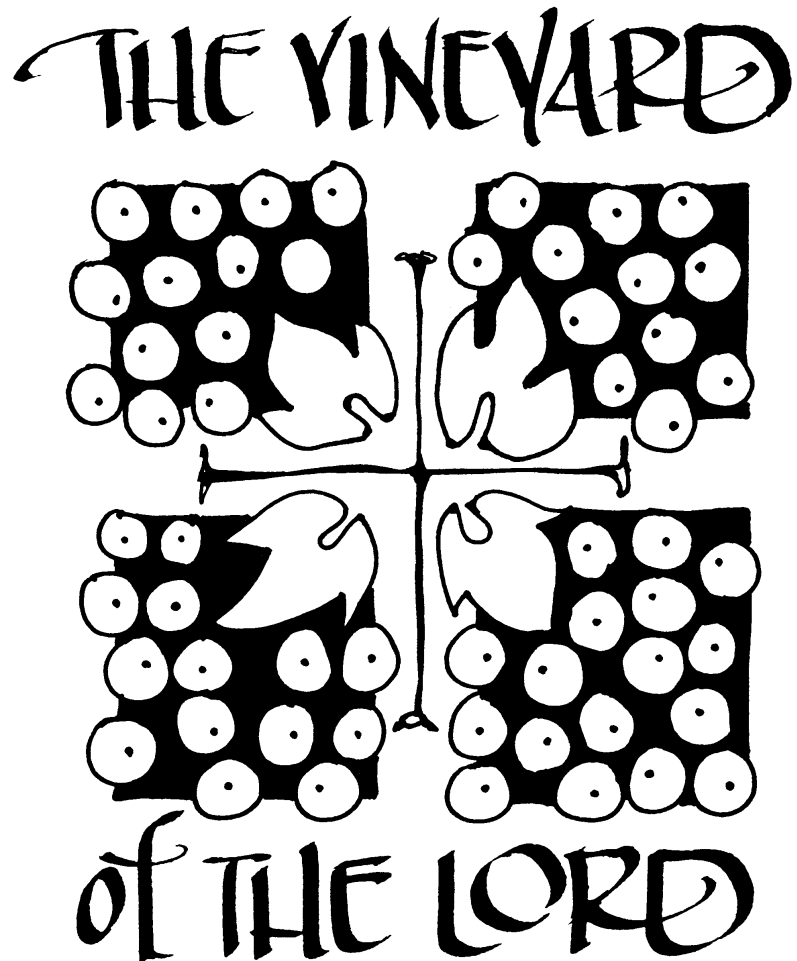


SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 4, 2026

October 4, 2026
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *All Creatures Worship God Most High* - Patricia Lou Harris

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.

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.

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.

***GATHERING SONG *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!* (ELW 835) vs 1,4,5,6**



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and

4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor

grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:

fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

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***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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 204)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM *Jesus Loves Me* - Rickey G. Shirley

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

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!

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

PSALM: Psalm 80:7-15

(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

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 | 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 | 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: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW S142A)**



***GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[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.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Terry Culler

*Please stand as you are able for the final verse.

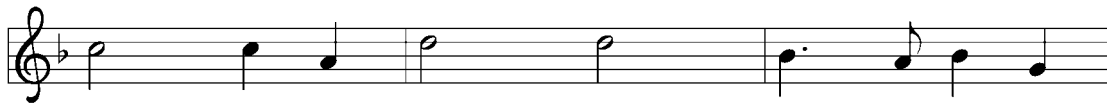
HYMN OF THE DAY *There in God's Garden* (ELW 342)



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
see there the ten - drils of our hu - man
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
self - hood feed on its life - blood.
stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord,
I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for;
now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

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Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***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.**

