

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

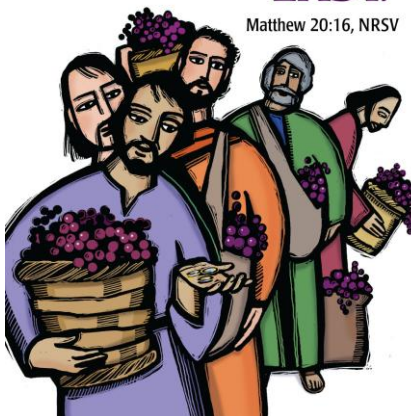
An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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So the **last** will be **FIRST**,
and the **first** will be **LAST**.

Matthew 20:16, NRSV



17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 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

Alabare
Diane Evans, solo; Glenn Hinderliter, percussion

Alonso & Pagan

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

We gather in the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Beloved in Christ, God is generous beyond measure, giving grace not because we have earned it, but because God is good. Trusting in this mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
We confess that we measure your mercy by our sense of fairness.
We resent your generosity when it blesses others as fully as it blesses us.
We compare, complain, and forget that all we have is a gift.
We turn away from those still waiting for work, welcome, justice, and hope.
Forgive us. Open our eyes to rejoice in your abundance
and teach us to live as people of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hear the good news: God's grace is not earned at dawn or diminished at the eleventh hour. In Jesus Christ, the last are welcomed, the first are blessed, and all are made new. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Refrain
Leader All



Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

1 2



ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All



Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*



Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

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, Generous God,
your love is wider than our fairness and deeper than what we can earn.
When we trust too much in ourselves, lead us back to your mercy.
Teach us to welcome your grace for everyone,
and shape us to live with the generosity of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading – Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

Translation: NIV

A reading from Jonah.

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

⁴ But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

⁴ But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

⁵ Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city.

⁶ Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant^[a] and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”
“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

¹⁰ But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel – Matthew 20:1-16

Translation: NIV

The Good News from Matthew, the 20th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

⁷ “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tami Reichley

We rise in body or spirit.

Refrain/Estrillo



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



Refrain/Estrillo

pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers,
confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

After each petition:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pastor's closing prayer:

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask,
and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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.*



- 1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Treas-ure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

Offering Prayer

Generous God, you call us into your vineyard and give us more than we could earn. Receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. Use them to share your mercy with those still waiting for work, welcome, justice, and hope. Free us from comparing what we have received, and make us glad to join in your generous love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.

Generous God, you call us into your vineyard at every hour, not because we have earned our place, but because your mercy is wide. You give daily bread to those who have labored long and to those still waiting to be welcomed. In Christ Jesus, the last are brought near, the forgotten are called friend, and all receive the abundance of your grace.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Creator God, pour out your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup.
At this table, no one must prove they arrived early enough
or worked hard enough to be welcomed.
You meet us with the same grace, mercy, and love.

As we share this meal, free us from comparing ourselves to others.

Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One, as you are all to us,
so we would offer all we are to you, even as we 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.**

Invitation to the Table

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev-ers bur-dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
 Come and know di - vine com-pas-sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain

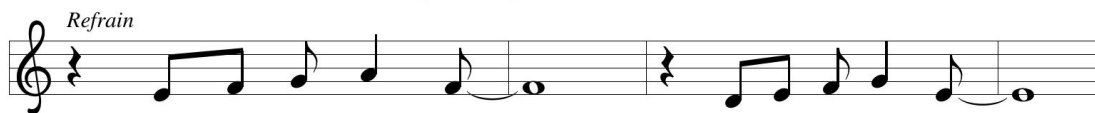


Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
 I would be your trusted friend.
 Come and seek the gift I offer,
 come, your open hands extend." <i>Refrain</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
 lonely ways no longer roam.
 Come and take the gift I offer,
 let me make in you my home." <i>Refrain</i> |
|---|--|



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Communion Song

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God (as needed) ACS 1009

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your

thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U -
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for

ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray.

As we share this meal, free us from comparing ourselves to others.

Help us celebrate your goodness wherever it appears.

Send us to live your generosity in a world where many still wait to be seen,
valued, welcomed, and given enough.

Make your grace our way of life.

We pray this through Jesus.

Amen.

SENDING

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

Blessing

The God who calls workers at dawn, at noon, and at the eleventh hour,
the generous Christ who makes the last first and the first last,
and the Spirit who sends you to rejoice in grace for all,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

Go, Make Disciples

ELW 540



“Go, make dis - ci - ples, bap - tiz - ing them, teach - ing them.



Go, make dis - ci - ples, for I am with you till the end of time.



Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world.



Go, be a cit - y on a hill, so all can see that you're



serv - ing me. Go, make dis - ci - ples.”

Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in the generosity of God.

We will serve with grateful hearts.

Thanks be to God!

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



venmo

- 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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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Ava Killingsworth

Reader

Rebecca Cachiguango

Communion Assistants

Fran Derhammer, Bill Derhammer

Greeter

Beth Fatzinger

Ushers

Binkley Family

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Lexi H., Max H., XJ H., Glenn Hinderliter,
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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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Cindy Clark, Deb Stevens, Robbie Flynn, Nancy Shoemaker, Donna Bhagat,
Lynn Snyder, Linda Letts, Terri Hinderliter, Jennifer Wetzell, Julie Timmcke

