



**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 4, 2022**

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
WITH HOLY COMMUNION  
AT 8:30 A.M. and 11 A.M.**

**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. Assisted hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher; the chairs with arms are reserved for people with mobility limitations.

## **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! Our Prayer Pond in the sanctuary and our unstaffed nursery are open for quiet, supervised play. Activity bags are available in the narthex. Children's bulletins are also available.

## **A Note About Our Livestream Service**

Today's 8:30 a.m. 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.

# + GATHERING +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins and shortcomings before God and one another.

P: We confess that we have forgotten who we are. We have alienated ourselves from God's creative work—from the unfolding of the cosmos. We have become estranged from the movements of the earth. We have turned our backs on the cycles of life.

**C: We have forgotten who we are.**

P: We confess that we have sought only our own security. We have exploited simply for our own ends. We have distorted our knowledge. We have abused our power.

**C: We have forgotten who we are.**

P: We confess that, by our action, the land is barren, the waters are poisoned, and the air is polluted.

**C: We have forgotten who we are.**

P: Now the forests are dying, and the creatures are disappearing, and humans are despairing.

**C: We have forgotten who we are.**

P: Beloved of God, in the beginning, God called creation good, and encouraged humanity to delight in what God made. Sin has both kept us from enjoying what God made and encouraged us to exploit it. You are forgiven in order to remember the goodness of creation and to delight in the works of God's hand. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

# \*ENTRANCE HYMN

## Lift High the Cross

ELW#660

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

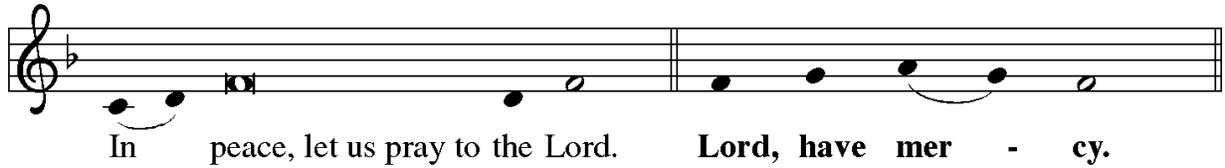
our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

**\*GREETING**

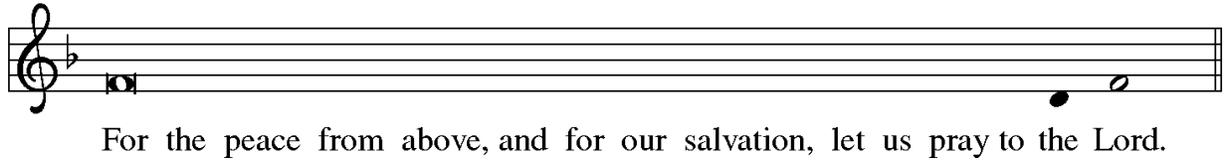
**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

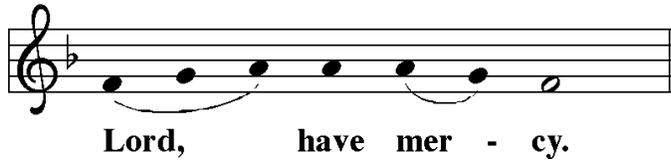
# \*KYRIE



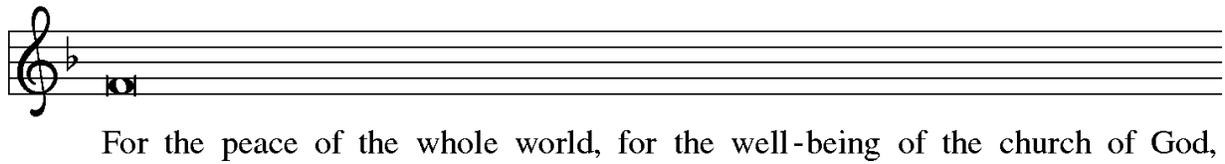
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



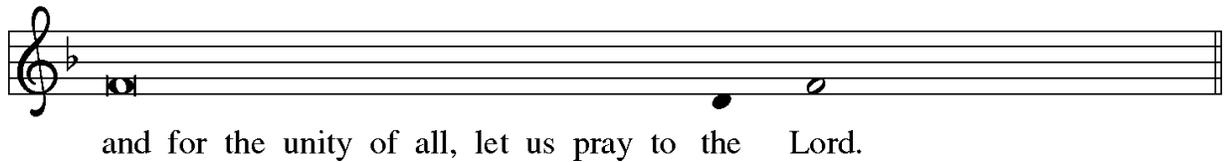
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



