



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026



We hope you feel welcome here.

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, racial equity, 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, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

We hope you can participate fully in worship.

Today's worship service is printed in this bulletin; the hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) found under the seat in front of you. Places to stand are marked with * and to respond are indicated with bold type. Please sit, stand, and move as you need to be comfortable. Use a blue chair with arms or move orange chairs to accommodate mobility needs. Assisted hearing devices and large-print worship aids are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

Our youngest worshipers may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.

At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.

Gifts placed in the offering plate during the worship service contribute to this mission. Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

We hope you know we pray for you.

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

MINISTRY MOMENT

St. Vincent de Paul

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace
through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

*ENTRANCE HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

ELW#413



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

*GREETING

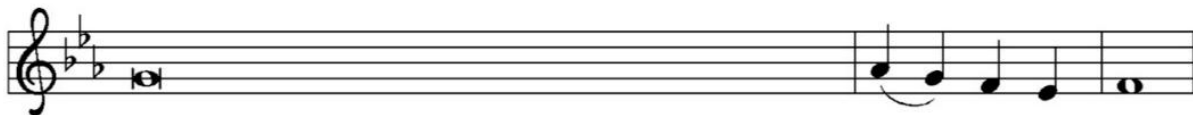
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*KYRIE



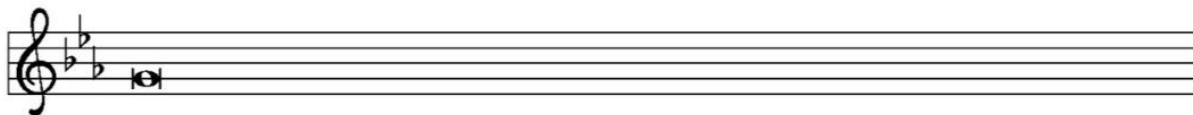
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



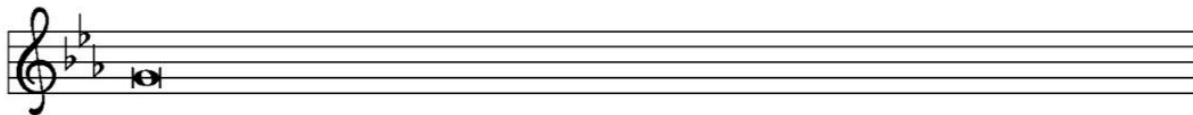
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



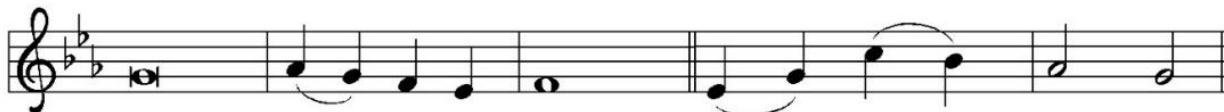
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

*HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Adrienne Meier

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:10—4:11

When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how they turned from their evil ways, God had second thoughts about the calamity that God had said would be done to them and did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O Lord, please

take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

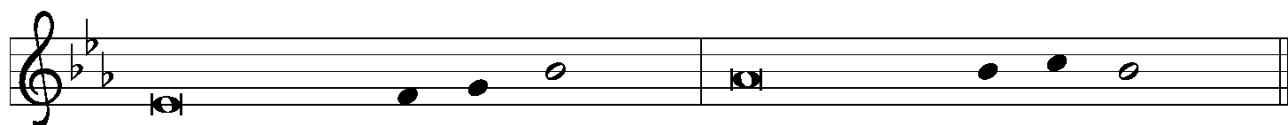
But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about

Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8



I will exalt you, my | God and king,
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.

**Every day | will I bless you
and praise your name forev- | er and
ever.**

Great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised!
There is no end | to your greatness.

**One generation shall praise your
works | to another
and shall de- | clare your power.**

I will speak of the glorious splendor | of your
majesty

and all your | marvelous works.

**They shall tell of the might of
your | wondrous acts,
and I will re- | count your greatness.**

They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your
great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹ of your
righteousness.

**The Lord is gracious and full ¹ of
compassion,
slow to anger and abounding
in ¹ steadfast love.**

SECOND READING

Acts 2:14-21, 33-35

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], "Fellow Judeans and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your children shall prophesy,
and your youth shall see visions,
and your elders shall dream dreams.

