiveness spoken over and into you, and by your connection with the body and blood of your crucified and risen Lord Jesus, you are being delivered from all evil, redeemed, restored, and forgiven for everlasting life in the kingdom of God already here and now.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

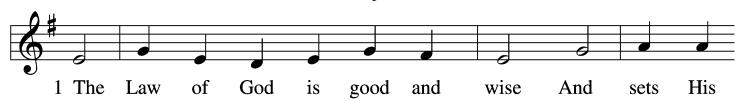
PAGE 184

PRELUDE (a quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship) **WELCOME**

OPENING HYMN

The Law of God Is Good and Wise

LSB 579





Please stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

- C who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
 (Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT Psalm 119:137–140, 142; antiphon: v. 144

- P The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; give me understanding, and I shall live.
- C Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright are Your judgments.
- P Your testimonies, which You have commanded, are righteous and very faithful.
- C My zeal has consumed me, because my enemies have forgotten Your words.
- P Your word is very pure; therefore Your servant loves it.
- C Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your law is truth.
- P The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; give me understanding, and I shall live.

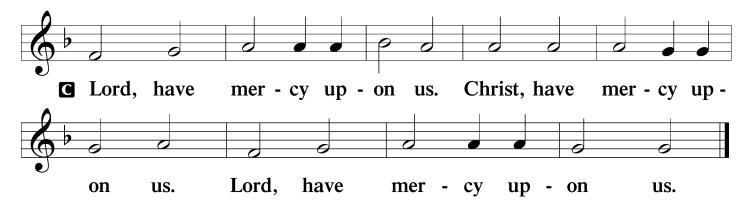
GLORIA PATRI



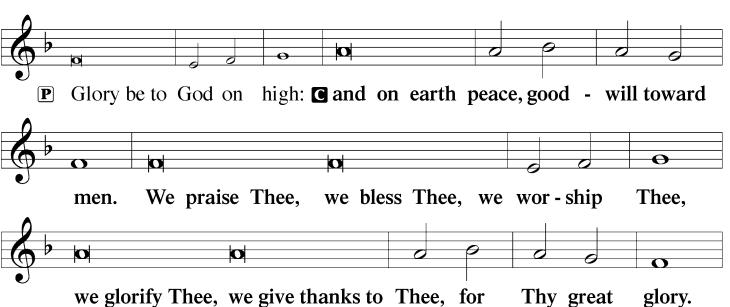


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE



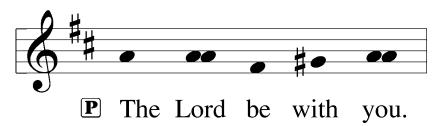
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY





P O Lord, keep Your church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING Amos 8:4–7

(The coming day of bitter mourning)

4 Hear this, you who swallow up the needy, and make the poor of the land fail,

5 Saying:

"When will the New Moon be past, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may trade wheat? Making the ephah small and the shekel large, falsifying the scales by deceit, 6 that we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals—even sell the bad wheat?"

- 7 The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their works.
- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 113; antiphon: v. 3

- P From the rising of the sun to its going down the Lord's name is to be praised.
- C Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, Praise the name of the Lord!
- P Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forever more!
- C From the rising of the sun to its going down the Lord's name is to be praised.
- P The Lord is high above all nations, His glory above the heavens.
- C Who is like the Lord our God, who dwells on high,
- P Who humbles Himself to behold the things that are in the heavens and in the earth?
- C He raises the poor out of the dust, and lifts the needy out of the ash heap,
- P That He may seat him with princes—with the princes of His people.
- C He grants the barren woman a home, like a joyful mother of children. Praise the Lord!
- P From the rising of the sun to its going down the Lord's name is to be praised.

EPISTLE *1 Timothy 2:1–15*

(Pray for all people.)

1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, 7 for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; 9 in like manner also, that the women adorn (Continue on next page)

themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, 10 but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works. 11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. 15 Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-15

(The parable of the dishonest manager)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.



