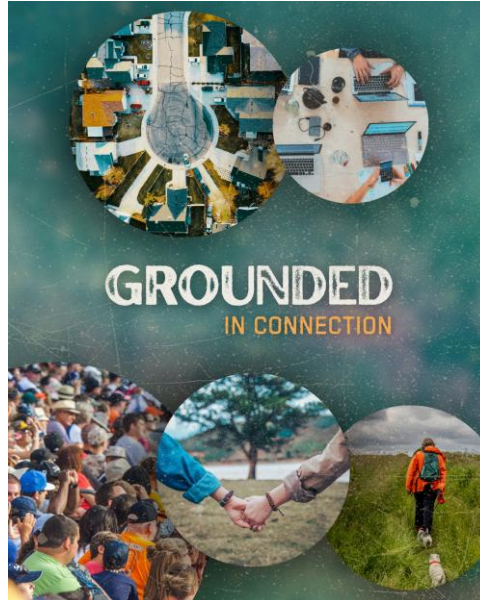


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2026
8:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Bridge Over Troubled Water
Diane Evans, solo; Alan Sylvestre, percussion

Simon

Relevant “pop tunes” are not necessarily religious, in the sense that they were probably not intended for incorporation by the church. But they are spiritual in the sense that they beautifully bring to light deep aspects of our human condition in honest ways - ways that an artist-God who so wonderfully creates space and time and substance is certainly in beautiful and honest aspects of our own creativity. This may be new, and that’s OK. The goal of this practice is that faith and daily life come closer together, as we learn to listen for the God-message all around us. Because Sacred God stepped into our secular world with redemptive and creative power, we are invited to continue challenging the “sacred-secular” divide, growing in awareness of and participation in God’s active presence in all areas of our lived experience.

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

Come gather in worship today as we celebrate the joy, grace,
and strength found in living and growing together as one faithful community.

We join in our Mission Statement:

**Gathered by God’s grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us
on our journey to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ in our homes,
our communities, and the world.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be God, who gives us life,
who makes water rise from the earth,
whose mercy rolls down like an ever-flowing stream.

Amen.

In baptism, we are given new life
through the grace, love, and connection of Christ.
We come in gratitude for kinship and community,
for forgiveness and resurrection,
for beginning anew each day.

Water may be poured into the font.

We give you thanks, God of all creation,
for the water that has given us birth;
for your call to care for one another;
for welcoming us into the ever-flowing current
of your mercy and love.

Pour your grace into each of us and all of us
that we may live together in your newness and life.

Let us rest in you,
knowing that we are loved, held, and sent forth to care
for your creation, for our whole selves, and for one another.
In the name of the Holy Trinity +
one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be -



side me, and noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.



Please be near me to the end.



2 I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for-ev-er is



wan-der-ing. Je-sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and



I will love you to the end.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

We pray. God of the covenant,

**you call us into community and relationship with all of creation. Fill our hearts
with your care, that we may care for one another and live in right relationship.
Help us to honor our deepest relations and commitments and ground us in your
abundant love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading Exodus 20:1-21

Translation: NIV

A Reading from Exodus, the 20th Chapter

And God spoke all these words:

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before me. "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day.

Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“You shall not commit adultery.

“You shall not steal.

“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die.”

Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.” The people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick darkness where God was.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

Translation: NIV

The Good News from Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'
All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

This is the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tami Reichley

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment

ACS 1036



- 1 Com - mon - wealth is God's com - mand - ment; com - mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar - ing lav - ish gifts and bless - ings, love that not one mite with - holds,
- 3 Gen - ders, rac - es, tribes, and na - tions, hear the Ho - ly One who calls,



Ta - bles set and doors wide o - pen wel - come an - gels un - a - ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang - ers: God has sheep of man - y folds.
bid - ding all to work to - geth - er, bridg - ing lives and breach - ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre - a - tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan - ti, pax, sha - lom, mas - la - ha: com - mon good is ho - ly ground.

Affirmation of Faith

God calls us out of loneliness and into the family of faith.

We affirm that our faith is not a solitary journey.

We are connected by one faith, one baptism, and one Parent of all.

At the table of grace, we are made one with Christ and one with each other.

Therefore, we reject all that can divide us and are united with one another through Christ's boundless love.

We go forth from this place as agents of reconciliation, extending the grace we have received, building a community of hope, justice, and love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

After each petition:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Pastor's closing prayer:

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised.