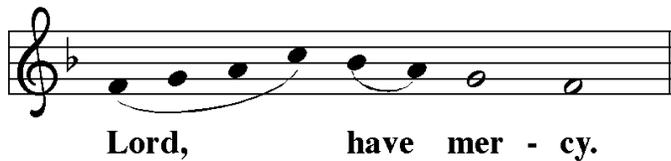
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



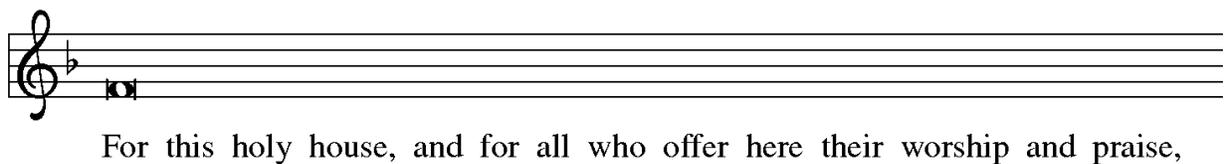
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



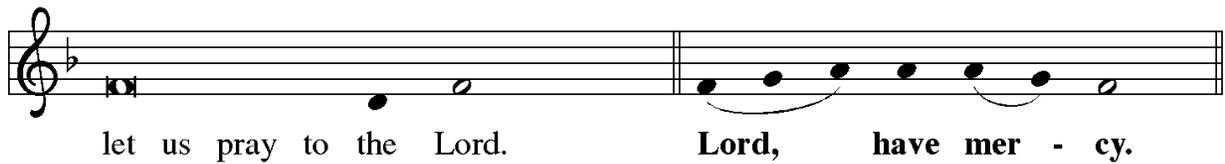
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE



1\* 2 3

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.  
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

*\* May be sung in canon.*

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

## FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses said to the people:

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am

commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in the LORD's ways, and by observing God's commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other deities and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying the LORD, and holding fast to your God; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 1



<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the  
counsel | of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching | day and  
night.**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do  
not wither;  
everything they | do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so | with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when  
| judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>**For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.**

## SECOND READING

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful

both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason Onesimus was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome Onesimus as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

L: Word of God. Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## \*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. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*HOLY GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33 NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

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

By now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, spouse and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether you have enough to complete it? Otherwise, when you have laid a foundation and are not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule you, saying, 'This person began to build and was not able to finish.' Or

what ruler, going out to wage war against another ruler, will not sit down first and to consider whether it is possible with ten thousand to oppose the enemy who has twenty thousand? If this cannot be done, then, while the other is still far away, the first ruler sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

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

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

ELW#667

# Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,  
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,

"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;  
per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;  
nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;  
nor think till death to lay it down;

for - sake the past, and come this day,  
his strength shall bear your spir - it up,  
for you the Lord en - dured the cross  
for those who hum - bly bear the cross

and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."  
sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
to save your soul from death and hell.  
one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

**\*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: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation

*Each petition ends:*

A: God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Concluding petition:*

A: Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

**C: And also with you.**

*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

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service. These pads and pencils are sanitized at the end of each service.*

*Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the door or you can also give on our website ([stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org)). St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Rose House LuMin and many local, national, and international ministry partners.*

## OFFERTORY

### \*OFFERTORY HYMN

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways      ELW#772

# Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.  
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

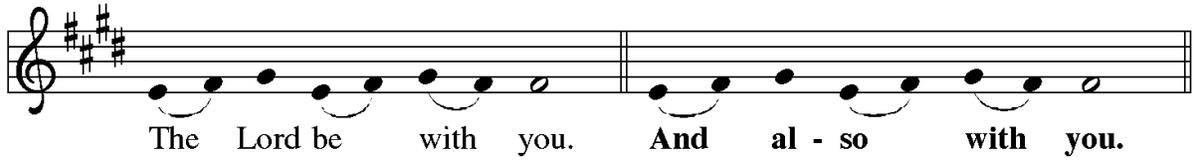
## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A:** Let us pray. Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

