



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist II

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 26, 2026

10:00 am



Entry into Worship



✠ Opening Acclamation ✠

Blessed be God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

God of grace and God of glory

Hymnal, #594

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Children depart for Children's Chapel

❧❧❧ The Lessons



Old Testament

Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ² Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvelous works.
- ³ Glory in his holy Name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- ⁴ Search for the LORD and his strength; continually seek his face.
- ⁵ Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- ⁶ O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.
- ⁷ He is the LORD our God; his judgments prevail in all the world.
- ⁸ He has always been mindful of his covenant, the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- ⁹ The covenant he made with Abraham, the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- ¹⁰ Which he established as a statute for Jacob, an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- ¹¹ Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan to be your allotted inheritance."
- ^{45b} Hallelujah!

New Testament

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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



Gospel Hymn

Surely it is God who saves me

Hymnal, #679



The Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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



Sermon

The Rev. Glenda Empsall



The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,*

*God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.*

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*



The Prayers of the People



Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Concluding Collect



Confession and Absolution of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Children return from Children's Chapel



The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Greet one another with the peace of Christ.



Announcements

Offering



Offertory Hymn

Not here for high and holy things

Hymnal, #9 (vs. 4,5,6)



The Holy Eucharist



✠ The 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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

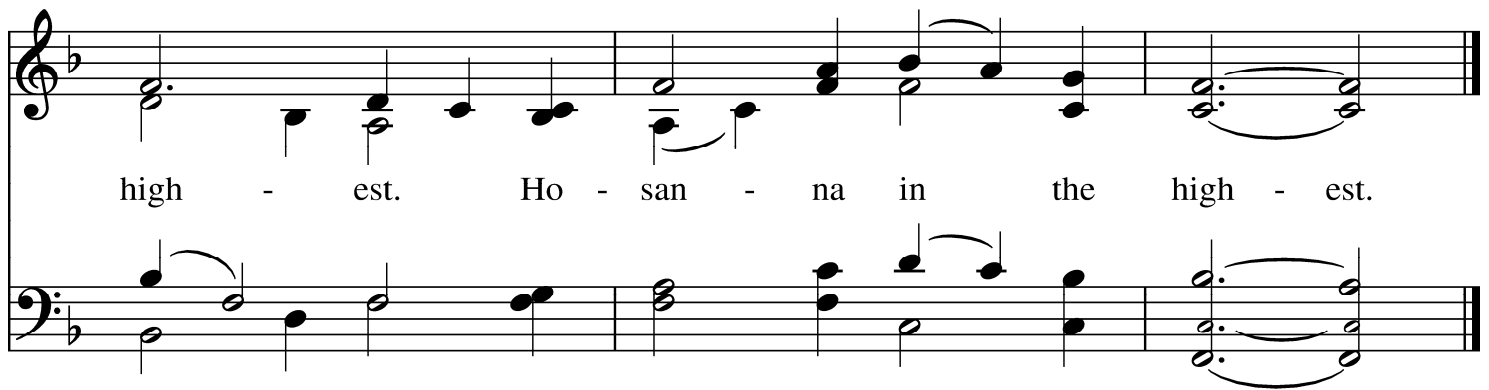
WLP, #858

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven 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



Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).



We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours,
Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

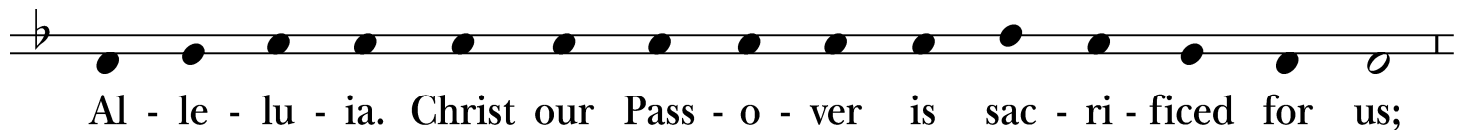
The Lord's Prayer

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal, #S-152



1. Nest-ling bird nor star in heav - en, Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 2. From all e - vil things He spares them, In His might - y arms He bears them.
 3. Un - to them His grace He show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 4. At the will of your de - fend - er Ev - ery per - son must sur - ren - der.
 5. His the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Words: Carolina Sandell-Berg, 1955; tr. Ernest W. Olson, 1925. Music: Swedish Folk Melody. Text Translation: Copyright © Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer after Communion

*Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
 and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
 Now send us forth into the world as a people forgiven, healed, renewed;
 that we may proclaim your love to the world
 and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*



Sending into the World



Hymn

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Hymnal, #530

Blessing and Dismissal

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Thanks be to God.*

The Liturgy is drawn from a combination of sources:

*The Book of Common Prayer (Rite II); The Book of Occasional Services; Enriching Our Worship;
 and adaptations to prayers made by the Rector of St. Luke's.*

Serving Today

Preacher	Deacon Glenda
Readers	Kari Romeo, John Empsall
Chalice/Cruet	Jean Imperatrice, Cary Miller
Acolyte	Reese Johnson
Ushers	Rod Kalberg, Marcia Siring
Altar Guild	Michelle Johnson
Technology	Michelle Johnson
Greeter	Kari Romeo
Children's Chapel	Mike Dolan
Coffee Hour	Nan and Dave Palmer

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Dr. David Gortner	Rector
The Rev. Glenda Empsall	Deacon
DeDe Pederson	Parish Administrator
Erica Waterman	Lay Minister, Christian Formation
Eric Betz	Choir Director
Ty Peterson	Organist



Welcome to St. Luke's! We are so glad to have you join us in worship and fellowship. We are a reconciling, affirming and inclusive Christian community. We welcome all people in worship, love and service just as God created them.



God is with you. You are loved. You are welcome here, as we seek to follow Jesus on his Way of Love. Join us as we seek to move deeper in faith, closer in bonds of love, and wider in our sharing, celebrating, and embodying of Jesus' overflowing, unconditional love in North Idaho.

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