



*Go and work
in the
vineyard
today*

MATTHEW 21:28

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 27, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Stephanie White**

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

Key to hymnals in the pews:

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

WOV = With One Voice (blue); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

STS = Spirit Touching Spirit (grey)

* = Please rise

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome all who are gathered with us for worship, whether in person or via the livestream! If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, please send an e-mail to redeemer@gvtel.com to let us know from where you are worshipping.

*Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Water is poured into the baptismal font.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

*ProceSSIONal Hymn	<i>O God, My Faithful God</i>	ELW #806
	<i>All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.</i>	<i>(next page)</i>

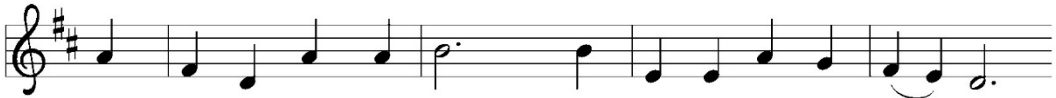
***Greeting**

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.

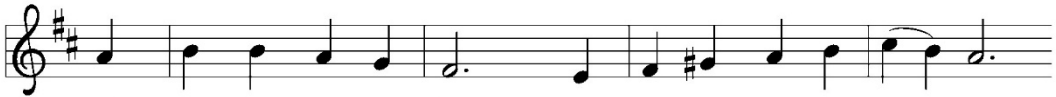
***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray...God of love, giver of life,
**you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them,
keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

O God, My Faithful God



1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
 2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
 3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
 4 When dan-gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
 what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
 guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
 help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
 to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
 but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
 help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
 what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
 then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
 and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT, Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629–1701

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: *Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

Psalms 25:1-9

¹ To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
⁴ **Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**
⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**
⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness,
O LORD.
⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

Second Reading: *As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
 and gave him the name
 that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my
 presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear
 and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to
 work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God!

*Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel: *After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

***Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew...
Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Emptying the Self

Rev. Stephanie White

***Hymn of the Day**

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

ACS #954

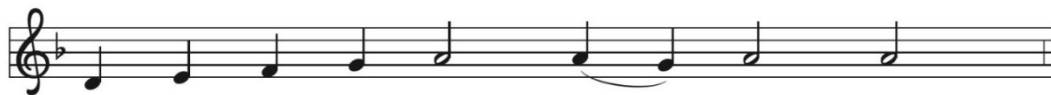
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



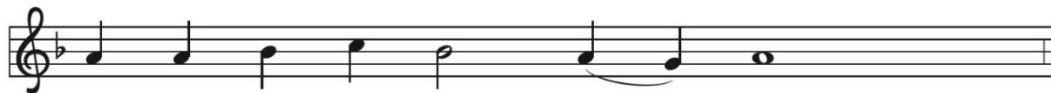
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



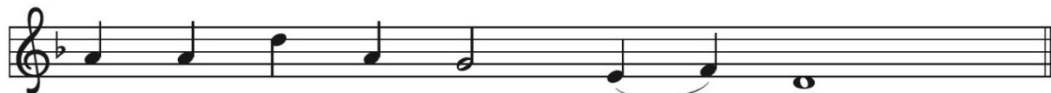
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim and guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

***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.**

***Peace**

**The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

We welcome you to Redeemer Lutheran Church this day! In-person worshippers can place their offering in the offering plate at this time. Your tithes and offerings submitted via the Postal Service or electronically are also gratefully appreciated. Also at this time, please take a minute to sign the red book and the end of pews and pass it down. Thank you!

***Offertory**

Take Me Lord
sing twice

STS #41

Take me, Lord, I give to you,
everything and all I do!
My love, my life, is my offering
that I give to you.

***Offering Prayer**

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.

***Prayers of the Church**

...Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

***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



SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Benediction**

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Rise Up, O Saints of God

ELW #669

All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried from the sanctuary.

Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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***Dismissal**

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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ASSISTING IN MINISTRY

Presiding: Rev. Stephanie White

Ushers: Denice Nelson

Acolytes:

Lector: Jan Anderson

Serving at the Altar:

Musicians: Paula Adamson, Dean Dalen and Scott Pream

Video: Dave Ulrich

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Dale Dillon, Kathy and Craig Slick, Hunter Crotty, Joe Caswell Family, ,
The Marlys Anderson Family, Shane Defreece, Mike and Kathy Barry
Family, Tom Goddard Families, Larry Forsberg and Family, Hannah
Holthouse, Roger Forsberg, Nancy Killian, Heather Stein, Kristie
Huseth, Diane Brooks, Jon Christianson, Tom Gustafson, Tamara
Vaughan, Darren Bakke, Rick Harbott, Michelle Kasprick, Shari
Safranski, Barb Horien, Rick and Tami Hanson, Rose Teie, Fern Melbye,
Laurie Miller, Adam Holthouse (deployed to Iran.)

