

† 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST †
Rally Day
September 13, 2026

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
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PRELUDE

Wareham

Gehrike/Petrich

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB Hymn 866

Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend

(10:45) **RECOGNITION OF CHAPEL SCHOOL FACULTY & STAFF**

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C Gracious God, have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE (*Sung to "Joyful, Joyful"*)

Holy God, we sing Your praises; Lord alone, to You we call.

Lamb of God, in faith we claim You, throned on high, yet near to all.

"Blessing, glory, praise and honor" – hear Your faithful people cry;

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, glory be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Almighty God, Your mercies are new to us every morning. By the guidance of Your Word and Spirit, open our hearts to acknowledge Your goodness, receive Your forgiveness, and be reconciled to one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(9:00) **INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STAFF**
BLESSING OF 3-YEAR-OLDS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each one of us will be held accountable to God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (*Congregation rising*)

(from Psalm 103)

A The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

C He does not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to our iniquities.

A For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;
C **as far as the east is from the west, so far He removes our transgressions from us.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹Then Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(9:00) PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO 3RD GRADERS CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

LSB Hymn 843

SERMON

Rev. Peter Deebrach

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third
day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at**

the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

(9:00) INSTALLATION OF CHAPEL SCHOOL FACULTY & STAFF

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Detroit

James Brauer

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

¶ SANCTUS (*Sung to the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy"*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God almighty!

We rejoice to join the hymns of earth and sky and sea.

Generations praise You, with saints and angels.

Holy and blest through all eternity!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI (*Sung to "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*)

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away – our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, strengthen us when we fall,

answer our fervent call and grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

LSB **Hymn 623**

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

LSB **Hymn 650**

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand (please ask for "gluten-free" if desired); then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A Almighty God, You gave Your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the Godly life. We give You thanks for the gift of Christ in this holy sacrament, and pray that You would strengthen us to follow Him in all our ways; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

O Bless the Lord, My Soul

LSB **Hymn 814**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Recessional

Henry Kihlken

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Services:

Rev. Peter Deebrah, Vacancy Pastor
Deborah Reiss, Minister of Music

	9:00	10:45
Lector	Chris Clark	Danielle Lawrence-Campbell
Asst. Minister	Chris Clark	Joan Condon
Communion Asst.	Volunteer	Volunteer
Altar Care	Maria Gitter	
Ushers	Ralph Schoene	Charlie Eisenberg
Sexton	Kaitlyn Clark	
Refreshments	Story Family	

News and Notes:

Rally Day/Sunday School – As we begin a new school year, we give thanks for all of the teachers, volunteers and administrators in our church and school, and we pray for God's blessings on our children and families. At the 9:00 service, children age 3 through Grade 6 will be dismissed to their classes as directed and may be picked up after worship or meet in the MPR for coffee hour. Sunday School classrooms are as follows:

- ❖ Ground Level – PreK and Kindergarten in Room 07; Grades 1-2 in Room 11
- ❖ First Floor – Grades 3-4 in Room 104
- ❖ Second Floor – Grades 5-6 in Room 208

If you have any questions about Sunday School, please speak to Sunday School Coordinator Sarah Gleason or email ChrisnySarah@gmail.com

Confirmation Classes - Lifers (Grades 7-8) confirmation classes this year will be led by Pastor Deebrah on Thursdays and Sundays. Thursday sessions will generally be the first and third weeks of the month at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday sessions will generally be the second and fourth weeks of the month between services. **Confirmation Orientation for parents/guardians and students is on Thursday, September 24, at 6:00 p.m.**

- ❖ In order to make sure our records are up to date, **please register all 7th and 8th graders in advance** of the orientation meeting. Fill out the form online or contact Kim Rapillo in the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or Krapillo@VLC-NY.org

Music Ministry – Regular rehearsals will begin throughout September. If you love music, please consider joining one of our ensembles and using your gifts to enrich our worship life:

- ❖ **Cherub Choir** (Age 3 through Grade 2) meets during Sunday School
- ❖ **Youth Choir** (Grade 3-8) meets Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and will be directed by Ms. Reiss this year. First rehearsal is **September 24**.
- ❖ **Chancel Choir** (High School and Adult) meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and will start on **September 17**.
- ❖ **Village Bells** (High School and Adult) meets Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. and will start on **September 30**.
- ❖ **Hands On Handbells!** For any high school youth or adults interested in ringing, we will have the handbells available between services on Sundays, **September 20 and 27**. This is a chance to try out the bells, see how the music works, and ask questions about ringing. Check it out!

If you are interested in being a part, or if you have any questions, please contact Minister of Music Deb Reiss at 914-337-0207, x1018 or Dreiss@VLC-NY.org

Coffee Hour Hosts – Each week we have a chance to say hello, enjoy a quick bite, and connect with each other informally. We are in need of volunteers to host **from September 20 on**, whether individually or in a small group. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR or speak to Warren Wong. Thank you!

Soup Kitchen – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. The next date is **Wednesday, September 16**, and the menu will be the same as what was planned for August: Franks and beans (no pork, mixed with the beans or separate), salad and brownies. To sign up, go to our web site or contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

Wednesday Bible Study – We will resume our weekly sessions on **September 23**, when we begin a new study on the book of Esther. We will consider the historical background and the underlying message of God's providential care. Refreshments available at 10:45 and the class starts at 11:00. All are welcome!

Craft Day – Saturday morning, September 26, from 10:00 a.m. to noon – Plans are under way to meet about once a month. Bring your knitting, crocheting or other handiwork, share ideas and conversation, learn how to make a prayer shawl, and enjoy light refreshments. Hosted by Ruth DeRosa and Miriam Mathew. Please note the special morning meeting time for September.

Fall Voter's Meeting – Please save the date for our next Voter's Meeting on Sunday, **September 27**, in the MultiPurpose Room immediately following the 10:45 service.

Prayer Conference Call – All are welcome to join a brief service of evening prayer by phone on the last Tuesday of the month. To participate, simply dial (1) 732-434-3982. The next service is **Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 6:00 p.m.**

The Chosen – Season 3 – Returning to VLC on Wednesday evenings, **September 30 through November 18**, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Watch one episode each week and reflect on the Gospel dramatization while sharing in a light supper. Invite a friend! The viewing is open to the public and available at no cost. To help us prepare, **please RSVP** in advance through the church office. Call 914-337-0207, x1003, email Krapillo@VLC-NY.org, or make a note on the pew card. For more information, contact Deacon Janet George.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet Thursday, Sept. 17, at 6:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care During Vacancy – Pastor Deebrah is serving as our regular worship leader and will be available for baptisms, funerals, and pastoral emergencies. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Kim Rapiello in the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or Krapillo@VLC-NY.org

- ❖ Our lay deacons are making home visits to those who are recovering from illness or are homebound. They can also bring consecrated elements for Holy Communion and/or a prayer shawl. To arrange a visit, please contact the church office or make a note on the pew card.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Barbara Accocella, John Accocella, Pastor Bill Baum, Bill Blume, Joshua Davenport & Family, Wayne & Dana Davenport, Susan DeAndis, Theresa Devlin, Joan Eiler, Mary Fielder, Pastor Bill Flammann, Dwayne Gitter, Kenneth Held, Kaden Howard, Lisa Jones, Katie Koster, Gudrun Krüger, Kathryn Lierseemann, Michelle Liscoe, Cathy Martin, Elaine Podszus, Morena Rodriguez, Dan Schwartz, Valerie Tutson, Jo-Anne Weinberg

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School

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