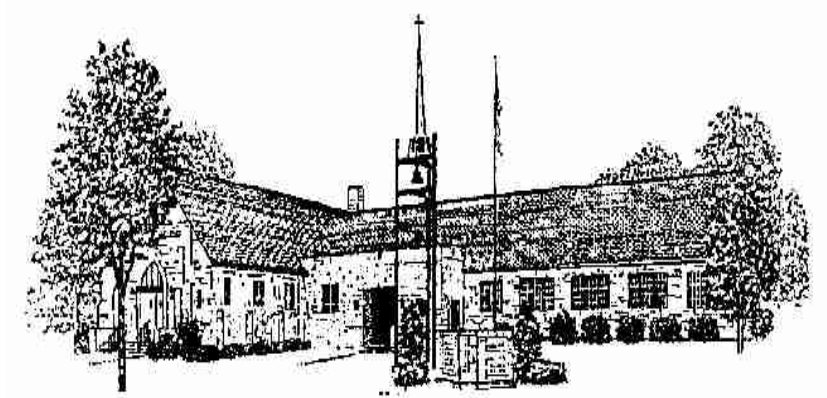


***WELCOME TO WORSHIP
AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH***



***Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost
Sunday, October 4th, 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.

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

CALL TO WORSHIP **803 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Vs 1**

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

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.

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 *832 My Lord of Light*

- 1 My Lord of light who made the worlds, in wisdom you have spoken;
 but those who heard your wise commands your holy law have broken.
- 2 My Lord of love who knew no sin, a sinner's death enduring:
 for us you wore a crown of thorns, a crown of life securing.
- 3 My Lord of life who came in fire when Christ was high ascended:
 your burning love is now released, our days of fear are ended.
- 4 My Lord of lords, one Trinity, to your pure name be given
 all glory now and evermore, all praise in earth and heaven.

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
Kyrie 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 Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

FIRST READING *a reading from Isaiah 5:1-7*

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took root and ^l filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches ^l to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

SECOND READING *a reading from Philippians 3:4b-14*

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow, I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining

forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. 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 21:33-46*

C: Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?" ⁴³ "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 343 *My Song Is Love Unknown Vs 1-4*

- 1 My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own would not its Savior know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes we strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day hosannas to our king.
Then "Crucify!" is all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
- 4 We cry out; we will have our dear Lord made away, a murderer to save,
the prince of life to slay. Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes
that he his foes from thence might free.

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.**

**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: God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God restore peace to the world's conflict zones. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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 Vineyards 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:

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.**

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 ***595 Jesus Love Me!***

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.

SENDING HYMN 729 *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

- 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age beset by change, but Spirit-led,
 must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.
- 2 Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
 for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.
- 3 Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
 a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.
- 4 For he alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood,
 and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.
- 5 We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord.
 to care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God.

