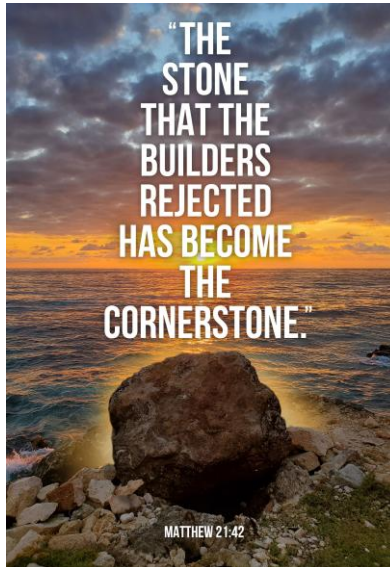


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2026
10:45 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

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace
(Prayer of St. Francis)
Spirit Voices

Temple

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen**

Confession and Forgiveness

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:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

Receive this healing gift of grace freely.

Amen



1. Sal - va - tion! there's no bet - ter word For what Christ does for
 2. Sal - va - tion! there's no bet - ter word For what Christ of - fers
 3. Sal - va - tion! there's no bet - ter word For all Christ came to



me: He saves me from re - pent - ed sins And
 us— The love that died for you and me Up -
 do: His peace re - moves the bar - ri - cades And



sets my spir - it free. O save me ab - so -
 on a Ro - man cross. As ser - vants of your
 lets for - give - ness through. O fill your u - ni -



lute - ly, Lord, That I may play my part As
 King - dom, Lord, O nev - er let us rest Un -
 ver - sal Church With wis - dom, Lord, and love; And

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 pray. Beloved God,
**from you come all good things. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit
to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance,
help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

NRSVue

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about God's relationship with Israel. In this song, Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and
my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in
it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it
shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will
make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with
briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading Philippians 3:4b-14

NSRVue

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer matter compared with the right relationship he has been given through Christ's death. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[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 Brothers and sisters, 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 to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

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.

Gospel Matthew 21:33-46

NRSVue

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[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 slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, 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.

This is the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Shari Duminy

We rise in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day

Faith Begins by Letting Go

ACS 1004



- 1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
- 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem-'ry's roots a - live
- 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Affirmation / Creed

Introduction: Let us profess our faith this day using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

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

A brief silence.

After each petition:

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Pastor's closing prayer:

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

Set aside sorrow and past resentments.
Embrace Christ's gift of healing and reconciliation
as we share a sign of 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.

Stewardship Mission Moment

Grounded in Joyful Generosity: The Joy of Living in Community

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*During the Musical Offering, 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.*

Musical Offering

Come, Receive God's Blessing
Spirit Voices

Besig

Offering Prayer

We pray, God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always. Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

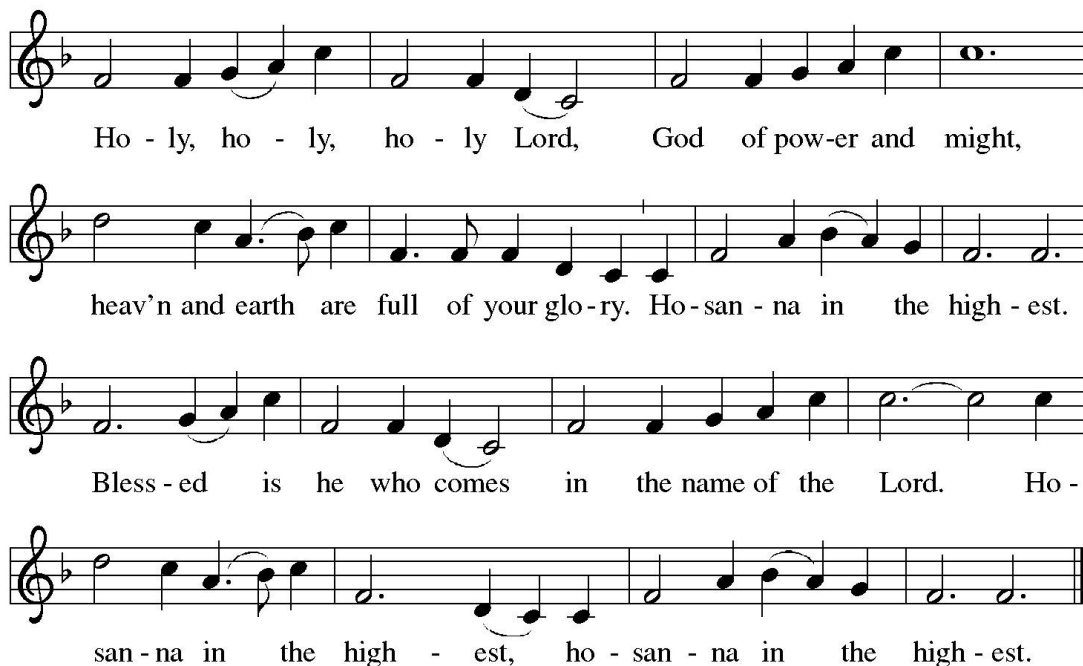
People of God, open your hearts.
We open them to the One who feeds us with freedom and hope.

Children of God, sing songs of thanksgiving to the One who journeys with you!
Graced with abundant life,
we join our hearts and voices in praise to our loving God.

In Christ, all gifts are welcome, both great and small.
Receive these gifts of bread, wine, and money as offerings of love, O God.
Bless them with your grace,
that those who receive them may find compassion and hope.

And so we sing our praises in the company of our sisters and brothers from every time:

Sanctus



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.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

As you bless the gifts of the Bread and the Cup,
anoint us with your Spirit which brings us together.
As your grace touches our lips with hope and healing,
may we reach out our hands to set free captives to injustice.
As your peace is poured into the empty corners of our hearts,
may we go forth to love others as much as we love ourselves,
and to serve them as we show our love for you.

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**

Agnus Dei



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.

Invitation to the Table

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion



1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior,
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav-ior,
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav-ior,



lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
 with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Communion Song**The Church of Christ, in Every Age**

ELW 729



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

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

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

Prayer for Sending of Communion

May the Lord bless this meal as it is sent forth into the world. Reminding all that they are not forgotten; that they are held in our hearts and nourished by the same bread that has fed us today. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Blessing

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the intercession of the Spirit.

Amen

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen

Sending Hymn *Please see next page.*

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Sending Music

My Heart Ever Faithful

Bach/Hopson

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,

the peo-ple of our God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—

The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed car-ing,
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,

the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.

The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing

to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.



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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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

Ruth Doty

Reader

Evalyn P.

Communion Assistants

Jackie Leipert, Susann Madara

Greeter

Fern Schlegel

Usher

Ken Schlegel

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Lexi H., Max H., XJ H., Glenn Hinderliter,
Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz,
Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Molly Olszewski, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach,
Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Cindy Clark, Deb Stevens, Mary Cerone, Linda Letts, Donna Bhagat, Nancy Shoemaker,
Marian Harrison, Carolyn Rice, Bob Rice, Terri Hinderliter