Even upon all my slaves,

in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great
and glorious day.

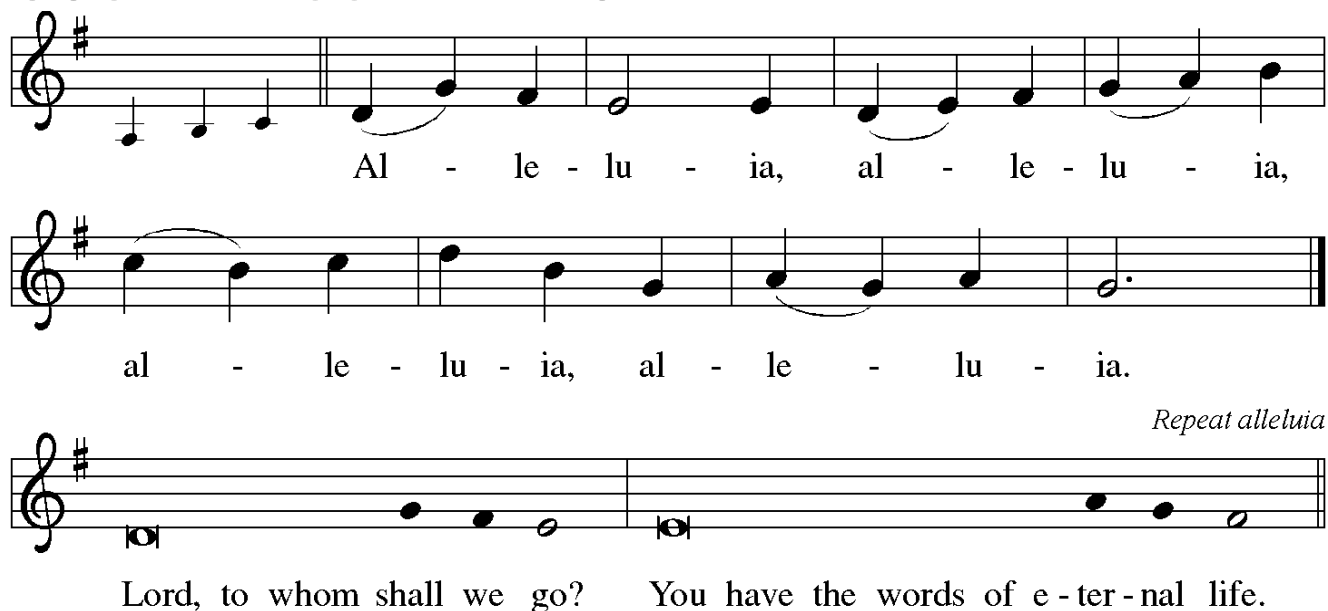
Then everyone who calls on the name of the
Lord shall be saved.'

"Being therefore exalted at the right hand of
God and having received from the Father the
promise of the Holy Spirit, God has poured out
this that you see and hear. For David did not
ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,
'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your
footstool." ' "

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever

is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I

choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

All Who Love and Serve Your City ELW#724



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
5 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and
day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -
work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of
Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that
cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,
treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
Je - sus, “You must work while it is day.”
spurns him, of - f’ring peace from Cal - v’ry’s hill.
glo - ry. Be its name “The Lord is there!”

Text: Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

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8:30 a.m. only

CHORAL SCHOLAR INSTALLATION

11 a.m. only

*APOSTLES' CREED

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

**C: 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: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

A: Hold your church accountable for our unwillingness to share your good news and our anger at your generosity to others. Nourish us by your grace to be witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Guide scientists and researchers studying responses to the climate crisis so that all your creation may inspire us to give thanks for your great goodness. Heal the lands currently affected by wildfires and other natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Show employers the benefits of equal pay and safety standards for all of their employees. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Help all workers to be filled with respect, gratitude, joy, and fulfillment through their labor. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Bless the work of Lutheran Suicide Prevention Ministry during National Suicide Prevention Month. Comfort all who struggle with loneliness, depression, and mental illness. Relieve their suffering and help them know they are not alone. Provide for those who are injured, ill, and for all in any need especially Drew, Del, Kristin, Helen, Bob, Leslie, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Strengthen all those in this congregation whose labor serves the needs of others in the community, especially those volunteering at Pantry 279, packing lunches for the hungry, and aiding our immigrant neighbors. Inspire all in this congregation to support community endeavors with our time and talents. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ 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.*



*An offering is collected as a grateful response for all of God's gifts. Gifts support St. Thomas's mission of living, sharing, and celebrating God's grace with all people. A portion of our offerings support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. **You may place gifts in the offering plate as it reaches you or give on our website, stlconline.org (the QR code above on the right will direct you).***



Use the QR code on the left to add your volunteer hours to our 5000-hour challenge.