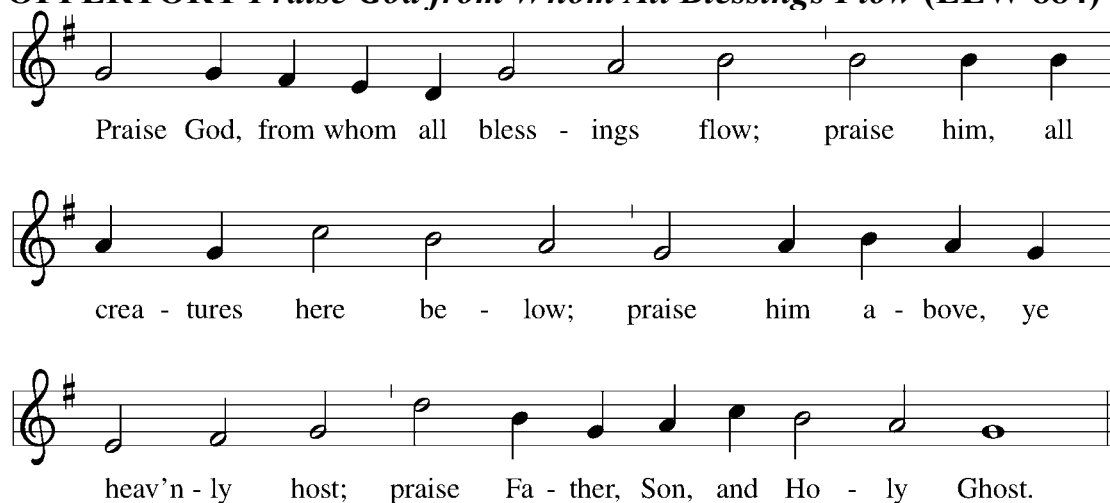
***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (please respond)

P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

***PEACE**

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

***OFFERTORY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* (ELW 884)**



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

***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.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

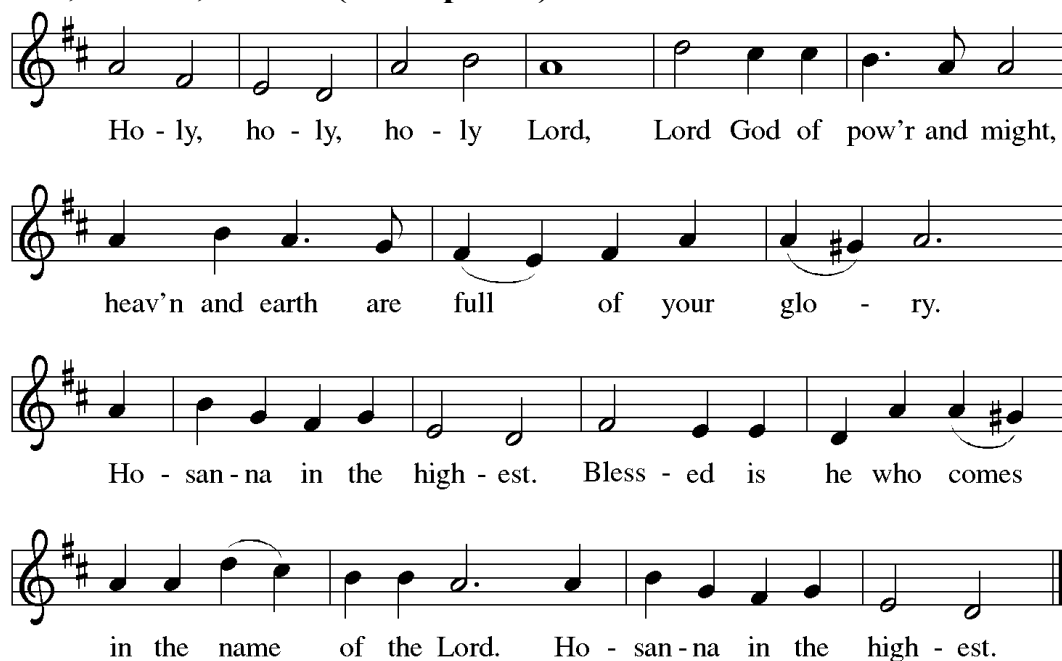
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

*PREFACE

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 (ELW p. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

