

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



TOWN & COUNTRY LUTHERAN CHURCH

4049 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821

(916) 481-2542 | TCLutheranChurch.org

September 20, 2026

WELCOME

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and our Lord Christ Jesus. We're glad you found your way to us. If you're feeling lost, please be sure to reach out to your neighbor, and they will be happy to answer any questions you might have. We hope you feel welcome and comfortable at Town and Country.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We are very delighted you are here today. We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, encourage, and bless you all. At Town and Country, we want you to feel at home.

- First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and giggle a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed. Children are always welcome.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please sit toward the front where your children can easily see. Encourage them to note the colors, hear the music, watch the pastor, and embrace the action at the altar. What Jesus is doing here promises to engage them.
- As we go along, softly explain the liturgy to your children, encouraging them to join in on parts. *Amen! Lord have mercy! Our Father!* These belong to them, too.
- Be sure to sing, speak, and pray your parts also as you sit and stand. Your children learn by following your lead.
- If you must leave, please hurry back. We want your children here with us!
- If you need any help, please ask. There are many people here who will lend you a hand.

Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing with you in Jesus words, **"Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."** (Luke 18:16-17 ESV)

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in peace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.



Town & Country

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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916.481.2542 | TCLutheranChurch.org

WELCOME TO TOWN AND COUNTRY

Feel free to take a copy of our monthly newsletter on the wall near the church entrance. We also have copies of the Portals of Prayer devotional booklets. Visitors may sign our Guest Book at the church entrance or fill out a Welcome Card found in the pew.

COMMUNION STATEMENT

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful gift given to us by God. In the bread and wine, Christ gives His body and blood to forgive sins, renews faith, and causes Godly and brotherly love to grow. We remember and praise God for the sacrifice Christ made on our behalf on the cross.

Out of pastoral concern and care and taking to heart the word in 1 Corinthians 11:28, "A person ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink of the cup." To receive this means of God's grace properly we should positively answer the following, "Do I need forgiveness for sin?" "Do I believe in Christ as my Savior?" Do I trust that Christ is present in the bread and wine?" Do I desire to turn from sin and live anew to God and to others in love and service?"

- If you are unsure about what it means to take the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor prior to the service.
- Children are invited to attend with folded hands below the rail to receive a blessing. Youth recently confirmed or who have completed an Early Communion class are encouraged to hold out their hand to assist the servers in distribution.
- Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the serving tray. Gluten free wafers are available by request.

Let us now celebrate the Love of the Lamb of God!

P = Pastor

C = Congregation

A = Assistant

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Disciples Live in Their Vocations by Grace through Faith in Christ

Those who are sent as “*laborers for his vineyard*” (Matt. 20:1) depict the wide diversity of vocations to which the disciples of Christ Jesus are called. Whatever our particular stations in life may be, we are called to live and serve by faith in His promises. Our labors do not merit anything before Him, for He is already generous to one and all without partiality. In mercy, He has chosen to bear “*the burden of the day and the scorching heat*” on our behalf, to make us equal to Himself and to give us what belongs to Him, that is, the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 20:12–15). This way of the Lord is foolishness to the world and foreign to our thoughts, but He draws near, so that “*he may be found*” (Is. 55:6), “*have compassion*” and “*abundantly pardon*” (Is. 55:7). So it is that we are found in Christ Jesus, and He is honored in our bodies, “*whether by life or by death*” (Phil. 1:20), by “*fruitful labor*” (Phil. 1:22) or by suffering. It is by faith in His forgiveness that our works are “*worthy of the gospel*” (Phil. 1:27).



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three (LSB 184)



PRELUDE

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION

ALL CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED | LSB 596

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stand

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C Amen.

EXHORTATION

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

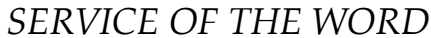
ABSOLUTION

[John 20:19–23]

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Stand



Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

C What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?

P I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

C Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.