8:30 a.m. only

CHORAL ANTHEM

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold W. Friedell

11 a.m. only

CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANTHEM

*OFFERTORY HYMN

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

ELW#681
verse 1 only



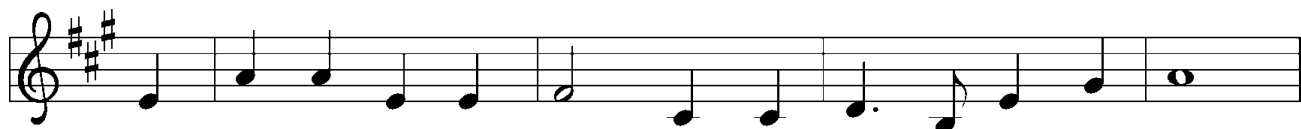
- 1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
- 2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
- 3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

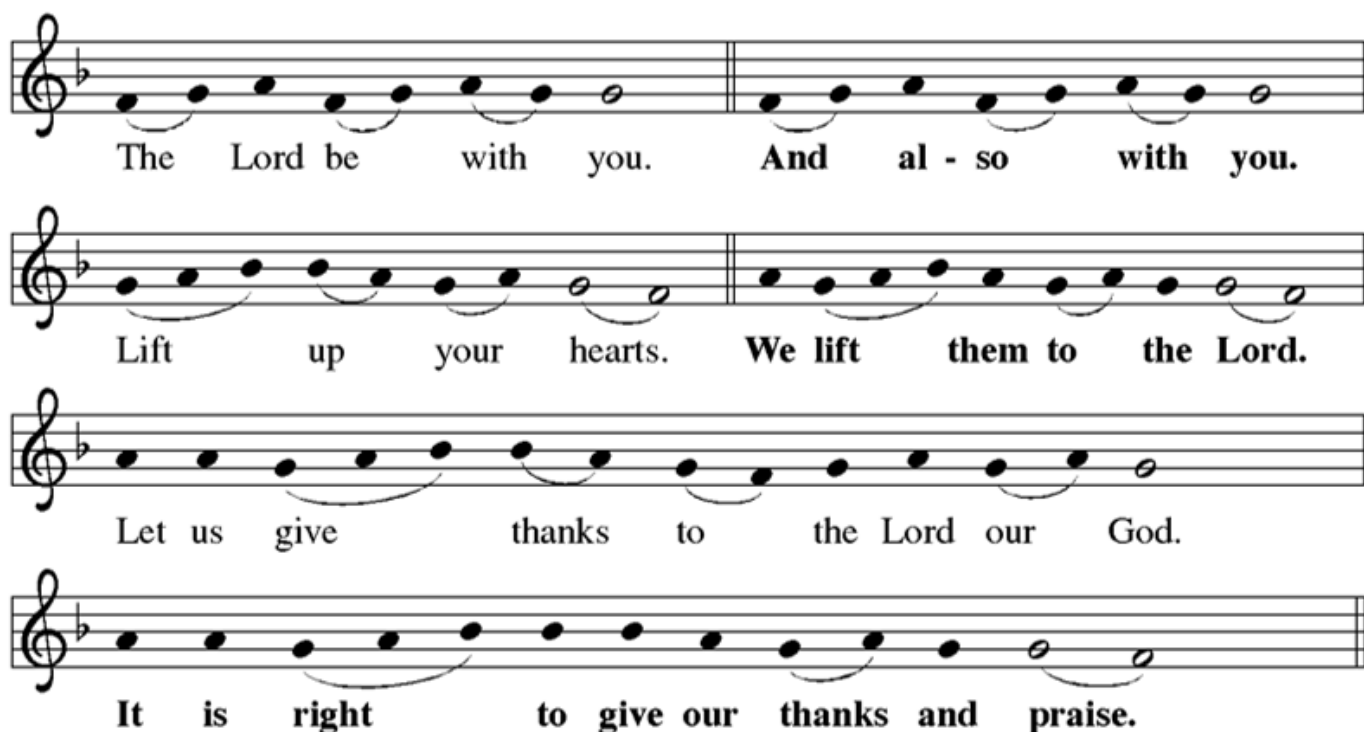
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are connected by slurs, indicating a continuous melody. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words aligned under specific notes and others under groups of notes.