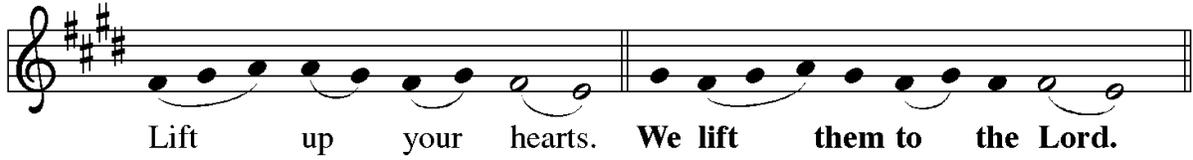
**C: Amen.**

# + MEAL +

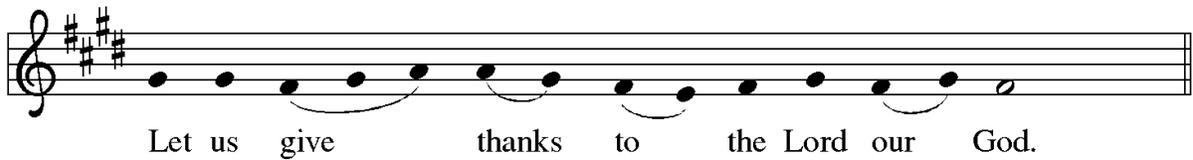
## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

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, God of pow'r and might,



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



san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is the one who



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

### \*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The thanksgiving may include this acclamation.*

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

*Speak this prayer in your preferred language. German is provided on the next page. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete.*

**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.**

Vater Unser, der Du bist im Himmel.  
Geheiligt werde Dein Name.  
Dein Reich komme,  
Dein Wille geschehe, wie im Himmel, also auch  
auf Erden.  
Unser täglich Brot gib uns heute  
und vergib uns unsere Schuld,  
wie wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern.  
Führe uns nicht in Versuchung  
sondern erlöse uns vom Bösen,  
denn Dein ist das Reich und die  
Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit.  
Amen.

#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

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

# AGNUS DEI

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.

# COMMUNION HYMN

All My Hope On God Is Founded

ELW#757

## All My Hope on God Is Founded



1 All my hope on God is found - ed who will all my  
 2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -  
 3 Great thy good - ness, e'er en - dur - ing; deep thy wis - dom,  
 4 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of



trust re - new, who through change and chance will guide me,  
 tray our trust; what with care and toil we fash - ion,  
 pass - ing thought; splen - dor, light, and life at - tend thee,  
 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es prais - ing



on - ly good and on - ly true. God un - known, God a -  
 tow'r and tem - ple, fall to dust. But thy pow'r, hour by  
 beau - ty spring - ing out of naught. Ev - er - more from thy  
 for the gift of God's own Son. Christ doth call one and



lone, call my heart to be thine own.  
 hour, is my tem - ple and my tow'r.  
 store new - born worlds rise and a - dore.  
 all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1690; para. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.  
 Music: Herbert Howells, 1892-1983  
 Music © 1968 Novello & Co. Ltd., London

MICHAEL  
 8787337

**\*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING**  
**C: Amen.**

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**+ SENDING +**

## \*BENEDICTION

P: God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**C: Amen.**

## \*SENDING HYMN

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

ELW#808

# Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

## *Jésus, je voudrais te chanter*

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**\*\*\***

*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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was adapted from  
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Worship Observance Resources;  
The North American Conference  
on Religion and Ecology.

## **At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas**

### **Sunday September 4**

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

11 a.m. Worship

### **Monday September 5**

Office Closed for Labor Day

### **Tuesday September 6**

6:30 p.m. Worship Committee

### **Wednesday September 7**

12 p.m. Prayer at Noon on Zoom

### **Saturday September 10**

#### **God's Work. Our Hands.**

9 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Team

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day

All Day Refugee Resettlement Team

### **Sunday September 11**

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School Kick Off

9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study

9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School

“Lost in Translation”

11 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Grad Student & Early Career Folks

## **Announcements**

### **Welcome Matthew Benkert, Director of Music and Organist**

Matthew Benkert received both his B.M. and M.M. in Organ Performance from Central Michigan University, where he studied with Dr. Steven Egler. As a church musician, he has served Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Episcopal denominations, including historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Flint, Michigan. As a performer, he has given recitals throughout Michigan and participated in numerous masterclasses. He is currently pursuing his Doctor of Music degree in Organ Performance and Sacred Music at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music as a student of Dr. Christopher Young. A Lutheran since childhood, Matthew grew up in the farm town of Hemlock, Michigan. While not creating music, he enjoys cycling, gaming, and caring for his pet axolotl, Levi.