- 1 He also said to His disciples: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. 2 So he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward.'
- 3 "Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.'
- 5 "So he called every one of his master's debtors to him, and said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6 And he said, 'A hundred

measures of oil.' So he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' 7 Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' So he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'

8 So the master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light.

9 "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home. 10 He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. 11 Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own?

13 "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

14 Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they derided Him. 15 And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God. P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven

and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

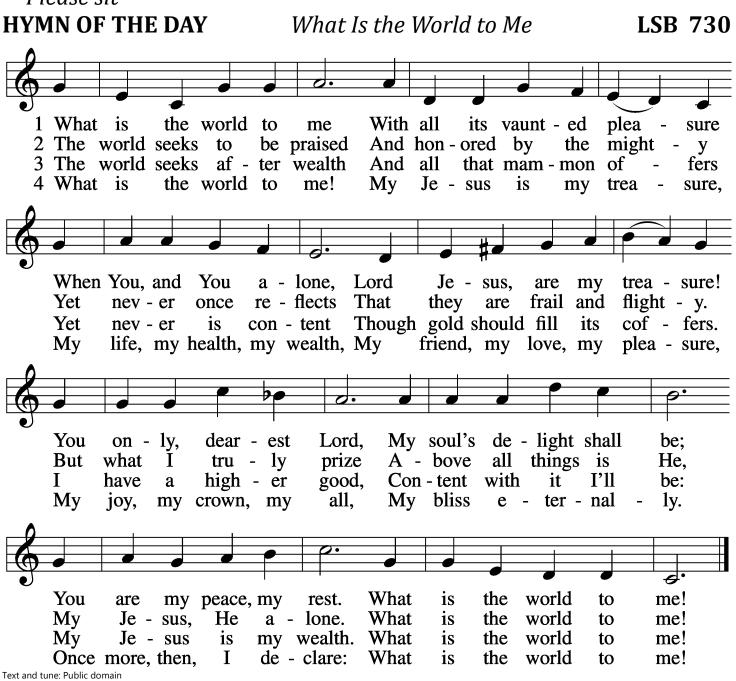
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come (Continue on next page)

again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose

kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit



SERMON

"A shrewd reveal!"

Luke 16: 10-12

OFFERTORY

Praise and Thanksgiving

LSB 789



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SHARING OF THE PEACE

"Peace be with you"

[American Sign Language]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Psalm 119:160

P Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, "The sum of Your word is truth, and every one of Your just and righteous decrees endures forever." With hearts renewed by Your gift of true repentance in the light of our sins and true faith in the redemption given through the sacrifice of Your own beloved Son for the life of the world, we give You thanks for Your Word and work of Law and Gospel. Help us to keep Your Word and bring forth its fruit in our daily lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray You so to rule and guide Your whole church, blessing all pastors with the spirit of unity in faith and confession. Grant Your blessing also of all here present whose faith is known to You, accepting their prayers and praises as from thankful hearts. Lord, in

Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the health and good will of all who serve in the authority of government in our nation that they may serve according to Your will that we may live in quietness and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Comfort and attend to all who are in trouble; those suffering sickness, injury, or fear of death; and especially those who have requested our prayers. [Pause for silent prayer.]
Grant them patience and healing of both mind and body. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remembering Your holy ones of old, the patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, as well as our loved ones of most recent memory, we ask You to include us in their company not on account of any merit on our part but solely because of Your great mercy. Grant all who have died in faith a place of peace and rest. Lord, in Your mercy,

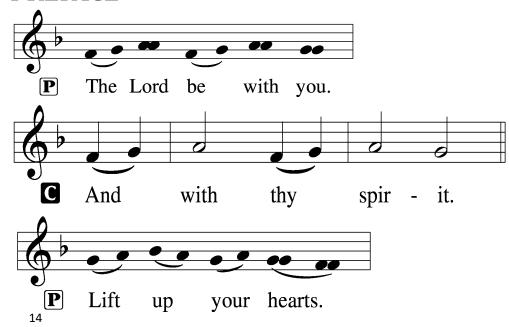
C hear our prayer.