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,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and
merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the
grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened
to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with
all the choirs of angels, with the church on
earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your
name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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 im Himmel.
Geheiligt werde dein Name.
Dein Reich komme,
Dein Wille geschehe, wie im Himmel, so auf
Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute.
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
wie auch wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen.
Denn dein ist das Reich und die Kraft
und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit.
Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

*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 an usher, and receive bread or
gluten-free wafer and wine in a common
chalice or pink wine and 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 -

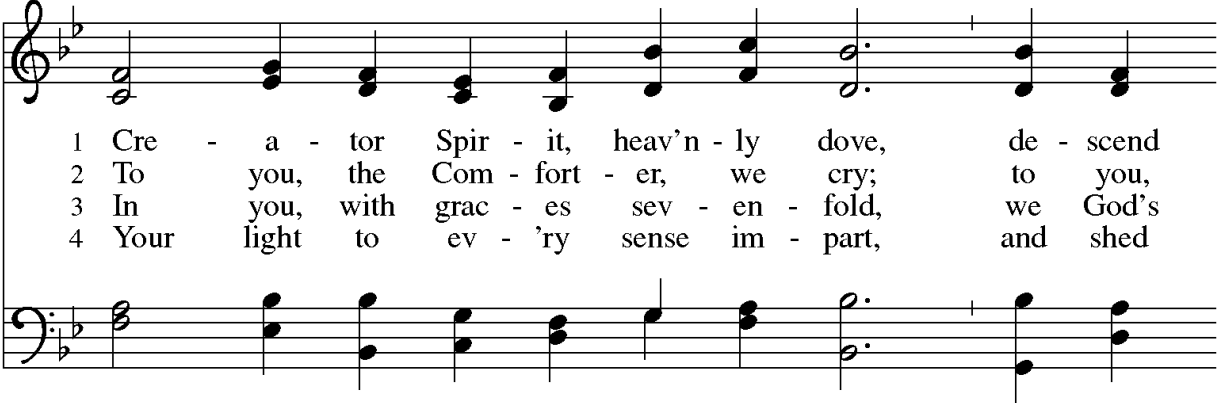


way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

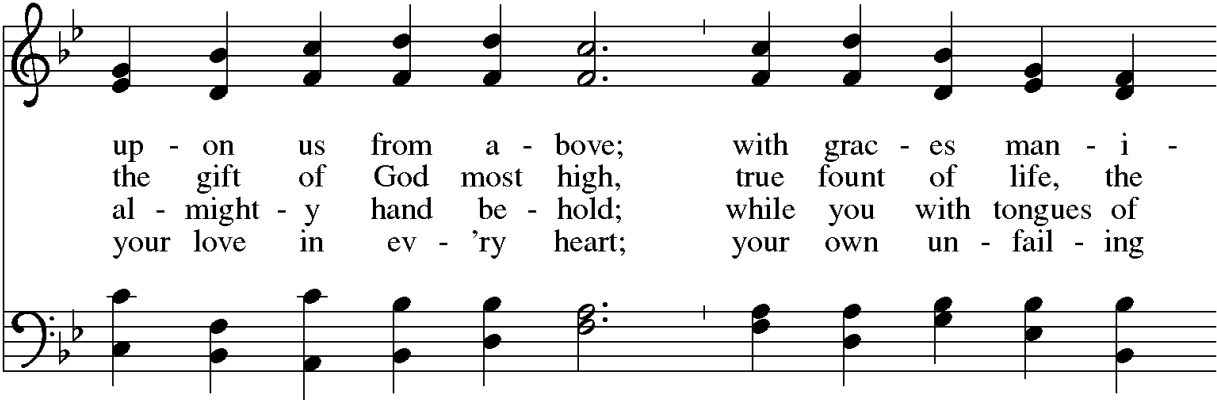
COMMUNION HYMNS

Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove

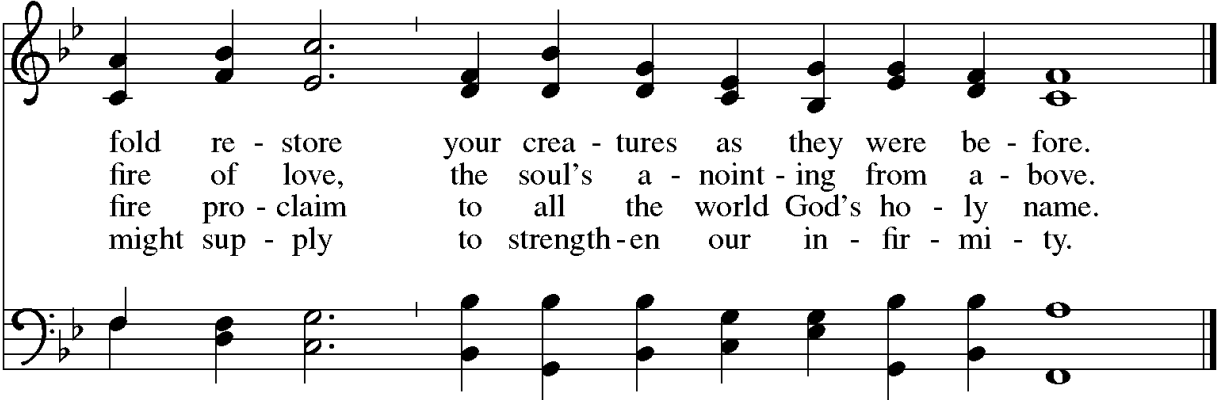
ELW #578



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, de - scend
2 To you, the Com - fort - er, we cry; to you,
3 In you, with grac - es sev - en - fold, we God's
4 Your light to ev - 'ry sense im - part, and shed



up - on us from a - bove; with grac - es man - i -
the gift of God most high, true fount of life, the
al - might - y hand be - hold; while you with tongues of
your love in ev - 'ry heart; your own un - fail - ing



fold re - store your crea - tures as they were be - fore.
fire of love, the soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.
fire pro - claim to all the world God's ho - ly name.
might sup - ply to strength - en our in - fir - mi - ty.

5 Keep far from us our cruel foe,
and peace from your own hand bestow;
upheld by you, our strength and guide,
no evil can our steps betide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along
your praise may be our endless song.

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW#685

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the notes, with line numbers 1 through 4 corresponding to the first system and the continuation of the lyrics in the second system.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BENEDICTION

