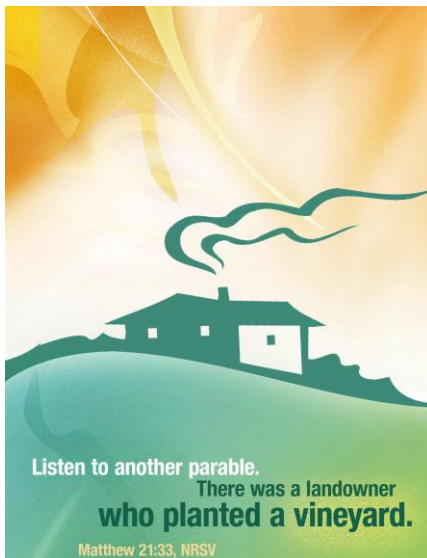


The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2026
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

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

W&P 150

**We bring the sacrifice of praise
Into the house of the Lord
We bring the sacrifice of praise
Into the house of the Lord
And we offer up to You
The sacrifices of thanksgiving
And we offer up to You
The sacrifices of joy**

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace
(Prayer of St. Francis)
Susan Smith, solo; Cole Peters, percussion

Temple

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Confession

Whatever good we may have done is nothing compared to the righteousness of Christ.
Whatever wrong we may have done is nothing compared to the grace of God.
With faith in Christ's righteousness and confidence in God's grace,
let us confess our sin.

Loving God,
**you have planted us like a vineyard on a fertile hill.
You cleared away the stones, planted us with choice vines,
and kept watch over us by night and day.
But we have not yielded the good fruit that you expected or desired.
We are overgrown with sin, choked with violence and injustice.**

**Forgive us, we pray.
Uproot our evil, prune away our sin, and shower upon us the gift of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Our salvation does not depend on anything we have done,
 but comes from the grace of God alone through faith in Jesus Christ.
 This is the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

Gathering Song

He Is Exalted (sing 2 times)

W&P 55

VERSE

F F/A B $\flat$ B $\flat$ /C C7

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high, I will praise Him.

5 F F/A B $\flat$ C/B $\flat$ B $\flat$ /C C Dsus

He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise His name!

CHORUS

10 D Gm Dm/F C/E C F Am B $\flat$ F/A Gm Dm/F C/E C

He is the Lord, for - ev - er His truth shall reign. Heav - en and earth re -

17 F Am B $\flat$ F/A Gm B $\flat$ /F E $\flat$ B $\flat$ /C F

joice in His ho - ly name. He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high!_____

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.

Let us pray.

**Holy God, Maker of heaven and earth,
 out of your great love for the world you sent us your beloved Son –
 but we sent him to his death.**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord; forgive us, renew us, restore us
 so that we may be the people of your vineyard
 and bear good fruit for your holy realm;
 through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Reading – Isaiah 5:1-7

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Isaiah.

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

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.
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?

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.
I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
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!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

The Good News from Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

“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. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” 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.”

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’?

“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. 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.

Word in Song

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.

An Affirmation of Faith: Stewardship

Let us join in the following Affirmation of Faith.

I believe in God, the Creator and Lord of all that is.

**In your hand is the life of everything -
of trees and plants, animals and insects -
and the breath of every human being.**

**I believe in Jesus the Christ, the Redeemer of all that we have damaged,
our broken souls and our broken world,
who offers new life as we love our neighbors,
sun and soil, water and air.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Sustainer of this community and future generations,
and the source of hope and courage to care about creation,
especially when sustainability seems hopeless.**

We promise to work together, with God, to be stewards of this gift, our home.

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

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 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 Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

W&P 150

$\text{♩} = 108$

D Em11 D/F# D7 G D/F# Em7 A7

We bring the sac-ri-fice of praise in-to the house of the Lord;

5 D Em11 F#m7 Bm7 Em7 Gmaj7/A A7 D C/D D7 G

We bring the sac-ri-fice of praise in-to the house of the Lord. And we of-fer up to

10 F#m7 Bm7 Em7 G/A A7 D Em7 D/F# D7 G Em7 F#m7 Bm7

You the sac-ri-fic-es of thanks-giv-ing; And we of-fer up to You the sac-ri-

15 Em7 G/A A7 D

- fic - - - es of joy.

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Generous God, you have entrusted us with the abundance of your vineyard. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude, and use them to cultivate justice, mercy, and healing in your world. Make our lives fruitful in love and faithful in service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Beloved, God has created you for faithful living.
We lift our hearts to the One who calls us to be Christ's body.

People of God, sing to the One who cleanses us of our fears.
We will dance with joy to the Table of peace and hope.

Now in this wonderful sacrament we give you everything we know how to give you,
praying that you will give us Christ in the form of this meal.
Send down your Holy Spirit upon us now,
that we might become the body of Christ that you give us to eat.
Give us your very self in these gifts of bread and wine
and make them for us the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Great is the mystery of faith.
Setting aside all he valued,
Christ became our treasure;
setting aside his own life,
Christ rescued us from sin;
setting aside our doubts and fears,
we yearn for Christ's return in glory.

When we stand around your Table, all hurtful words silenced, all pain left behind,
with hope and grace, we will join our hearts and voices with our siblings
who forever sing of your glory, God in Community, Holy in One.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One, hear the words of our hearts
as we pray as Jesus has taught us, saying:

**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

Refrain

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

*Refrain*

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Refrain

I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



- 1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
- 2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
- 3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
- 4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,

Refrain

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.



1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.
4 I'm your child
5 Search my heart



Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.
I'm your child
Search my heart



Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,
I'm your child
Search my heart



for I don't want to run this race in vain.

We rise in body or spirit

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

O God, we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out, and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' 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.**

Dedication

A time for sharing of the life and ministry of Rev. Dr. James W. Bowers

We pray.

Dear God, thank you for the life and ministry of the Rev. Dr. James W. Bowers. Thank you for the ways he shared your love, taught people about Jesus, and cared for this church. Today we dedicate this plaque so that we can remember him and give thanks for his service. When we see it, help us remember that we can share your love too-with kind words, helping hands, and caring hearts. Bless this plaque and all who see it. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Sending Song We begin to move outside for placing of the Memorial Plaque

Thine the Amen
(vs. 1, 2, & 5)

ELW 826



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Blessing

The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal

We are the light of the world!
We will shine with love as the stars shine with glory.

We are the light of the world!
We will reveal God's brilliance in word and deed.

As we move forward to what lies ahead,
we will press on toward the goal of love.
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:
Ichsemmaus.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

Becky Keane

Reader

Fran Derhammer

Communion Assistants

Sue Mathieu, Sue Reiss

Greeter

Barb Roba

Usher

Becky Keane

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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

