

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool



Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Lectionary 25

Sunday, 9:30 am, September 21, 2025

Monday, 7:30 pm, September 22, 2025

Ministers - The People of God

The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor

The Reverend Dr. Toby L. Tobias, Pastoral Associate

Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon

Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon

Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music

Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist

The Reverend Bruce Kaifler, Preaching and Presiding

Dcn. Kathy Pucci, Ms. Doris Meyer, Mr. Jim Meyer, Ms. Corlyn Nedwick, Ms. Kathy Smith, Assisting

Ms. Annaleah Lagnese, Greeter

Ms. Carlee Betts, Ms. Jahnae Mickens, Acolytes

Mr. Paul Farber, Usher

Ms. Amanda Vaccaro, Usher Monday Evening

Ms. Sandra Luethi, Ms. Jean Forberg, Mr. Marc Sorensen, Readers

Mr. Liam Maynard, Mr. Aiden Dallaqua, Greeters Monday Evening

Ms. Cyndi Nichols, Bread Baker

Ms. Jean Oblak, Altar Guild

, Video Production

Ms. Marialaina Sheehan, Preschool Director



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Welcome to Worship!
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Lectionary 25
September 21, 2025, 9:30 am
Abiding Presence Church and Preschool

INTRODUCTION

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. “Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all.” Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God’s gracious favor we have everything we need.

PRELUDE

“Elevation”

Paul Benoit

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

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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.

GATHERING HYMN 685 *“Take My Life, That I May Be”*



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 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.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please sit

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

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

A Reading from Amos

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

⁵ saying, “When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,

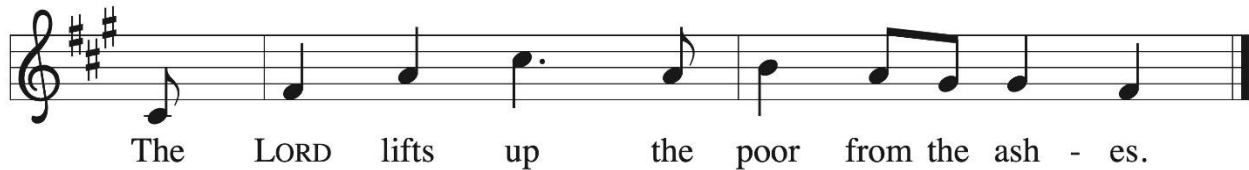
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

⁷ The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 113 (*Cantor sings verses. All sing response.*)

Response



Psalm 113:7

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

- ¹ Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- ² O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations. **R**
- ³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- ⁴ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. **R**

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

A Reading from 1 Timothy

- ¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and

dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time.⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL



Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to You, O Lord

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot

be my manager any longer.’³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.’⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.”¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL



Please sit

REFLECTION

Pr. Kaifler

Please stand as you are able

HYMN 589

“All Depends on Our Possessing”



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's free grace and
2 God, who hith - er - to has fed me and to man - y
3 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope my heart a -
4 Well you know what best to grant me; all the long - ing
5 If on earth my days should length - en, God, my wea - ry



con - stant bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me, is and ev - er shall be mine.
new will quick - en, all my long - ing shall be stilled.
hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.
soul still strength - en; all my trust in you I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en by their God are
God, who did so gent - ly school me and who dai - ly
To your lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der all my be - ing
I shall doubt your wis - dom nev - er; as you will, so
Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing; like a stream a -



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
I sur - ren - der; Lord, on you a - lone I build.
be it ev - er; I com - mit to you my way.
way it's glid - ing; safe I an - chor in your grace.

Text: Gesangbuch, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

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 OF INTERCESSION (Response: "receive our prayer.")

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need, responding "receive our prayer."

