

SENDING HYMN 710 *Let Streams of Living Justice*

- 1 Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth; give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth. The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights, the mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight. Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow'r; abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people's hour.
- 2 For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end, for love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend. Weave our varied gifts together; knit our lives as they are spun; on your loom of time enroll us till our thread of life is run.
O great weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one;
dye our texture with your radiance, light our colors with your sun.
- 3 Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek; your harmony is language; we are the words you speak. Our faith we find in service, our hope in others' dreams, our love in hand of neighbor, our homeland brightly gleams. Inscribe our hearts with justice, your way—the path untried; your truth—the heart of stranger; your life—the Crucified.

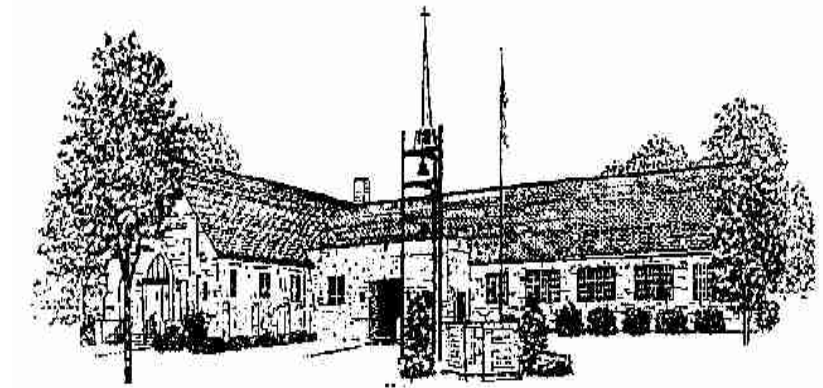
DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace Share the Good News!

C: **Thanks be to God.**



***WELCOME TO WORSHIP
AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH***



***Twenty-First Sunday of Pentecost
Sunday, October 18th, 2026***

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection.
Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

CALL TO WORSHIP 526 God Is Here! Vs 1

- 1 God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as Pastor begins.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the ☩ Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

COMMUNION

THE BODY OF CHRIST, GIVEN FOR YOU. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, SHED FOR YOU.
As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or at the rail in the fullness of faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements.
One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.

COMMUNION SONG Lamb of God Setting 3 Page 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMNS 474 Bread of Life From Heaven
468 Around You, O Lord Jesus**

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE 208 Praise To You, O God of Mercy!

Praise to you, O God of Mercy, Thanks be to You forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly, Thanks be to You forever!
Thanks be to you forever!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, Son and ☩ Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *ELW Setting 4 Pg 153*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father; endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and at the end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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 in remembrance of me.

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 in remembrance of me.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and place and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN *825 You Servants of God*

- 1 You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!
- 2 Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!
- 3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.
- 4 Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

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 *ELW 155*

***Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison
Christe Eleison, Christe Eleison, Christe Eleison
Kryie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison***

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest ELW Setting 3 Pg 139*

Cantor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth

All: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts.
Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for
your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING *a reading from Isaiah 45:1-7*

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD
has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the
whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of
light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light
and darkness.*

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors
before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level
the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the
bars of iron; ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in
secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel,
who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my
chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me.
⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I am you,
though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun

P: Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers
and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY HYMN *182 Let the Vinyards Be Fruitful*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . **Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving**
what you have first given us, our selves, our time, and our possessions,
signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who
offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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.

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

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 INTERCESSION

A: Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.
a brief silence.

A: Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We pray for all people who work in dangerous environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering . . . Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96:1-13

Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**

³ Declare God’s glory among the nations and God’s wonders among all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10*

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW 142 Setting 3*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal Life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel *according to Matthew 22:15-22*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then,

what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away. This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *871 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good*

- 1 Sing praise to God, the highest good, the author of creation!
O God of love, you understood our need for your salvation.
With healing balm our souls you fill; all our lament with peace you still.
To God all praise and glory!
- 2 What your almighty pow'r has made,
in mercy you are keeping; by morning glow or evening shade, your
eye is never sleeping;
in the dominion of your might all things are just and good and right.
To God all praise and glory!
- 3 We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us. Our Savior
saw our helplessness and came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord, who is by one and all adored.
To God all praise and glory!
- 4 All who confess Christ's holy name, give God the praise and glory!
Let all God's saving pow'r proclaim; give God the praise and glory!
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne; God is the Lord, and God alone.
To God all praise and glory!

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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.**