



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

SERVICE OF WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 8:30AM and 11AM

We are honored that you are joining our worship today. We hope to make you feel welcome whether you are visiting with us for the first time or have been worshipping with us for years.

Welcome

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

Worship Aids

In this worship bulletin, worshipers are invited to stand at the places marked with an * and bold type denotes the congregation's response. Everything you need to participate in worship is found in this bulletin, except for the hymns which are found in the back third of the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship under your seat (inside) or on an insert (outside). You are encouraged to join us in praying, singing, sharing the peace, and receiving Holy Communion as you feel moved. Assisted hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

Children in Worship

We welcome all children to worship with us—including full participation in Holy Communion. Whether talking, crying, laughing or singing, the sounds of children in worship are joyful sounds of praise. God put the wiggle in children and we rejoice! For indoor services, our Prayground in the sanctuary and our unstaffed nursery are open for quiet, supervised play. Children's bulletins are also available.

A Note About Our Livestream Service

Today's 8:30am service is livestreamed. Most rear-row seats are out of view of the camera, but we cannot guarantee that any seat is off camera. By attending this service you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

A Few Requests

We ask that you silence your cell phone or electronic devices.
We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service.
Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors
or at the top of the drive.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE

Choral

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God our comforter:

C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

ELW#521
(or insert)

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

(8:30 indoor service only)

*HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 11:18-20

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

'Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!'

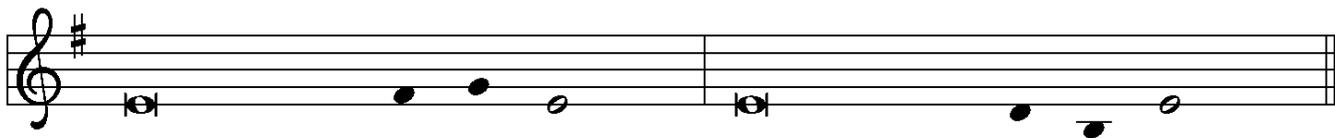
But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,

let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 54 (sung responsively at 8:30am, choir/**congregation**)
(spoken responsively at 11am, assisting minister/**congregation**)



- ¹Save me, O God, | by your name;
in your might, de- | fend my cause.
- ²**Hear my | prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words | of my mouth.
- ³For strangers have risen up against me,
and the ruthless have | sought my life,
those who have no re- | gard for God.
- ⁴**Behold, God | is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.
- ⁵Render evil to those who | spy on me;
in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.
- ⁶**I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice**
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.
- ⁷For you have rescued me from | every trouble,
and my eye looks down | on my enemies.

SECOND LESSON

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have,

because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(8:30 indoor service only)

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37, NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(From the area around Caesarea Philippi, Jesus and his disciples turned southward) and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when Jesus was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about along the way?" But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little

child and put it in their midst. Then taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Children of the Heavenly Father

ELW#781
(or insert)

*RITE FOR TEACHER INSTALLATION

The following teachers have been selected to teach and disciple in our midst this year:

Leah Iversen (coordinator)

Sarah Fogleman

Allison Ward

Sarah Harrison

Debbie Nixon

Sarah Ratzburg

Peter Iversen

Sharon Fawbush

P: The Apostle Paul tells us in Ephesians 4 that "each of us has been given grace according to Christ's measure...some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and for building up the body of Christ," which is the church.

Our Lord Jesus commands us to make disciples of all people teaching them to be faithful followers of God, seasoned with love, empowered by forgiveness, committed to serving others, and bold in giving witness to faith in Jesus. Will you use your gifts to teach the Word of God, to encourage faith, maturity and obedience to our Lord?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me

P: Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me

P: Will you trust in God's care, seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills and adorn the Gospel of God with a godly life?

Teachers: I will, and I ask God to help me.

P: Almighty God, who has given you the will to assume this responsibility, graciously give you the strength and patience to perform it. I now declare you

installed as teachers in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: These people are willing to give witness to the Good News of salvation and make disciples through our congregation's education ministry. Will you commit yourselves to praying for them, their students and our ministry of Christian nurture?