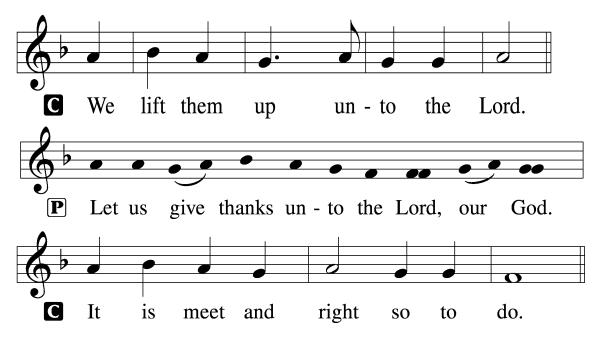
P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE





It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in P all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



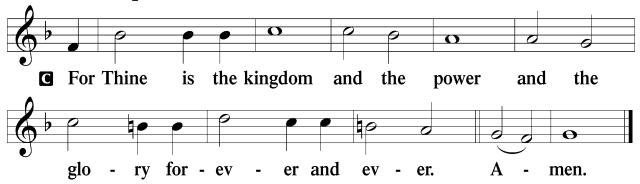
bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

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.



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Please sit

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

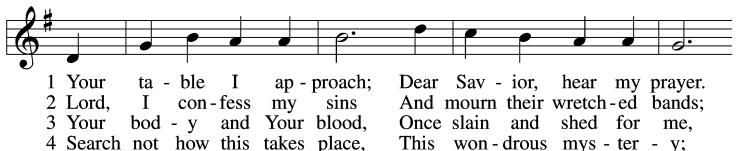
Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and (Continue on next page)

drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Your Table I Approach

LSB 628





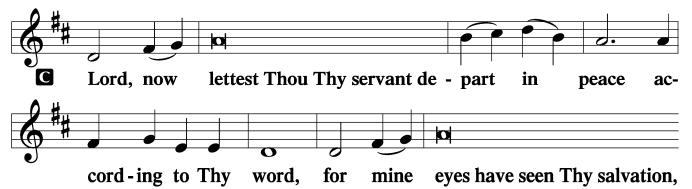
Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there. A con-trite heart is sure to find For - give-ness at Your hands. Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty. God can ac - com-plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

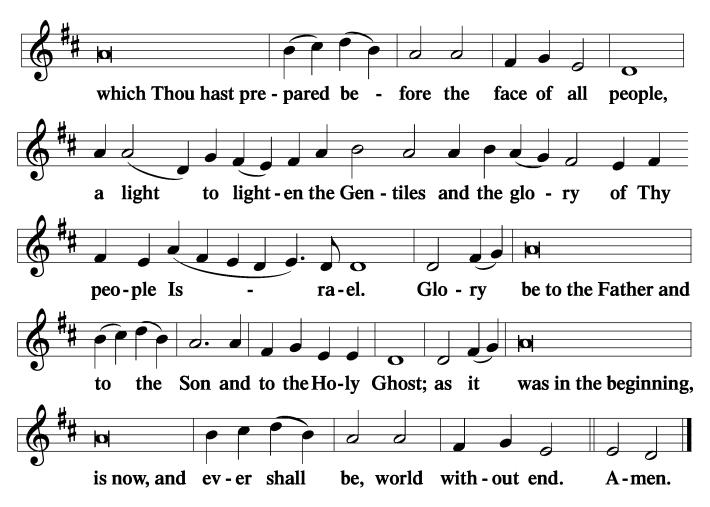
- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
 To thank You day and night
 For Your true body and true blood,
 O God, my peace and light.