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

C: Amen.

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

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW#588



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

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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Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas in consultation with emendations provided for Augsburg Fortress by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday September 20

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Council Meeting

Monday September 21

9:45 a.m. Worship at Bell Trace
1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday September 22

11 a.m. 60+ Group talk with Area 10
 Agency on Aging

Wednesday September 23

3 p.m. 60+ Group Song Circle

Thursday September 24

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Saturday September 26

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day
10 a.m. Lunch Packing
12 p.m. 60+ Group Event: IU Field Hockey

Sunday September 27

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship
1 p.m. Youth Kick Off Picnic
3 p.m. Pie with the Pastor

Announcements

Welcome Table Lunch Packing

Saturday, September 26, 10 a.m. — YOU are invited to come help pack 110 lunch bags for the hungry people who gather at First Christian Church on Sundays. All ages are welcome. The task is usually done within an hour. We also will need home baked items to put in the bags. A Thrivent Action Team Grant purchases the materials. If you would like to sponsor a packing with a grant, please contact the church office. See the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk for both bakers (helping ahead of time) and packers (helping on the day).

Youth Ministry Kick-Off Picnic

Youth in grades 5 through 12 and their families are invited for a taco bar and lawn games at the Gentry Estate Pavillion on **Sunday, September 27, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** Bring a taco topping to share and plan to pick up a fall youth ministry schedule.

Pie with the Pastor

Wondering how you become a bigger part of St. Thomas?

Curious about membership?

Join us **Sunday, September 27 at 3 p.m. in Community Hall for Pie with the**

Pastor—a relaxed gathering with *actual pie* and good

conversation. Pastor Adrienne will share about next steps you can take, including membership, and hear your stories, questions, and hopes.