A brief silence.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our

stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, especially Dylan, Karin, Betty, Laurie, Jennifer, Doris, Bill, Jim, Anthony, Karen, Joan, Matt, Grace, Richard, Lucille, Bobby, Mariette, Ella, Jessica, [], those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

SHARING OF PEACE

Please sit

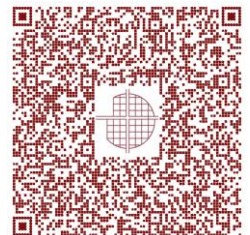
ANTHEM

“Open My Eyes/Amazing Grace”

***Jessie Manibusan arranged by Kathy McGrath and Michelle MacAller
Choir of the Abiding Presence***

OFFERING

**NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE**



Please stand as you are able

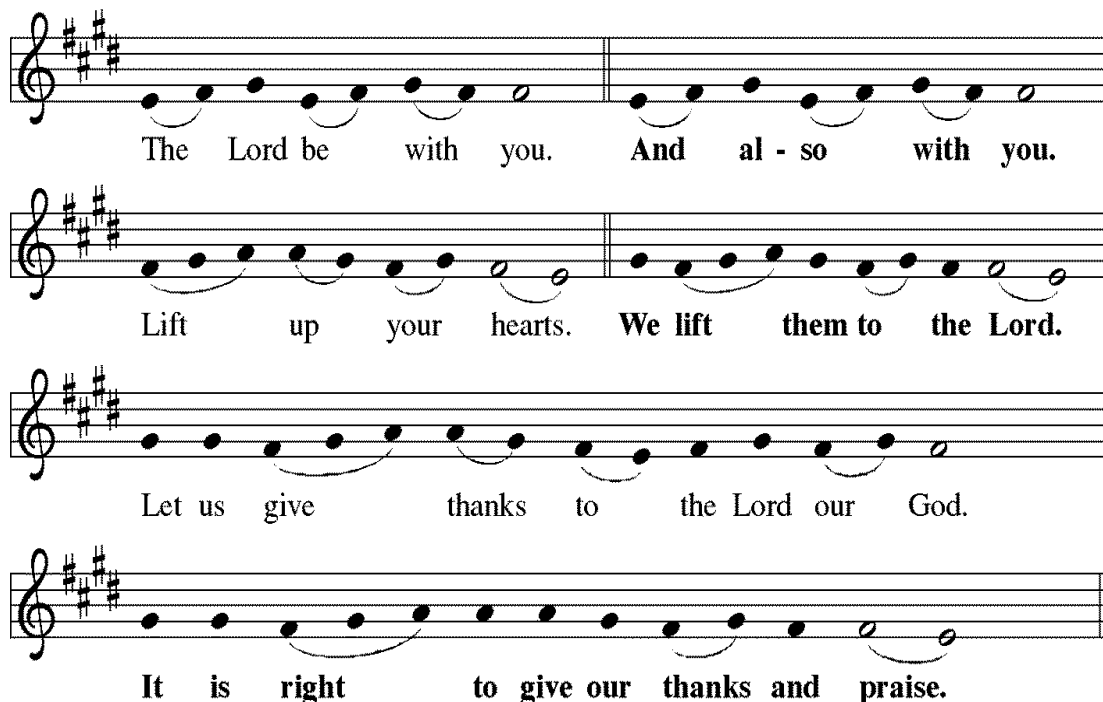
OFFERING HYMN 182 “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



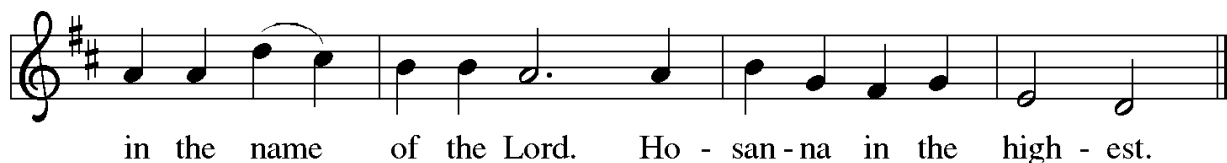
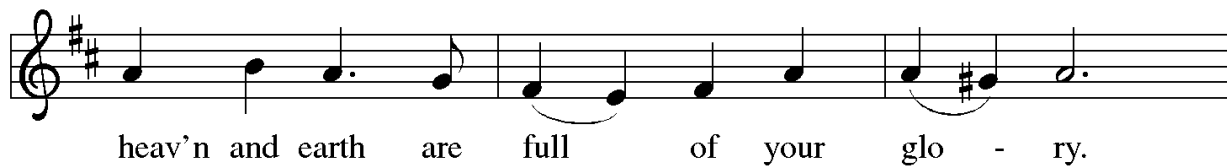
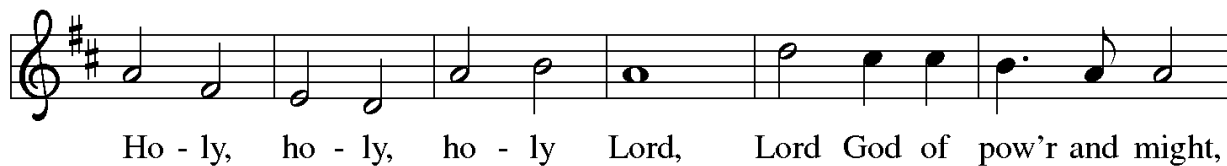
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