## **God's Work. Our Hands.**

On **Saturday, September 10**, St. Thomas folks can join other ELCA churches all over the United States for God's Work. Our Hands., ELCA's annual day dedicated to community service. We've planned three projects this year – we hope one of them will be a good fit for you!

The **St. Vincent de Paul Team** will be helping with St. Vincent's ministry of providing household goods and furniture to those in need. You're asked to show up on **Saturday, September 10 at 9 a.m. at 1999 North Packing House Road** and spend about 2.5 to 3 hours organizing pickups for clients. High-school and adult helpers are needed. Sign up on the yellow signup sheet on the Welcome Desk.

The **Refugee Resettlement Team** is preparing the house for the arrival of our new family. If you'd like to help, contact [Jan Sinn](#) for team member orientation.

The **Property Committee** will have its bi-monthly work day. Volunteers can help with jobs like painting, caulking, organizing, staining, cleaning, or weeding. Sign up at the table in the narthex or contact Sam Eichmiller for more information.

### **Prayer at Noon on Zoom**

It can be hard to find time to pray, especially when there is so much to worry about and so much to pray for. Join us for a calm, quiet moment in the middle of the week to share requests and pray together—we gather for about 20 minutes. Our next gathering will be **Wednesday, September 7 at noon on Zoom**. Join us here: <https://bit.ly/3jVA3k0>.

### **Sunday School starts next week!**

Sunday School will kick off on **Sunday, September 11 at 9:45 a.m.** There are classes for students ages four through adults. Please fill out the student information form (<https://bit.ly/3Tj9Xsn>) to register your child(ren). Paper forms are available in the church office.

On Sunday, September 11, all children, confirmation students and high school youth will

gather in the sanctuary to start the year off together. Everyone is invited to join us on the back patio for make-your-own yogurt parfaits at 10:30.

**Children:** Those age four through kindergarten are invited to join our Godly Play class. Elementary students are divided into two classes, first through third grades and fourth through sixth grades where they learn the Biblical stories.

**Confirmation:** Students in grades seven and eight will be part of our confirmation class where we examine the Small Catechism and the Bible, asking "What does this have to do with my life?" in preparation for Affirmation of Baptism.

**Youth:** High School students will have the opportunity to meet with three inspiring teachers each month. Once a month, Pamela Smith will meet with the students to explore familiar and unfamiliar stories from the Bible. Mary Thomason-Smith will host monthly conversations where youth will get to know a guest from our St. Thomas community as they share their unique story of how faith shaped their decisions or

impacted their life. Moriah Reichert will be working with the students to dig deep into a social justice issue, learn about it from an ELCA Christian perspective and take action.

**Adults:** This class will study various topics in three-to-six-week sessions. Pastor Adrienne will teach the first session "Lost in Translation" looking at how we got the Bible we have.

We are still in need of a co-teacher to work with our upper elementary class and substitute teachers. If you are interested in helping with this program, even occasionally, please contact Pastor Lecia ([pastorleciabeck@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleciabeck@gmail.com)) or Sunday School coordinator, Leah Iversen ([leahbethsinn@hotmail.com](mailto:leahbethsinn@hotmail.com)).

**Donations Requested for Refugee Resettlement**  
The Refugee Resettlement Team through its affiliation with Exodus continues its signups for donations for the family of six who will arrive in Bloomington on **Wednesday, September 14**. We are still in need of a few items for the household like masks and mattress protectors. We also have two additional lists for non-perishable food and

educational/toy items that can be found on the list in the Narthex between services and following second service this Sunday. A Refugee Resettlement Team member will be here to field questions about the requested donations. Those who have already signed up to give small items can bring them to church and place them on the tables in the cloak room during church office hours (Tu-F, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. this coming week-closed Labor Day). We need all donations by the end of business **Friday, September 9**. We will begin to get their home ready **Saturday, September 10**. Thank you all for your generosity.