P O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

GLORIA PATRI



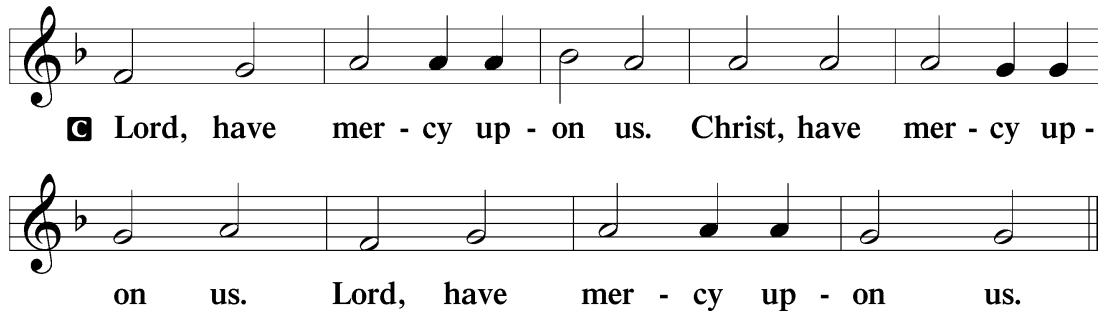
C Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE

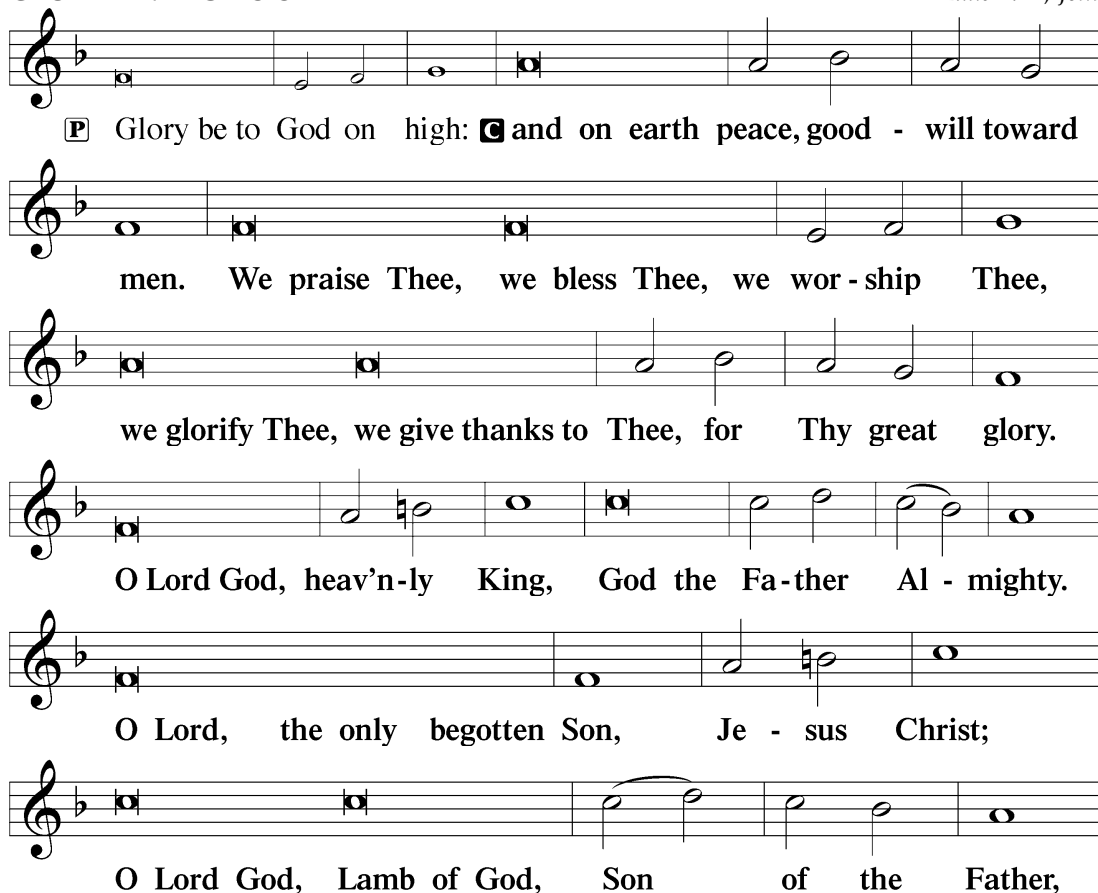
Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



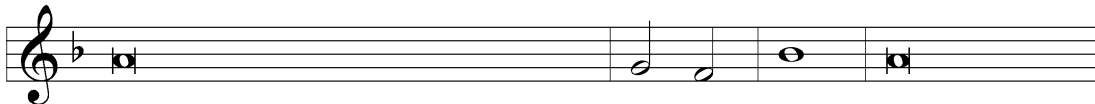
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



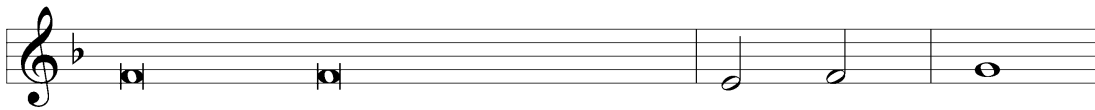
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us 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.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:6–9

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 55.

