



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Eucharist

Sunday, July 26, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Exploring the promise of God for all

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image.

We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people and work toward racial equity. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all.

Worship



Bold print indicates responses spoken by all.



Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).



You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand or remain seated at any point in the service.



Masks are welcome, but not required.



Children are welcome and celebrated in worship. Each Sunday there are Children's Bags at each of the ushers' tables at the entrances to the sanctuary. Inside each bag is a worship activity and snack. Many families sit near the children's tables next to the baptismal font, but you are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary that is comfortable to you.



All are welcome to receive communion at Central. At the ushers' invitation, you will proceed toward the altar where there are regular and gluten-free wafers served with wine or grape juice. Your server will offer bread and wine for all, including children. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please let your server know.



Offering can be made online using the QR code in the bulletin or left in the offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors.

MEMBERS OF:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | www.elca.org

Align Minneapolis | www.alignmpls.org

ReconcilingWorks | www.reconcilingworks.org

MNIPL Climate Justice Congregation | www.mnipl.org



Welcome to Worship

*As you arrive for worship,
you are invited to prepare
your hearts and minds while
listening to the prelude before
the service begins today.*



*The Holy Spirit gathers
us in unity on this first
day of the week.*

PRELUDE

Two preludes on “Slane”

Healey Willan
Craig Phillips

(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font.)

Gathering

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 119

Breathe on me, O Breath of Inspiration,
in the silence of my tranquil heart, infill me with your wisdom.
O, that I might radiate the compassion and peace,
the truth and beauty of the Beloved:

**Direct my steps, O Holy One,
that I may humbly walk with you.
The witness of your life is my model;
therefore my soul yearns for you.**

The unfolding of your Way gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.
My mouth pours forth praise continually,
for I am ever grateful for your promises.

**You come to me and are gracious to me,
as you are to all who open their hearts' door.
Guide my steps according to your wisdom,
and show me how to lovingly co-create with you.**

GATHERING HYMN

Hymn 705

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We turn our hearts to God.

Beloved and ever-present God, through the death and resurrection of your Son, you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy.

By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



*God speaks to us in
scripture reading,
preaching, and song.*

(Please be seated)

Word

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“The Call”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

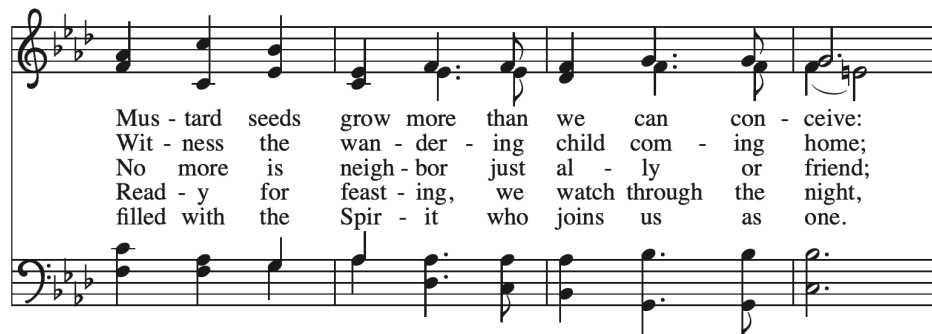
(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“What Is the World Like”



1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,



Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:
Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.



roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.
peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.
tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.
Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,

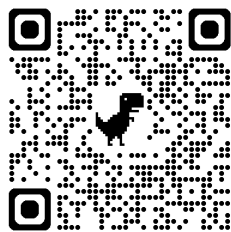


This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.
This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
This is how God read - ies us for the light.
this is a new world where God's will is done.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: NEW WORLD, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952

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Scan to make a financial offering.



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Each petition concludes:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please be seated)

MUSICAL OFFERING

"One Faith, One Hope, One Lord"

Craig Courtney

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died.

One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him Who was and is and shall be evermore.

There is one body, one Spirit, as you were called to one hope.

One Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Father of all, Who is in you all.

Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts, we are given to each other for the unity of faith that we grow in knowledge of the Son of God in the fullness of Christ.

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died.

One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him Who was and is and shall be evermore.

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one God!

-Based on Ephesians 4:4-6, 13

Meal

(Please stand)

PRESENTATION HYMN

"We Praise You, O God"

Hymn 870

Verses 1 and 3

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...and join in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God...

...Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

As the beloved of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

*All are invited to receive these
gifts of God.*

*Children are welcome to
come forward and receive
communion or a blessing.*

(Please be seated)

COMMUNION

“Lamb of God”



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

“The Earth Adorned” (Psalm of Summer)

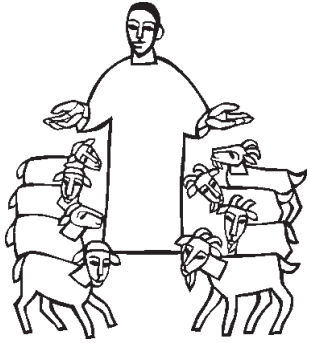
Waldemar Åhlén,
arr. Kenneth Jennings

*The earth adorned in verdant robe
Sends praises upward surging,
While soft winds breathe on fragrant flowers
From winter now emerging.
The sun shines bright
Gives warmth and light
To budding blossoms tender;
Proclaiming summer's splendor.
From out the wood, the birds now sing
And each its song now raises,
To join with all the Universe
In voicing thankful praises.
With hope and joy
Their songs employ
A rapturous exultation
In praise of God's creation.
O God, amid these joys of life,
Creation's glory beaming,
Grant us the grace to keep your word
And live in love redeeming.
All flesh is grass,
The flowers fade,
And time is fleeting ever;
God's word remains forever.*

- Carl David af Wirsén; Translation by Carolyn and Kenneth Jennings

“I Himmelen”

Edvard Grieg



*God blesses us and sends
us for shared mission in
our shared world.*

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope ✝ by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hymn 757

“All My Hope on God Is Founded”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Tune”

Andrew Carter

Serving Today

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>preaching</i>
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>presiding</i>
Kathryn Holum	<i>assisting</i>
Becky von Fischer	<i>reading</i>
Shirley Dahl	<i>crucifer</i>
David Gindra	<i>soloist</i>
Pop-up Choir	<i>ensemble</i>
Joe Osowski	<i>choir director</i>
Melanie Ohnstad	<i>organist</i>
Mark Kieffer	<i>video/sound</i>
Abigail Pribbenow	<i>host</i>

Thanks to:

Sacristans, Usher, and Hospitality Ministry Teams.

Chancel flowers this week are given by Central Lutheran Church.

If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Judy Korogi
at 612-788-1288 or receptionist@centralmpls.org.

Portions of the liturgy are from SundaysandSeasons.com

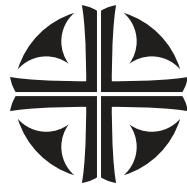
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Psalms For Praying by Nan Merrill

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Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

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