



September 20,
2026
9am Service

Welcome & Announcements

Special Music

Heartstrings

Please Rise

Our Mission Statement:

***As God's people, abounding in HOPE and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite all to share in the unfolding experience of Jesus Christ.***

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves
into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion
forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have
failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live
and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

#618

1. Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.

Greeting

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

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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 mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

#149

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day

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. Amen.

Please be seated

Children's Time

Word

First Reading

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] 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.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² 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. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ 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.

⁶ 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. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ 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."

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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?"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, 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 ²⁸ and 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. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please Rise

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

page 151

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

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ 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?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ 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.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² 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.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Please be seated

Sermon

Rev Dr Judy Kincaid

Hymn of the Day

O Jesus, I Have Promised

#810

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my master and my friend. I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
2. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near. I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.

3. Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will. Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

Please Rise

Apostles' 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 for the People

Prayer Petitions will end with "Lord in Your Mercy"

Prayer response is **"Hear Our Prayer"**

Sharing God's Peace & Noisy Offering

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

#186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Meal

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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:

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.

Words of Institution

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. 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.

The 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.

Invitation to Communion and Distribution

All are welcome to receive the sacrament. If you are unable to hold the bread or wine, require gluten free, or would prefer grape juice, please tell the server. If you are unable to come forward, please inform an usher and you will be served in your pew.

Please be seated

Distribution Music

Lamb of God

page 154

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, grant us peace.

Bread of Life from Heaven

#474

Refrain: Bread of life from heaven, your blood and body given, we eat this bread and drink this cup until you come again.

1. Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice; giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.
Eat, all of you, and be satisfied; in Christ's presence the loaves will abound. Refrain
2. Seek not the food that will pass away; set your hearts on the food that endures. Come, learn the true and the living way, that the fullness of life may be yours. Refrain
3. Love as the one who, in love for you, gave himself for the life of the world. Come to the one who is food for you, that your hunger and thirst be no more. Refrain
4. Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your home in the lifegiving Word.
Know only Christ, Holy One of God, and believe in the truth you have heard. Refrain
5. Drink of this cup and declare his death; eat this bread and believe Easter morn;
trust his return and, with ev'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are reborn. Refrain

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

#494

1. For the bread which you have broken, for the wine which you have poured, for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
2. By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored, by your call to heav'n above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.
3. With the saints who now adore you, seated at the heav'nly board, may the church still waiting for you keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

4. In your service, Lord, defend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward; in the world to which you send us let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Please Rise

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Take My Life, That I May Be

#583

Refrain: Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

1. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee. Refrain
2. Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. Refrain
3. Take my voice and let me sin always, only for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. Refrain
4. 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. Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Worship Leaders

Ministers	The People of Hope Lutheran Church
Presiding Pastor	Rev Dr Judy Kincaid
Assistant Liturgists	Erica Kajer
Reader	Tim Wilson
Greeter	Jim and Jean Wold
Ushers	Dave Swan, Ron Kaeding
Communion Assistants	Miriam and Michael Schwiebert, Grant Wagner
Accompanist	Donna Benrud
Cantor	Grace Lenhart
Coffee Connections	Choir

Portions of the liturgy are reprinted from Sundays and Seasons© 2004 and ELW© 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under Augsburg Fortress license #13653, One License A-711577, and CCLI License 1606517. Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version.

Thank you for Worshiping at Hope Lutheran Church
2226 Eddy Lane ▪ Eau Claire, WI 54703 ▪ (715) 832-1414 ▪ www.hopechurchec.com