C: We will support them with our prayers and encouragement.

P: Let us pray. Most gracious God, you have blessed your church with many gifted people. We thank you now for these teachers who have dedicated themselves in service to you. May their words be your words. May their hands be your hands. May their hearts be filled with your compassion and love. Give them insight through your Holy Spirit so that your church may be equipped and built up to witness and serve our world for your purposes. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Each petition ends:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Concluding petition:

A: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

During this time of Fading COVID, we encourage you to share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

An offering receptacle is provided at the entrance to the worship space to receive your gifts to support the ministry of St. Thomas. You can also give online at stlconline.org

(8:30 indoor service only)

CHOIR ANTHEM

As We Gather at Your Table

K. Lee Scott

*OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(8:30 indoor service only)

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Blest is the one who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 COMMUNION

P: All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers are offered with pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

(8:30 indoor service only)

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(8:30 indoor service only)

COMMUNION HYMN

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW#712

*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth in the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BENEDICTION

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW#815
(or insert)

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Fugue

Felix Mendelssohn

*We depart in peace to continue our worship in lives of witness
to Christ's love in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

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At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday September 19

8:30am Worship (indoors/online)
9:45am Faith Formation for All Ages
11am Worship (outdoors)
1pm Council Meeting
4:30pm Cookout at Rose House

Monday September 20

5pm Confirmation Class
6pm Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday September 21

10am Property Committee Work Day

Thursday September 23

7pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday September 26

8:30am Worship (indoors/online)
9:45am Faith Formation for All Ages
11am Worship (outdoors)
5:30pm High School Youth Group

Announcements

Cookout with Campus Ministry

Rose House LuMin (lcmiu.org) invites St. Thomas to join us for a Cookout with Campus Ministry on **Sunday September 19th from 4:30pm-6:30pm** at Rose House 314 S Rose Ave. Cornhole, Food, Fire Pit, Fun, and Fellowship. Masks required inside when not eating or drinking. Please email LuMin at lutheran@indiana.edu (or speak with Tim Smith) if you are planning to come so that we can make sure to have enough food. Hope to see you there. Everyone welcome!

Collection for Refugees

A number of Afghan refugees are currently being housed at Camp Atterbury in Edinburgh, Indiana. When they arrived in the USA, they only had a single change of clothing and not much else. Several organizations are working to get them settled into a more permanent situation. Meanwhile, the Afghani refugees have urgent need for *new* items, such as clothing and phone chargers, which are listed on our website at <https://bit.ly/3nFTYXN>. Drop off your donations by **Monday, September 27** in Room 17 at St. Thomas. If you are able to help sort or if you can assist in driving items to Camp Atterbury, please contact the church office at parishadmin@stlconline.org or 812-332-5252.

Word in the Woods

You are invited to join us for our next Word in the Woods hike on **Tuesday, September 28**. We will gather at the Griffy Lake Boathouse Parking Lot **at 7pm** for a 1.5 mile worshipful hike. Please email Pastor Lecia at pastorleciabeck@gmail.com by September 27 if you plan to join us.

New Members

Have you been worshipping with us through the pandemic and want to relate more closely with our congregation? Have you recently moved to the area and are looking for a congregation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to worship with? We are eager for you to join us. Pr. Adrienne will be hosting a new members class **after the 11 am worship service Sunday, October 10**. A session was planned for after service this week; unfortunately, between COVID and a family emergency, that session has been cancelled.

On October 10, a light lunch will be served and, if needed, childcare can be provided in the nursery. A zoom version will be offered later the same day at 7pm. This meeting will provide a very brief overview of St. Thomas and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and provide an opportunity to meet our staff and some of our leaders. New members will be received in worship on Sunday, November 14. If you are interested in participating or in meeting with Pr. Adrienne, please email her directly at pastoradrienne@gmail.com or contact the church office at parishadmin@stlconline.org or 812-332-5252.