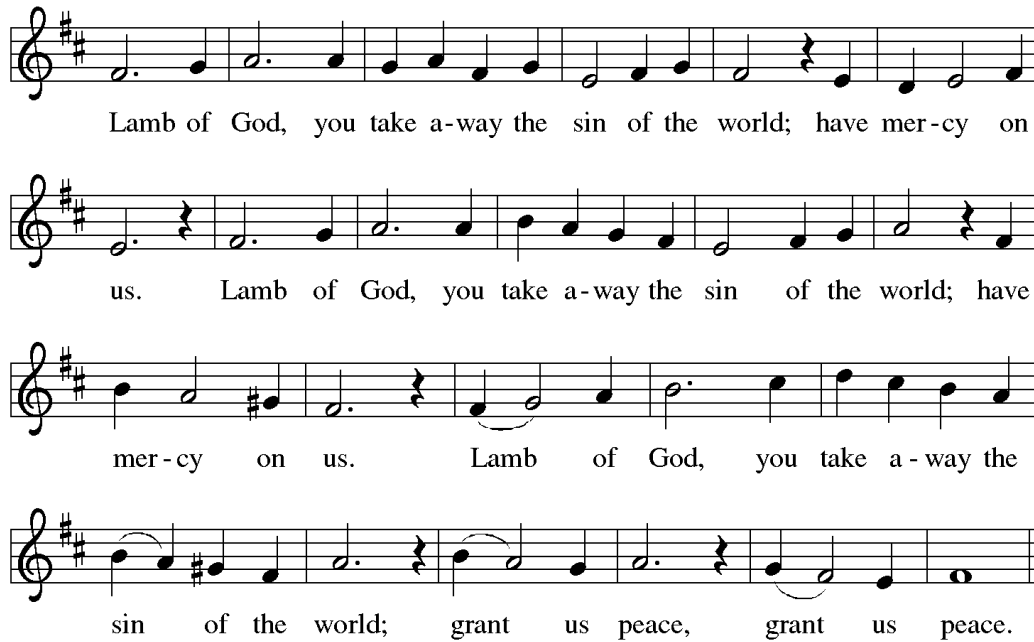
***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION TIME FOR QUIET MEDITATION

*COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

*BLESSING

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 SONG *The Church of Christ, in Every Age* (ELW 729)



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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***DISMISSAL**

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune on “Lasst uns erfreuen”* - David Lasky

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SERVING TODAY

Supply Pastor.....	Rev. Terry Culler
Church Office Email Address	office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Tana Vance
Acolyte	Wayne Dale
Lector.....	Bonney Coldsmith
Securing Offering.....	Becky Mull & Sarge Weaver
Communion Set-Up.....	Becky Pecha
Communion Clean-Up	Becky Pecha
Communion Assist	Marjorie Dale
Coffee Fellowship	Kathy Bowen & Linda Barkdoll
Attendance last Sunday.....	29

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the glory of God in memory of J. Austin Hess given by Mark, Sally, Abby, and Joy.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Christopher Frye, Dean of the Chambersburg Conference at 717-261-1213 (St. Luke’s Church, Scotland).

Prayer requests for the following: *Ellie Martin, Ina Shreiner, Dick & Vicki Reichard, Dick Amt, Phil Johnson, Betty Amt, Marie Dovey, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Sam Brooks, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Charles Carl, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Linda Mumaugh, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Weekly Calendar Reminders:

October 5 - W&M 6pm
6 - Christian Ed 7pm
8 - Finance Noon
Choir 7pm

Please welcome Pastor Terry Culler with a warm “thank you” for leading our worship service this morning.

Please check your church mailbox for your time and talent sheet and contribution commitment card.

Beginning October 7, we will begin Bible Study on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Sarge will be leading the study. At our first meeting we plan to have a short lesson and then discuss what our study lessons will be. If you have any ideas, please contact Sarge.

Power Pack Meals - Social Ministry is once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2026-2027 school year. Please place the items in the container in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put *Power Pack Meals* in the memo line, or place cash in an envelope and mark *power pack*.

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

On Sunday, October 11, Worship and Music will be sponsoring a luncheon following worship to celebrate Solomon's 260th Anniversary. Pastor Michael Allwein will serve as pastor on this special day. We hope to have a display of memorabilia of years gone by at Solomon's, from the log church to our present facility. Please look through photos and other materials regarding Solomon's that you would like to have displayed. Photos would include wedding, baptism, catechism, members, and church activities. Please contact Bonney Coldsmitth or any member of Worship and Music if you are willing to share items. The luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Center. Chicken will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring either a side dish or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet will be in

the Sunday School room. All members of Solomon's and previous members and their families are invited. Let's make this a special day of remembrance and fellowship.

The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

The 2026 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

Music Notes/Hymn Notes:

The choir anthem this morning uses a familiar hymn, "Jesus Loves Me", but done with a bit of a twist! The original hymn was written by Anna B. Warner, using a tune written by William B. Bradbury. The beginning uses a new melody with hints of the familiar, and then moves into the melody we all know and have loved since childhood.

Today's hymn of the day, "There in God's Garden," was written by hymnologist Eric Routley. It was inspired by a Hungarian Good Friday poem focusing on the imagery of the tree of life in Scripture. The hymn moves from Creation to Redemption. Jesus is depicted as the "Tree of Wisdom" or "Tree of Compassion." His branches bear the scars of human suffering and sin, yet the tree miraculously lives, offering healing, grace, and welcome to all weary people. It is frequently used during Lent, Good Friday, or in general worship as we do this morning. (hymnary.org)