

Ninteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Eucharist

Sunday, October 4, 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

"Aria" Joel Martinson

"O Rest in the Lord" Felix Mendelssohn

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

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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:
You have been forgiven all your sin.
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 "O God, Who Gives Us Life"



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900
Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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

All sing parts marked C

Leader sings parts marked I and II





PRAYER OF THE DAY

We turn our hearts to God. God, our beloved, you set before us the goal of new life in Christ. May we live in the power of his resurrection and bring forth the fruit of your gentle and loving rule. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)



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

Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] 4b If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh,
I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people
of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as
to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to
righteousness under the law, blameless.

7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss
because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because
of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I
have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order
that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness
of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith
in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. 10 I want to know
Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings
by becoming like him in his death, 11 if somehow I may attain the

resurrection from the dead.
12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. 13 Siblings, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward 14 to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)



SUNG RESPONSE — Hymn 334
"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" — *Stanzas 1, 2, and Lent 5*

GOSPEL — Matthew 21:33-46
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. 34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. 35 But the tenants seized his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. 37 Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' 39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" 41 They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."
42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:
'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?
43 "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. 44 The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."
45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. 46 They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY "Christ Is the Life"



Text: Susan Palo Cherwien
Music: KINGSFOLD, English melody

Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Each petition concludes:
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

(Please be seated)

Scan to make a financial offering.

***African American Spiritual**
Many African American spirituals and hymns were never credited to their creators or were claimed by other individuals. On weekends when Central uses music or music texts created by people who were kept in chattel slavery, a donation will be made to a Historical Black College and University (HBCU) as a reparation to their descendants. For 2026, Central will be sending donations to Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas.



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit" *African American Spiritual, arr. William Dawson

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,
till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
Jordan River, chilly and cold, it chills the body but not the soul.
There is but one train upon this track.
It runs to heaven and then right back.

Meal

(Please stand)

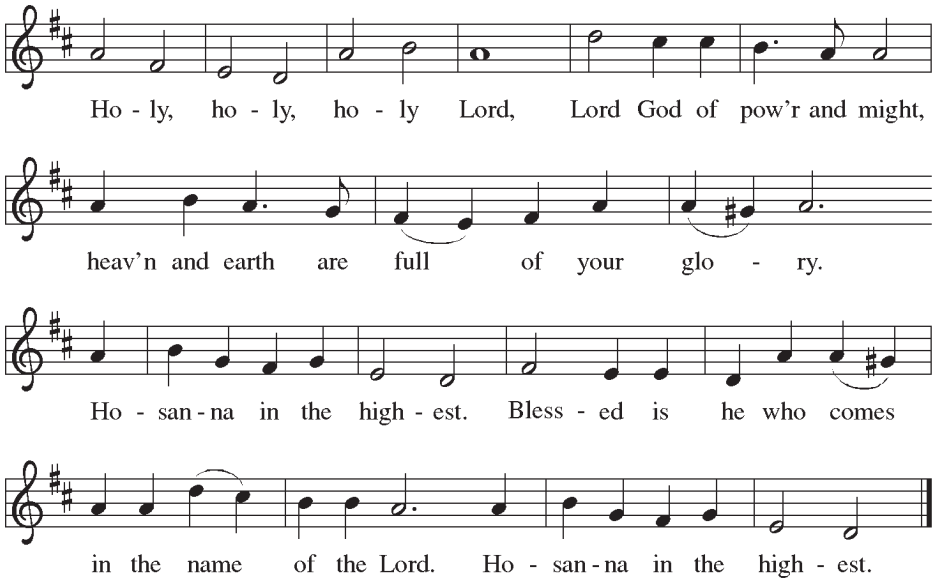
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, you alone are steadfast, you alone are merciful...
...Yours, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is the everlasting kingdom, the peaceable power, and the humble glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

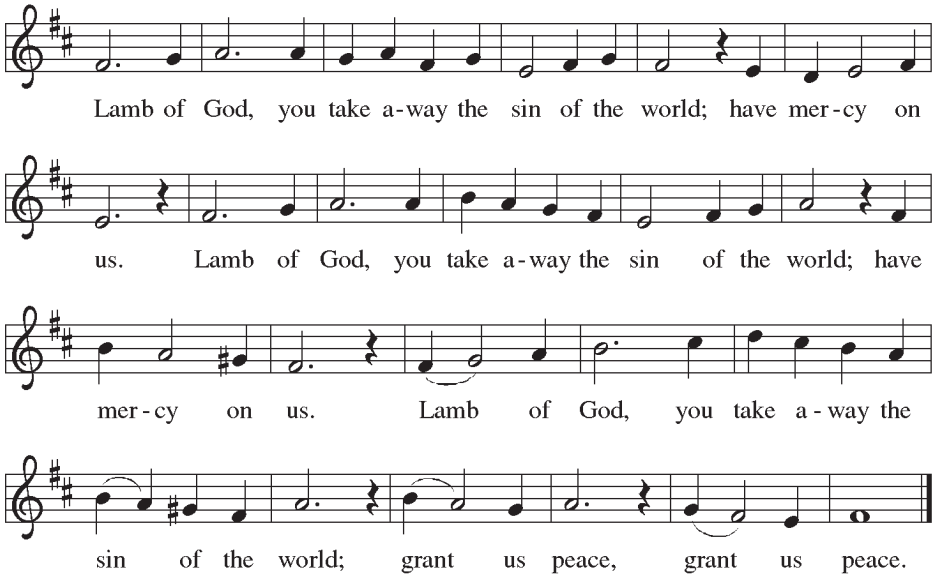
As the beloved of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

(Please be seated)

COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"



Communion
All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

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

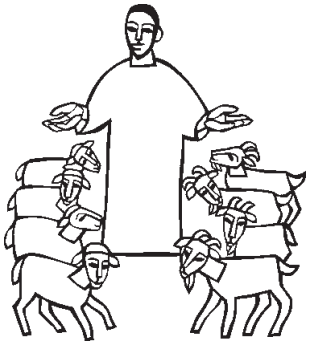
"Christus Factus Est" Felice Anerio

Sung in Latin:
Christus factus est pro nobis obediens
usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen,
quod est super omne nomen.

Translation:
Christ became obedient for us unto death,
even to the death, death on the cross.
Therefore God exalted him
and gave him a name
which is above all names.

-from Philippeans 2:8-9

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" Hymn 802



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

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.**

Sending

BENEDICTION

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. The God of grace ✢ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Hymn 826

"Thine the Amen"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is faithful.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Fugue in C Major" Felix Mendelssohn

Serving Today

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	*preaching*
Pastor Melissa Pohlman	*presiding*
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	*hospitality*
Abigail Pribbenow	*assisting*
Carolyn Diamond	*reading*
Jack Friesen	*crucifer*
Central Choir	*ensemble*
Joe Osowski	*choir director*
Melanie Ohnstad	*organist*
Mark Kieffer	*video/sound*
Karen Snyder	*host*

Thanks to:
Sacristans, Usher, and Hospitality Ministry Teams.

Chancel flowers this week are given by Cenral Lutheran Church.

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

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Eucharistic Prayer: Adapted from the Service of Installation for Bishop Lisa Lewton, Western North Dakota Synod, August 28, 2026.

Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

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