If you have anyone to add to the prayer list, please let Pastor Steph or the office know.

WELCA Conference 2 Fall Gathering will be October 17th beginning at 8:30 a.m.
At Silver Creek Lutheran Church in TRF. Guest speaker is Glenice Johnson. Cost is \$10 Hope to see you there!



Altar flowers are given today by
Pastor Steph
In thanksgiving for her grandchildren
Charlotte, Annabelle, Hannah,
Archibald and Polina.
And in memory of Rev. Gerald White's
100th birthday.
Altar flowers are also given by
Nate and Dianne Stroh
In loving memory of
Wayne and Donna Peterson.

Quarterly statements are available upon request; please contact Marit at the church office.

**Week Ending
September 13, 2026
\$ 3,743.82**



Volunteers are needed to read, usher and serve communion. If you can help out in any of these roles, please fill out a volunteer sheet found on our new church app. Thank you for sharing your time and talents.

The 36th Annual Hospice Spaghetti Dinner will be October 5th beginning at 5p.m. There is a sign up sheet by the east door for donations of treats and times.

Everyone is welcome to come enjoy the Coffee Cart every Thursday from 9am to 11am. Bring a friend and come have coffee, tea, or another beverage along with a treat.

Coming this week:

Monday, September 28 – 11:00 OPNH and Valley Home

Tuesday, September 29 – 9:00 Quilters

3:30 Techy Tuesday

Wednesday, September 30 – 9:30 Staff

5:45 J.A.M.

6:30 Evening Prayer Worship

7:00 Soul Shop for Grades 6-9

Thursday, October 1 – 9:00 Coffee Cart with Katelyn

1:00 OPNH and TRFCC

Sunday, October 4 – 9:30 – Worship – Blessing of the Animals

6:30 – Viewing of “The Chosen” Season 6 Episode 1

Bethany Lutheran Smorgasbord Dinner is October 11th beginning at 11:30. Enjoy a Scandinavian Meatball dinner with all the fixings. Cost is \$20

Food Drive carts are out in the Narthex. Please remember to bring a donation to help the hungry in our community. All donations will be brought to the local food shelf. Thank you! The theme is **Kid Friendly!**

Please download the app for Redeemer on your electronic devices. If you are needing help with this, please contact Katelyn. Stop in and she will help get the app downloaded to your electronic devices, show you how it works and answer any questions you may have.

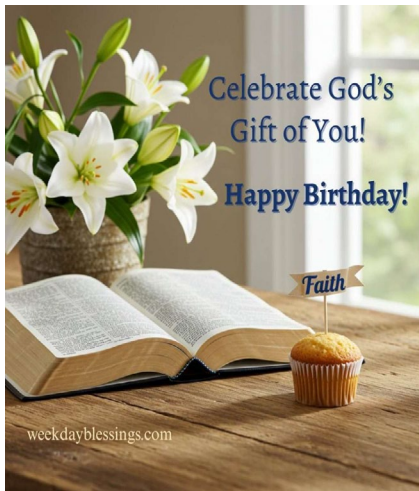
The 2nd Annual Hootenanny will be on October 25th at 5:00 p.m. Hot dog lunch will be served. Come and join in the fun!

Confirmation pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 7th.

Confirmation will be on October 25th this year.

 A grief support group meets on the 3rd Thursday at 1:30 p.m. each month at the Heritage Center. Open to all adults dealing with the loss of a loved one through death. All meetings are free. You may call 800-237-4629 with questions

September Birthdays



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Douglas Nomeland | 16. Anna Stroh |
| 3. April Scheinoha | 17. Beth Nordby-Pelletier |
| 4. Brandon Gehrl | Pat Thibert |
| Jason Svir | 18. Susan Froiland |
| Charlotte Aahles | Chuck Odegard |
| 6. Brady Bakken | 19. Chad Eckstein |
| 7. Mike Conely | 20. Jacob Hall |
| Brody Olson | Cole Johnson |
| 8. Dick Krogstad | 22. Cheryl Srnsky |
| | 23. Kayleigh Jesme |
| 11. Cody Weinen | 24. Brody Poe |
| Isabela Nelson | 25. Annah Haugen |
| 12. Andi Efteland | Kristen Bjerklie |
| Brooklyn Carlson | Hannah Holthouse |
| Jan Dillon | 26. Richard Holmes |
| 13. Tyson Gustafson | Marek Landgren |
| 14. Scott DCamp | 27. Baryth Halvorson |
| Teresa Fay | Rose Teie |
| Alyssa Nelson | Ken Niemela |
| Jami Philipp | 28. Aaron Myers |
| 15. Missy Hall | Hailey Kwick |
| Cameron Dahlin | 30. Olivia Schuster |