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

A The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 1.

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.

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 on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHOIR

LEAD ME, LORD

Stand

VERSE OF THE DAY

Ephesians 2:8

P Alleluia. By grace you have been saved through faith.

C And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1–16

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again

about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 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 worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME | LSB 555 (vs. 1-5)

SERMON

Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

OFFERING PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW | *Hand Bell Choir*
To help us know you and meet your needs, please fill in the **Worship Attendance Card** in your
pew and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

Stand



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

The close and response to each petition is...

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayer concludes...

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

C Amen.



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly meet, 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

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 testament 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."

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

HOW CLEAR IS OUR VOCATION, LORD | *LSB 853*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

SEEK WHERE YOU MAY TO FIND A WAY | *LSB 557*

Stand

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

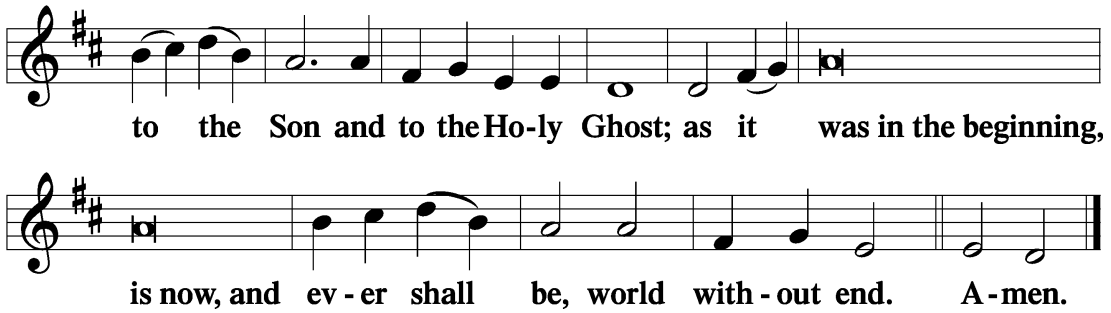
P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29–32

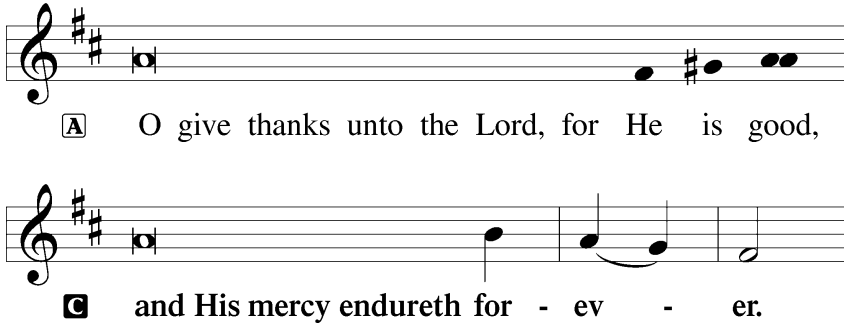
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

HYMN TO DEPART

SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME | *LSB 555 (vs. 6-10)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P The service is ended; go in peace, to love and serve our Lord.

C In the name of Jesus. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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VOTERS MEETING – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th

On the Agenda:

- **Discussion on Plant and Property prioritization of deferred maintenance**
- **Revisiting the Board of Directors – Voting on finalizing the slate:**
 - David Poddig has volunteered to help Tim Castleman with Plant and Property
 - Tom Matthews has volunteered to be Vice President in David Poddig's place

FIRST AID TRAINING

Special Safety Meeting on Saturday, September 26th – 11:00 AM

**Learn how to use the Heart Defibrillator, apply tourniquets,
operate the chair lift to the church balcony, etc...**

Lunch will be provided by Thrivent

Sign up at the church entrance so we know how much food to get.