P: 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:



THANKSGIVING AT TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.
Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

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.

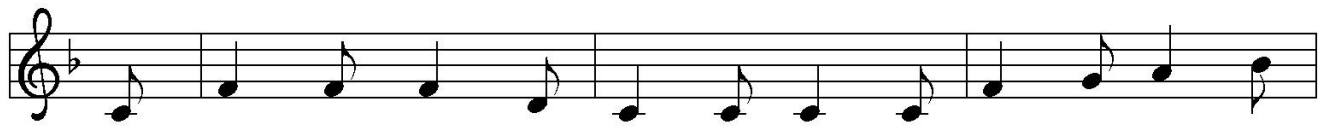
THE DISTRIBUTION

All who believe that along with the bread and wine we receive the true Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to the Lord's table to receive the Sacrament. The Sacrament will be distributed in one or two continuous lines at the main aisle.

The bread is received in the hand and the communicant then proceeds to a gold chalice for intinction or to a crystal chalice to drink from the common cup, or if so desired, the communicant may receive only the bread. Please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten free wafer. Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

COMMUNION HYMN 482

"I Come with Joy"



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Please stand as you are able

BLESSING

POST COMMUNION HYMN 207 *"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you his peace, In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 669 *“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

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

C: All are welcome!

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Prelude and Fugue”

F. W. Zachow

IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Anthony, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Karin Bergesen, Betsey Berry, Betty Bose, Brenda, Ron Bruens, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Christel Clausen, The Colozzi Family, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doino, Mary Donnelly, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Wendy Erlandson, Paul Farber, Felix, Ralph Gallo, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Charlie Hoffman, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Manda and Herbert Holzmman, Jennifer Howard, Viv Isakson, Dylan Israelian, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Judy Korsh, Erik Krisch, Kristen, Terry Lago, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Loretta Lusteg, Laurie Mandel, Mel, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Katy Monte, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Kim Nallan, Robert Nedwick, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joan and Matt Reilly, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Bill Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Susan Salerno, The Seale Family, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Suzanne Stoklosa, Stan Stone, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Theresa Tyers, Michael Wagner, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Jason Ericksen, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Elaine. Happy Heavenly Birthday from, Jayne and John Hogan.

Daily Bible Readings for Year C (September 21 – September 28)

From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 9/21	<i>Lectionary 25</i> Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	<i>Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 Psalm 119:33-40 Ephesians 2:4-10 Matthew 9:9-13
Mon 9/22	Psalm 12 Proverbs 14:12-31 Acts 4:1-12	
Tues 9/23	Psalm 12 Proverbs 17:1-5 1 Corinthians 9:19-23	
Wed 9/24	Psalm 12 Proverbs 21:10-16 Luke 20:45—21:4	
Thur 9/25	Psalm 146 Proverbs 22:2-16 2 Corinthians 8:8-15	
Fri 9/26	Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:3-10 Ephesians 2:1-10	
Sat 9/27	Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:11-28 Luke 9:43b-48	
Sun 9/28	<i>Lectionary 26</i> Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31	

Monday, September 22, 2025
7:30 pm

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

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.