All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

During the Offering Song, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Offering Song

We Are An Offering (no repeat)

ELW 692

CHORUS 1

BRIDGE

CHORUS 2

1 **2**

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of 60 beats per minute. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of 60. The first staff contains the lyrics 'We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an' and is marked with guitar chords G7, C, Dm7, C/E, F, and C/E. The second staff continues the lyrics 'of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our' and is marked with Dm7, G7sus, G7, C, Dm7, and C/E. The third staff contains the lyrics 'lives, they are Yours, we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have,' and is marked with F, C/E, Dm7, G7sus, G/F, Em7, Asus, and A7. The fourth staff contains the lyrics 'all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You.' and is marked with Dm7, G7sus, G7, Esus, D/F#, E/G#, Am, F, C/E, Bb/C, A/C#, and Dm7. The fifth staff begins with the lyrics 'We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an' and is marked with G7sus, G7, C, Dm7, C/E, F, and C/E. The sixth staff contains the lyrics 'of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing. We lift our of-fer-ing.' and is marked with Dm7, G7sus, C, G7sus, G7, and C. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, as well as dynamic markings like 'f' and 'p'.

Offering Prayer

We pray. God of abundance,
you have blessed us with life together in you.
Let us share all that we have been given,
knowing that there is enough for all,
and that you bind us to one another in love.
Amen.

We rise in body or spirit.

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.

Blessed are you, God of grace, God of care, God of relationship.
You birthed us all in the waters of creation.
You brought us from death to life through your Son Jesus,
and you meet us at your table where a place is set for each of us.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

At your table, we remember the self-giving love of Jesus
who taught us to gather around his love
and share in the feast together.
Send us your Spirit to bind us together
in all time and in all places
with your love that knows no end.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

God in community, Holy in One, hear us as we pray:

**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.**

Invitation to the Table

Come gather at the table where all belong,
to share in Christ's grace
and connect with one another as one family.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion



1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
 3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
 our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
 our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en;
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.



- 1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land,
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;
3 The pillar of cloud shall clear the way,
4 As Is - rael stood by the wa - ter - side,



op - pressed so hard they could not stand,
to lead the childr'n of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.
a fire by night, a shade by day,
at God's com-mand it did di - vide,



Refrain
Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land,



tell old Pha - raoh: Let my peo - ple go!

- 5 When they had reached the other shore,
let my people go;
they sang the song of triumph o'er,
let my people go. *Refrain*

- 6 Oh, let us all from bondage flee,
let my people go;
and let us all in Christ be free,
let my people go. *Refrain*

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray. God of all,
you have gathered us around your table
and you have given us abundant nourishment and life.
May we be filled with your grace
and open our arms to one another,
knowing that you hold all in your love.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

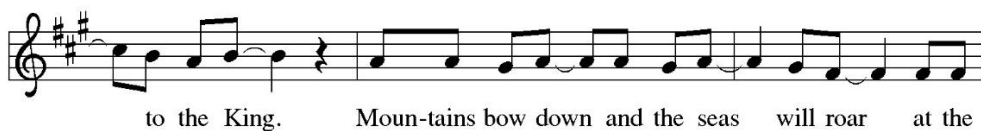
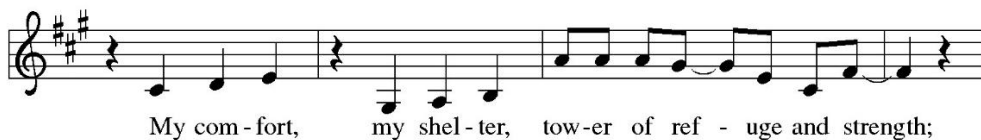
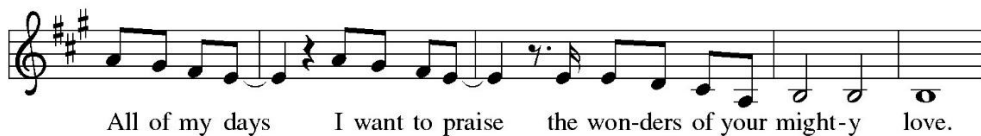
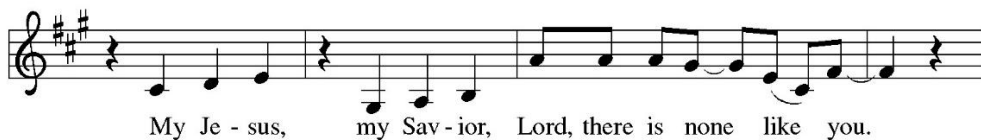
May the God of care hold you.
May the God of connection tend you.
And may the God of all creation +
bind us together in love. **Amen.**

Sending Song *Please see next page.*

Dismissal

Go forth now into the world as one body, carrying the love and connection
we shared here today into every community.
Thanks be to God.

A special Thank You to Deacon Melanie Werley
for sharing her musical talents with us today.





venmo

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at:
lchsemmaus.org.

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Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Pastor Paisley Le Roy, Acting Director of Liturgy
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Leesa Wimmer

Reader

Jimmy Lee Werley

Communion Assistants

Sue Mathieu, Linda Devine

Greeter

Christine Bolen

Usher

Bob Bolen

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Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

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Terri Hinderliter, Carolyn Rice, Robert Rice, Jennifer Wetzel