OCTO-BUG-FEST

Saturday, October 3rd – 5:00 PM

Sign up at the church entrance to volunteer to help or bring food

If you would like to donate small antiques or food stuffs for a silent auction, please let Matt Kretzmann know. Peggy Poddig will be putting together baskets for the silent auction. If you would like to volunteer to help, see Peggy.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Keep an eye out for “Contact information update sheets” that we will be using to update your member info for the new upcoming church directory. If you know that your info is new since our last directory and needs to be updated (address, phone number, email address) please email: matt@tclutheranchurch.org.

We will be printing the new church directory with pictures! We are looking for a volunteer to photograph our members. Contact the church office if you would like to volunteer, or if you know anyone who would like to help. Thank you!

I choose to give to the last the same as I give to you



M A T T H E W 2 0 : 1 4

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Pastor Trevor Mankin

Lay Ministers Rich Nelson, David Poddig

Ushers John & Julie Parrish,
Dave Scholz, Dan Smith

Greeters David Poddig

Organist/Pianist Paul Krieg

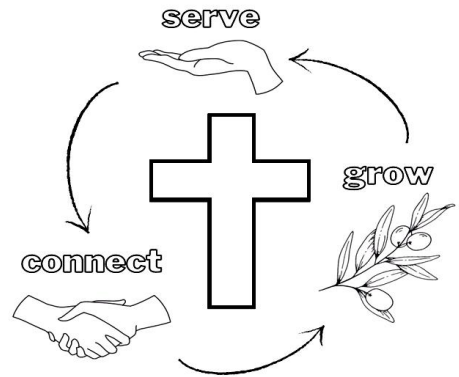
Reader Sue Matthews

Screen Ben Dotson

Sound Tom Matthews

Altar Guild Sue Damro, Lisa Smith, Ann Kretzmann

Fellowship Tracy Sanderson, Kirk Schild



PRAYER REQUESTS

Jim Coviello – on hospice care after hospitalization.

Prayer requests to be included in morning prayers can be given to an usher before church, who will pass it on to the Pastor.

If you want to request prayer from “The Prayer Connection” please call Marge Otto (916) 481-3593 – After 6 PM please call Tracy Sanderson (916) 396-0846

PRAYER LIST

Serving Jesus at home...

Yvonne Jones

Harold Kaden

Tom Stoner

Jody Stewart

Gary Wiedeman

PASTORAL CARE *Contact Pastor Mankin:*

Email: pastor.mankin@outlook.com

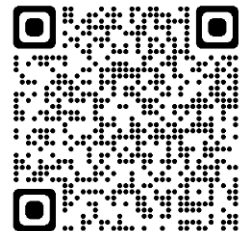
Phone: 916-481-2542 ext. 2

VANCO ONLINE GIVING

Scan the QR code to start giving!

You can download the Vanco Mobile App for iPhone or Android smart phones. Visit your app store today to start online giving, where you can set up reoccurring payments, choose the fund of your choice (LWML, Flowers, Memorials, Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, etc...), or donate a one- time gift.

Thank you for your contributions!



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

September 20 - 27, 2026

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

9:30 am **Divine Service**

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am **Education Hour**

Children's Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7:00 pm BUGs Bible Study

9:00 am Senior Care Solutions Event

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

10:00 am Joy in the Morning Bible Class

6:00 pm Bells Practice

6:30 pm Choir Practice

7:00 pm **Living the Catechism Service**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

7:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Flapjacks

9:30 am Ladies Bible Class

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

10:00 am Quilters and Crafters

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

11:00 am First Aid Training

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9:30 am **Divine Service**

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am **Education Hour**

Children's Sunday School & Adult Bible Class

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
phone: 916-481-2542 | fax: 916-514-5057

PORTALS OF PRAYER

Daily devotion booklets for October-December are available at the church entrance.

TABLETS FOR LIVE STREAM

We are looking for a volunteer to be in charge of getting the worship services distributed to our homebound members. We have several tablets that need to be prepped and distributed. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

HARVEST FIELD

We continue to pray for our loved ones, for the faith that we are blessed with by the Holy Spirit to call upon them:

**Adam D., Louis F., Travis P,
Mike B. & Paul F.**

You may add to the list at the church entrance, if you want fellow church members to pray for everlasting life-giving faith for your loved ones.