

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 26, 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

Cantique

Flor Peeters

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**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW#631  
(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. Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**+WORD+**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST LESSON

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, 'If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.'

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the LORD, 'Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child", to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, "Give us meat to eat!" I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favour in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.'

So the LORD said to Moses, 'Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

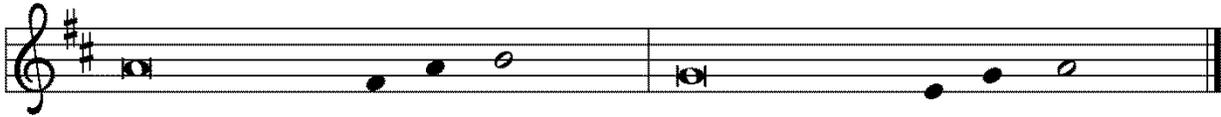
So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!'

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 19:7-14 (sung responsively at 8:30am, choir/**congregation**)  
(spoken responsively at 11am, assisting minister/**congregation**)



- <sup>7</sup>The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re-<sup>l</sup>vives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to<sup>l</sup> the simple.
- <sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the LORD are just and re-<sup>l</sup>joice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light<sup>l</sup> to the eyes.**
- <sup>9</sup>The fear of the LORD is clean and en-<sup>l</sup>dures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous<sup>l</sup> altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than<sup>l</sup> much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey<sup>l</sup> in the comb.**
- <sup>11</sup>By them also is your ser-<sup>l</sup>vant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is<sup>l</sup> great reward.
- <sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's<sup>l</sup> own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my<sup>l</sup> secret faults.**
- <sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion<sup>l</sup> over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a<sup>l</sup> great offense.
- <sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable<sup>l</sup> in your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and<sup>l</sup> my redeemer.**

## SECOND LESSON

James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner

from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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 9:38-50, NRSV, emended

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

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

John said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your Name, and we tried to stop him because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my Name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter Life maimed than to have two hands and to go Gehenna to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; for it is better for you to enter Life lame than to have two feet and be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; for it is better for you to come into the Reign of God with one eye

than to have two eyes and to be thrown into Gehenna-- where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with salt. Salt is good. But, if salt has lost its saltiness, how can it be seasoned? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier

\*HYMN OF THE DAY            Come Down, O Love Divine

ELW#804  
(or insert)

\*APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and 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 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](http://stlconline.org). If you are new, please fill out the brief form on the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering receptacle.*

(8:30 indoor service only)

CHOIR ANTHEM

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

Austin Lovelace

**\*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

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

ELW#580

\*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

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

ELW#807  
(or insert)

\*DISMISSAL

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*POSTLUDE

Postlude

Flor Peeters

\*\*\*

*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 26

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

### Tuesday, September 28

- 4pm Bloomington Interfaith Friends
- 7pm Word in the Woods (Griffy Lake)

### Thursday, September 30

- 7pm Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday, October 2

- 10am Property Committee Work Day

### Sunday, October 3

- 8:30am Worship (indoors/online)
- 9:45am Faith Formation for All Ages
- 11am Worship (outdoors)
- 12pm Mutual Ministry

## Announcements

### Collection for Refugees

A number of Afghan refugees are currently being housed at Camp Atterbury in Edinburg, 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>. We are partnering with **Team Rubicon** for our collection here at St. Thomas. This group also has an Amazon Wishlist available at <https://amzn.to/3zok041>. 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](mailto:parishadmin@stlconline.org) or 812-332-5252.

### High School Youth Group

The youth group will meet tonight **Sunday, September 26 at 5:30pm-7:30pm** at the church. We will gather for dinner, fun and conversation. Parents, you have not yet completed a student information form for this year, please plan to do so when you drop off your youth.

## **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](mailto:pastorleciabeck@gmail.com) by September 27 if you plan to join us.

## **Property Committee Work Day**

The Property Committee will host a work day on **Saturday October 2 from 10am to noon**. Volunteers are needed to paint—indoors and outdoors—or to assist with a small plumbing project. Additional projects added as needed. **Masks required**. The Property Committee hosts work days on the first Saturday and third Tuesday of the month at 10am. For more information contact Sam Eichmiller at [sam.eichmiller@yahoo.com](mailto:sam.eichmiller@yahoo.com) or 812-279-5197.

## **New Member Class**

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 11am worship service Sunday, 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](mailto:pastoradrienne@gmail.com) or contact the church office at [parishadmin@stlconline.org](mailto:parishadmin@stlconline.org) or 812-332-5252.

## **Getting Involved**

### **Sunday mornings are for faith formation!**

We have classes for everyone aged four through adults and there is a space for you! Classes are from **9:45am-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). Children who are under four years old and their parents are welcome to gather in the nursery with their children for conversation and time to play while others are in class.

**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's class on the social statements of the ELCA will continue through October. Social statements are the teaching and policy documents of the ELCA, which help the church think and discuss social issues through the lens of our faith. Adults meet in the conference room.

All children and youth need to turn in a student information form to Leah Iversen or Pastor Lecia. Forms will be available on Sunday morning.

We still need some adults who are willing to be substitutes or assistants in our children's classes. If you are willing to volunteer occasionally or for any other faith formation questions, please contact Pastor Lecia at [pastorleciabeck@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleciabeck@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:kegardin@iu.edu) or Mike Powell at [powellam@iu.edu](mailto: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](mailto:parishadmin@stlconline.org) or 812-332-5252.

## **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, and Susan Draag.

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](mailto: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](mailto:parishadmin@stlconline.org) or 812-332-5252

## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Altar care: Ute Coyne, Charlene Braun

Bread/Wine: Drew & Amy Balcam

### **8:30am Service**

Presider: The Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian

Assisting Minister: Kris Stewart

Lector: Karen Rohlfing

Usher/Greeter: Gene & Gayl Laughman

Council Coordinator: Dawn Bakken

### **11am Service**

Presider: The Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian

Assisting Minister: Mike Witt

Lector: Sandy Arnold

Usher/Greeter: Kaye Hill

Council Coordinator: Gretchen Moehlmann

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

**The altar flowers this week** are given by Drew & Amy Balcam  
in memory of Tate & Quinn's mother, Allison Hoeppe

**ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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[stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)

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Rev. Lecia Beck, Minister of Youth and Christian Nurture  
[christiannurture@stlconline.org](mailto:christiannurture@stlconline.org)

Erica Whichello, Administrator [parishadmin@stlconline.org](mailto: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](mailto:lutheran@indiana.edu)  
Phone: (812) 333-2474  
[lcmiu.org](http://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!**