Condolences

The St. Thomas community offers condolences to Allison Ward on the death of her mother, Marilyn Reynolds, which occurred on September 14, 2021. Rest eternal grant her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.

Getting Involved

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Opportunities

Sunday morning faith formation occurs on **Sundays from 9:45am to 10:45am!**

- **Children:** Those aged four through kindergarten are invited to join our Godly Play class. Elementary students are divided into two classes, first through third grade (room 12/14) and fourth through sixth grade (room 13/15).
- **Confirmation:** Students in grades seven and eight will be part of our confirmation class in room 16.

- **Youth:** High School students will meet in the youth room.
- **Adults:** Pastor Adrienne is leading a six-week session on the social statements of the ELCA.

Parents of children who are under four years old are welcome to gather in the nursery with their children for conversation and time to play while others are in class.

For more information or any questions about faith formation, please contact Pastor Lecia at pastorleciabeck@gmail.com

High School Youth Group

The youth group will meet on **Sunday, September 26 at 5:30pm-7:30pm** at the church. We will gather for dinner, fun and conversation. Please RSVP to Pastor Lecia at pastorleciabeck@gmail.com by Thursday, September 23 so that we can plan for dinner. If you have not yet completed a student information form for this year, please plan to do so when you drop off your youth.

Adult choir rehearsals are **Thursday evenings at 7pm** in the sanctuary. We always welcome new voices and would love to have you join us! Please contact Katie Gardiner at kegardin@iu.edu or Mike Powell at powellam@iu.edu with any questions.

Rides to Worship

Several Members of our community are in need of rides to worship. Would you be willing to give a ride one month at a time? We will strive to assign rides based, more or less, on people who live near one another. If you are able to help, even if it is only as an occasional substitute, please fill out this form <https://bit.ly/3fcrKPw> If you need a ride to church, please contact the church office at parishadmin@stlconline.org or 812-332-5252.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit articles to the **October Newsletter is Monday, September 20 at noon**. Please email your articles to the church office at parishadmin@stlconline.org

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Elif Ogan, Doug Elkins, Jan Ellis, Caretta Van Ruler, Erik Engebretson, Maren Larsen, Shane Clements, Anne Smith, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, JoAnne Namy, Deborah O'Brien, Casey-Marie, Betty Smith, George Krieg, Mike Ost, Susan Draag and the family of Marilyn Reynolds.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

To receive these **Weekly Announcements** via email
please contact the Church Office at
parishadmin@stlconline.org or 812-332-5252

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar care: Shirley Mingee, Susan Colston

Bread/Wine: Mike & Jaydene Laros

8:30am Service

Assisting Minister: Allison Ward

Lector: Lynn Coyne

Usher/Greeter: Gene & Gayl Laughman

Council Coordinator: Tom Sinn

11am Service

Assisting Minister: Ashley Ahlbrand

Lector: Peter Iversen

Usher/Greeter: Dean Arnold

Council Coordinator: Kari Esarey

Set up/Tear Down: **Volunteers Needed**

The altar flowers this week are given by Gretchen Moelhmann
in honor of Arno Risner's 13th Birthday

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Office Hours 9:00a.m.-4:30p.m.
Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

Rev. Adrienne Meier, Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org

Rev. Lecia Beck, Minister of Youth and Christian Nurture
christiannurture@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello, Administrator parishadmin@stlconline.org

Mike Powell, Director of Music and Organist

Katie Gardiner, Adult Choir Director

Melissa de Graaf, Children's Choir Director

In covenant with

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

314 Rose Avenue Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian, Campus Pastor

Email: lutheran@indiana.edu

Phone: (812) 333-2474

lcmiu.org

St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU are Reconciling in Christ Ministries

Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church!
We are honored that your joined our worship today.

Your Name: _____

Your Email: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Would you like to join our weekly email list?

Would you like to join the month newsletter list?

Would you like the pastor to contact you?

**Please
tear off
and place
in the
Offering
Plate or
Offering
Box.
Thank
You!**