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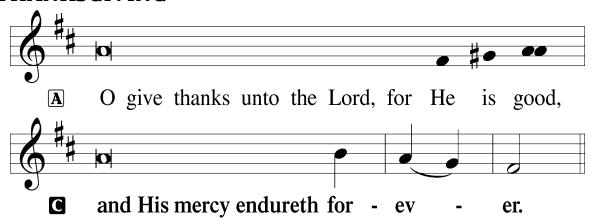
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NUNC DIMITTIS





THANKSGIVING



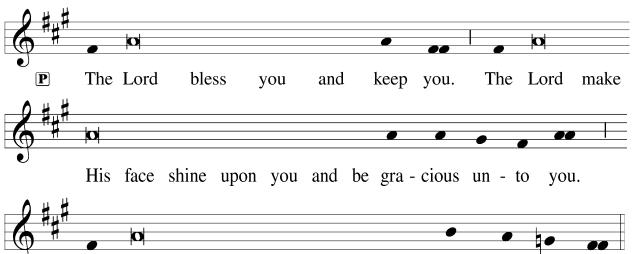
P Let us pray. With renewed hearts, gracious Lord, we give thanks that You have not forgotten us but have cleansed us and established us to be the people of Your own possession by the pledge of Your own Son's sacred body and blood, now strengthening our hope, our love, and our desire to reflect Your grace to all; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICAMUS



BENEDICTION



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Please sit

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DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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SEPTEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Portals of Prayer for <u>October to December 2025</u> are available in the Narthex or office.

Join us for **Sunday School and Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall Rev. Weber is leading the class.

- > Plastic caps are no longer being collected.
- > Family Confirmation Class Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- > Adult Confirmation Class Fridays at 12 noon.
- > Fall Begins tomorrow, Sept. 22nd.
- > Pastors' Wife Retreat, September 26th thru 28th.
- > Treasurer's Workshop, Saturday, Sept. 27th in Round Rock, TX.

Sermon Notes		
,		
S fall in Live 3		
with		
Jesus 1.50		
Fall Begins, Sept. 22nd		

Memory Verse Challenge: Isaiah 64:8

But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

23

The Lord Is Rich in His Grace and Mercy

Because God, our Savior, "desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:4), He urges "that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people" (1 Tim. 2:1). Christians should so pray "without anger or quarreling," but "adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control" (1 Tim. 2:8, 9). For the Lord does not forget "the poor of the land" (Amos 8:4). He remembers them according to the foolishness of the cross. "For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:15). Though we try to justify ourselves "before men," God knows our sinful hearts and calls us to repentance (Luke 16:15). Though we are "not strong enough to dig," and we are "ashamed to beg" (Luke 16:3), He justifies us by His grace and welcomes us into His "eternal dwellings" (Luke 16:9). More shrewd than even "the sons of this world" (Luke 16:8), He requires His stewards of the Gospel to bestow forgiveness freely.

9/14/202	25		
Sunday Worsl	hip	38	
Plate:			\$.00
Envelopes:			\$.00
Envelopes-Otl	her:	1 late	
Plate: Envelopes: Envelopes-Otl Donation: Memorial: Bible Class:	anour	iceti	
Memorial:	All		
70	Total:		\$.00
Bible Class:	21	\$	26.00
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER			

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(Proper 21)

Amos 6:1–7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 3:1–13 or
1 Timothy 6:6–19
Luke 16:19–31

	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule			
	September Sunday Servants:	October Sunday Servants:		
Elder:	Byron Terral	Dan Wehling		
Altar Guild:	BJ Neuhaus/ M Weber Laura Estevanes/Maggie Weber			
Music:	Doris Pickering			
This Week	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost			
Usher:	Don Vogel			
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service 9:00 am			
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Stu	udy 10:30 am		
Next Week	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost			
Usher:	Dan Wehling			
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Serv	rice 9:00 am		
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Stu	udy 10:30 am		