### **Women's Bible Study**

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Ye are most welcome to join in the St. Thomas Women's Bible Study. Our first occasion will be per usual, the second Sunday of the month, on **September 11 at 9:45 a.m.** in room 17 (off the kitchen). Bring ye self and ye's bible if ye so choseth! See Kari Esarey for more information.

## **Grad Students & Early Career Folks Worship, Free Dinner, and Hogwarts Tour of the IU Bloomington Campus**

Join us on **Sunday September 11** for our next grad student/early career folks gathering and fellowship time. We will begin at **4 p.m.** with a worship service led by **Father Ed Bird** at Canterbury Episcopal Campus Ministry (719 E 7th St, Bloomington). A **FREE** meal will be provided at **5 p.m.** following the service. After dinner (about 5:45pm), doctoral student **Moriah Reichert** will lead our group on a Hogwarts tour of the IU Bloomington Campus. All graduate students/early career folks (and their small children) are welcome to participate. There is no parking at Canterbury, so please plan to park on a side street, in a city parking lot nearby, or on campus and walk over. You may join us for any combination of worship, dinner, or the tour. No RSVPs needed. If you have any questions, please message [lutheran@indiana.edu](mailto:lutheran@indiana.edu).

## **Collecting Toys**

We are gathering toys for school-aged children to use while playing in Heritage Hall on Sunday mornings as adults gather to drink coffee. Do you have fun things your children have outgrown? Specifically, we are looking for legos, magna-tiles, and/or k'nex. If you have items to share, please talk to Pastor Lecia.

## **Pizza with the Pastor**

You've been worshiping with us for a while. You've even taken a next step to get more involved. Are you ready to become a member? Becoming a member is to be committed to the future of St. Thomas Lutheran Church and the community that dwells here. Before you dive into membership, join Pr. Adrienne for Pizza with the Pastor and get a chance to hear more about her story and St. Thomas story. You'll have an opportunity to ask about what we believe, what we do, and where we believe God is calling our congregation. the next Pizza with the Pastor will be after the second worship service on **Sunday, September 18**. Afterwards, if you wish to join St. Thomas as a member, we will receive you on **Sunday, September 25** at the worship service

of your choosing (if you're ready to make this step now, attendance at Pizza with the Pastor is not required). RSVP to Pr. Adrienne at [pastoradrienne@gmail.com](mailto:pastoradrienne@gmail.com).

## **Sunday Morning Fellowship**

Coffee is back! On Sunday mornings, enjoy a cup of coffee and mask-optional fellowship in the Narthex. Fill your personal mug or a visitor mug with fair trade coffee or tea and, when you're done, leave it on the marked tray to be washed and reused next week. There are plenty of mugs available for adoption as a personal mug, too, just talk to Debbie Selk. In good weather, the parking circle and patio will also be available for conversations and coffee, and we'll have a tub of toys (bubbles, sidewalk chalk) for our youngest Children of God.

## **Prayers for those with health and safety concerns**

Elif Ogan, Jan Ellis, Caretta Van Ruler, Anne Smith, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, Deborah O'Brien, Casey-Marie, Mike Ost, Erin Wyatt, Bob Osborn, Andrew Halvorson, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Jan Coulter, Jeff Theis, Kathleen Boggess, Evelyn Niemeyer, Michelle, and Shanna.

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.

## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Altar Care: Barb Unger, Jan Sinn

Bread & Wine: Carol Seaman

### **8:30 a.m. Service**

Assisting Minister: Allison Ward

Lector: Jim Ward

Ushers: Gene & Gayl Laughman

Greeters: David Ellies

Council Coordinator: Dawn Bakken

### **11 a.m. Service**

Assisting Minister: Mike Witt

Lector: Eliot Smith

Ushers: Randy & Nancy Nye

Greeters: Karen Rohlfing

Council Coordinator: Ashley Ahlbrand

**Today's altar flowers** are given by  
Jim & Allison Ward in honor  
of their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary  
and  
by Kris Stewart in memory  
of her mother Katharine Pohlmann.

## **ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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*Partners in ministry with*  
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de Guzman, Chichipate  
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,  
Izabal, Guatemala

*In covenant with*  
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Melissa de Graaf,  
Children's Choir Director

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

**We are a Christ-centered community that lives,  
shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!**