Whether you're ready to join or still exploring, you are welcome. The ministries of this church are for everyone—but becoming a member is a way to help shape where we're headed, together.



St. Thomas at Spencer Pride, Saturday, October 3

See the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Desk to staff our congregation's table at a fun, family-friendly festival on the courthouse square in Spencer.

October Music Revue!

On **Sunday, October 4 at 4 p.m.**, all are welcome to enjoy an informal concert featuring the St. Thomas staff, members, and friends in the worship space. Come support our talented musicians as they play and sing a variety of musical styles! There will be a freewill offering at the door to support the Worship & the Arts Program.

Mission Endowment Fund

At our meeting in August, the MEF committee distributed \$3,200 to support plant-based protein for food pantries, Indiana Solar for All, and St. Thomas Choral Scholars. We are happy to announce an updated, fully-online grant application that can be completed through the St. Thomas website (see link in the eNews). We encourage you to request financial support from the MEF for projects that serve our community!

Our next meeting is Sunday, November 1. Applications for this grant cycle are due by October 26.

Benefit to support the work of St. Vincent de Paul

We invite you and all of our community to enjoy an "Afternoon in the Park" on **Sunday, October 11 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Switchyard Park Pavilion.** There will be food trucks, raffled theme baskets, a silent auction, music, face painting, indoor and outdoor games, and more. Please consider helping us help others in need with rent, utilities, transportation, furniture and appliances by purchasing a \$100 St. Vincent de Paul raffle ticket to have a chance to win up to \$10,000 in cash prizes. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Winners will be drawn at the event on Sunday, October 11. **We will be selling tickets after church services on both Sunday, September 20 and Sunday, September 27.** For questions contact Coordinator Richard Romine at 812-606-7633. or email, or our own St. Thomas Lutheran Church Ticket Coordinator Gerhard Glomm at 812-679-9724.

60+ Group September Events

Tuesday, September 22, 11 a.m. A talk by Julie Mauder from Area 10 on Aging, at St Thomas.

Wednesday, September 23, 3 p.m. Singing Circle in Heritage Hall. Join Pamela and Eliot Smith, and Mike and Debbie Witt for an hour of singing hymns and favorite songs.

Saturday, September 26 at 12 p.m. IU Field Hockey game at Deborah Tobias Field. No ticket required.

Tuesday, September 29 at 7 p.m. Join Kari and David Esarey at the IU Cinema for a showing of the silent classic Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Tickets are \$5.00 and are available online or at the door.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Drew Carman, Del Newkirk, Kristin Vann, Helen Kane, Bob Osborn, Leslie Main, Dallis Fox-Nagal, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Kent Unger, and Mark Wilkes.

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.

The altar flowers are given
by Lyman & Gloria Hitchcock
to the Glory of God for Life.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Spencer Anspach, Rebekah Arnold,
Lydia Arnold

Bread & Wine: Robin Hershberger

Prayer Writer: Gretchen Moehlmann

Flower Guild: Mary Thomason-Smith

Coffee Crew: Casey Main, Marcus Hershberger,
Matt Meier

A/V Tech: Jim Ward

8:30 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Carolyn Sowinski

Lectors: Robin Hershberger, Ashley Ahlbrand

Ushers: Frank & Mary Lou Nierzwicki

Communion Stewards: Mike Witt, Jaydene Laros

Greeters: Mike & Jaydene Laros

Council Coordinator: Greg Valenta

11 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Arno Risner

Lectors: Vicki Polansky, Jennifer Garl

Ushers: Scott & Audra Miller

Communion Stewards: Sharon Fawbush,
Susan Colston

Greeters: Brock DeMark &
Savannah Hadley-DeMark

Council Coordinator: Mike Witt

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Partners in ministry with
**Lutheran Church of
the Living Waters**
Cherokee, North Carolina

Linked with
Sister Parish
Iglesia Santo Domingo
de Guzman, Chichipate
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,
Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with
**Lutheran Campus Ministry
at Indiana University**
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian,
Campus Pastor
lutheran@iu.edu
Phone: (812) 333-2474
lcmiu.org

Rev. Adrienne Meier
Senior Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stlconline.org

Matthew Benkert
Director of Music and Organist
directorofmusic@stlconline.org

Ben Wegner
Adult Choir Director
choir@stlconline.org

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!**