GATHERING HYMN 685 *“Take My Life, That I May Be”*



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 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.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to You, O Lord

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may

welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

REFLECTION

Pr. Kaifler

Please stand as you are able

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “receive our prayer.”)

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need, responding “receive our prayer.”

A brief silence.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

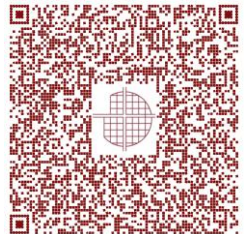
Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, especially Dylan, Karin, Betty, Laurie, Jennifer, Doris, Bill, Jim, Anthony, Karen, Joan, Matt, Grace, Richard, Lucille, Bobby, Mariette, Ella, Jessica, [], those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

SHARING OF PEACE

OFFERING NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE



OFFERING HYMN 182 “*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*”

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray: Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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 our 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.

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, God of power and might, heaven 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.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

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

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI



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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Gluten-free wafers are available. When you come forward, please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.


We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 669 *“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 - gulfs 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

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

C: All are welcome!

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Hymns reprinted by permission under One License Annual License # A-726431.

Liturgy reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Annual License # SAS003536.

IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Anthony, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Karin Bergesen, Betsey Berry, Betty Bose, Brenda, Ron Bruens, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Christel Clausen, The Colozzi Family, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doino, Mary Donnelly, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Wendy Erlandson, Paul Farber, Felix, Ralph Gallo, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Charlie Hoffman, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Manda and Herbert Holzmman, Jennifer Howard, Viv Isakson, Dylan Israelian, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Judy Korsh, Erik Krisch, Kristen, Terry Lago, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Loretta Lusteg, Laurie Mandel, Mel, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Katy Monte, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Kim Nallan, Robert Nedwick, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joan and Matt Reilly, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Bill Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Susan Salerno, The Seale Family, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Suzanne Stoklosa, Stan Stone, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Theresa Tyers, Michael Wagner, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Jason Ericksen, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Elaine. Happy Heavenly Birthday from, Jayne and John Hogan.

Daily Bible Readings for Year C (September 21 – September 28)

From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 9/21	<i>Lectionary 25</i> Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	<i>Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 Psalm 119:33-40 Ephesians 2:4-10 Matthew 9:9-13
Mon 9/22	Psalm 12 Proverbs 14:12-31 Acts 4:1-12	
Tues 9/23	Psalm 12 Proverbs 17:1-5 1 Corinthians 9:19-23	
Wed 9/24	Psalm 12 Proverbs 21:10-16 Luke 20:45—21:4	
Thur 9/25	Psalm 146 Proverbs 22:2-16 2 Corinthians 8:8-15	
Fri 9/26	Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:3-10 Ephesians 2:1-10	
Sat 9/27	Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:11-28 Luke 9:43b-48	
Sun 9/28	<i>Lectionary 26</i> Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31	

THE PARISH COUNCIL

*If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.*

Joanne Pittfick, President
Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
Brian Ansink, Fellowship
Karen Garone, Finance
Karen Alicata, Treasurer
Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
Arthur Wakefield, Assistant Treasurer
Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
Marina Bedrossian, Youth
Rich Doino, Property
Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
Betty Bose, Music and Worship
Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
Paul Farber, Stewardship
Lauri Christiansen-Wegener, Outreach and Marketing (Evangelism)

+++++

Sunday Schedule	9:30am In person	The Holy Eucharist
	and Live stream via YouTube	
Sunday school N3 – Grade 5	9:30am In person	
Monday Schedule	7:30pm In person	The Holy Eucharist



ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL
Route 25A & Sunken Meadow Road, 4 Trescott Path
Fort Salonga, New York

Church Office: 631-269-6454 School Office: 631-269-4898

Church: www.abidingpresencechurch.org **email:** abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com
Preschool: www.abidingpresencepreschool.com **email:** aplcpreschool@gmail.com

OUR MISSION

The mission of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, a spiritual home centered in Christ and community, is to share Jesus' love in our words and in our works as we welcome all to the family of God.