

† 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST †
September 20, 2026

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

PRELUDE

Fang dein Werk

Jacob Weber

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)
With the Lord Begin Your Task

LSB Hymn 869

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake 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.

KYRIE (*spoken*)

P Lord, have mercy.

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

(LSB Page 155)

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

Refrain

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray (*pause for reflection*): Lord God,

C heavenly Father, we cannot rely on our own abilities or anything we have done in order to stand before You. Help us to trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

3 ¹⁰When God saw what [the Ninevites] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. **4** ¹But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He 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. ³And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then 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. ⁶The 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. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When 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." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then 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. ¹¹And 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 This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

(from Psalm 145)

A I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

C Every day I will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever.

A Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; His greatness is unsearchable.

C One generation shall extol Your works to another and shall declare Your mighty acts.

A They will recount the glorious splendor of Your majesty; and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.

C They will proclaim the might of Your awesome deeds; and I will declare Your greatness.

A They shall celebrate the fame of Your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.

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

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:21-30

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me. ²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Page 156)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said to the disciples,] "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And 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?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them,

'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When 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.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, '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.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

LSB **Hymn 827**

SERMON

Rev. Peter Deebrab

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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Galilean

Sandra Eithun

† 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, who gave Himself to take away our sin, who by His death has destroyed death, and by His rising has brought us to eternal life. 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**

(LSB Page 161)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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."

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

♫**AGNUS DEI**

(LSB Page 163)

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Behold the Lamb of God. Behold Him who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are they who are invited to the Supper of the Lamb.

C **Lord, I am not worthy to receive You, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior LSB **Hymn 619**
How Wide the Love of Christ LSB **Hymn 535**

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, we thank You for feeding us with spiritual food, the body and blood of Christ. All who come to You will not hunger, and all who believe in You will not thirst. Send us back into the world to share the gospel and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ 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 Jesus, King Most Wonderful LSB **Hymn 554**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE St. Agnes Stephen Folkemer

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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 Service:

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

	9:00	10:45
Lector	Ellen Story	James Maxeiner
Asst. Minister	Daryl Story	George Pietarinen
Communion Asst.	Volunteer	Joan Condon
Altar Care	Story Family	
Usher Team	Bill Vogt	Georgine Read
	Warren Wong	Ilse Lunog
Sexton	Kaitlyn Clark	
Refreshments	Clark Family	

News and Notes:

Sunday School – If you missed last week due to the weather, welcome back to a new year of Sunday School! We have bibles for any new third graders. 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 Deebrach 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 – 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.; next rehearsal is **September 24**.
- ❖ **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 in October and beyond, whether individually or in a small group. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR or speak to Warren Wong. Thank you!

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 join us next weekend for our 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. 24, at 6:00 p.m.; Lifers (Grades 7-8) Confirmation Orientation on Thursday, Sept. 24, at 6:00 p.m. in the MPR.

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, Linda DeJong, Joan Eiler, Mary Fielder, Pastor Bill Flammann, Kenneth Held, Kaden Howard, Lisa Jones, Katie Koster, Kathryn Lierseemann, Michelle Liscoe, Bob Maguire & Family, Cathy Martin, Elaine Podszus, Morena Rodriguez, Dan Schwartz, Valerie Tutson

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.
† **Rev. Charles "Chip" Froehlich**, a pastor in the Atlantic District for many years, passed away on September 15, 2026

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708
914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG