



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

Hope Lutheran Church of Rossmoor

www.hoperossmoor.org

925-709-4673 (Voicemail ONLY)

The Rev. Andreas Pielhoop, Pastor

Prelude

Instrumental Music

Jaxon Schlagenhauf

Welcome & Introduction

Pastor Tim Philips

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

All: **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God’s children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

All: **Amen.**



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Greeting

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

All: **And also with you.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

All: **Amen.**



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Tim Philips

P: Let us all pray together.

All: **O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Jack Padley

The prophet sings about a beautiful vineyard, carefully planted and cultivated, that nevertheless yields wild grapes. The owner therefore determines to destroy the vineyard, which represents the sinful people of Israel and Judah.

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!

Psalm 82

Jack Padley & Congregation

¹ God stands to charge the divine council assembled, giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

² **“How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?”**

³ Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;

⁴ **rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

⁶ **Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High;**

⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince.’”

⁸ **Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Jack Padley

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days.

³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th Chapter

Pastor Tim Philips

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God’s call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided: father against son and son

against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” ⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

P: The Gospel of Our Lord
All: Praise to You, O Christ.

Special Music *Gift of Music* **Chase Wilcox**

Message **Pastor Tim Philips**

Hymn of the Day *We Plow the Fields and Scatter – ELW 681 (vs 1,3)* **Judy Ryken**



1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Apostles' Creed

Pastor Tim Philips

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Pastor Tim Philips

Each petition ends with: *Hear us, O God,* **Response: Your mercy is great.**

Offering

We invite you to place your **Offering** in the offering plate as it is passed.

Special Music

Gift of Music

Chase Wilcox

Offering Prayer

P: As we lift up our offerings to the Lord, let us pray.

All: **Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Holy Communion: Words of Institution

Pastor Tim Philips

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

At Hope we practice Open Communion. We believe the invitation to the table comes from Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, you do not need to be a member of this or any other congregation to join in the meal. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the pastor know you prefer one when your turn comes. To preserve the solemnity as guests at Christ's table, please return silently to your seat and refrain from talking while others receive Holy Communion. There will be plenty of opportunity afterwards at our coffee hour.

Instrumental Music

Jaxon Schlagenhauf

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray.

All: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

Blessing (Please stand as you are able)

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Peace I Leave With You

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth,
give I unto you; Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled; Neither let it be afraid.
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Amen.*

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

Pastoral Needs – While Pastor Andreas is on retreat Aug 9-18, please call Margaret Anderson or Robin Kanno if you need pastoral care. They will call St. Matthew to provide coverage.

Meet with Pastor Andreas – Pastor Andreas will have office hours on August 21 from 1pm-3pm in Card Room 1 upstairs at Stanley Dollar Clubhouse. You can make an appointment but walk-ins are welcome too.

Thank you to **Pastor Tim Philips** for being our presider and homilist today while Pastor Andreas is on retreat in New Mexico.

Birthday Blessings go out to **Carolyn Schick** who celebrates her birthday on Aug 19; **Stella Tang** who celebrates her birthday on Aug 22

Thank you to **Chase Wilcox** for providing special music for today's worship!

Hope Constitution Changes and Congregational Meeting Timeline – Changes are needed in the Hope Constitution. To make changes to the Constitution requires approval of Hope’s members at a Congregational Meeting. Our Congregational meeting will be held on September 7 right after worship. This is a very important meeting for all members of the congregation to vote on the changes to the Hope Constitution. Only full members are eligible to vote. Leading up to the Congregational Meeting, an email will be sent out to members on Wednesday, August 20 with the updated Constitution showing the changes. Please look over these changes which will be highlighted in yellow. It won’t take a long time to review them. On Sunday, August 24, during fellowship, we will have a question-and-answer session about the changes. On Sunday, September 7, we will have a Congregational Meeting to vote on the proposed changes.

60 Year Jubilee Love Offering - Hope’s ministry has served and prospered in Rossmoor for sixty years. Let’s keep it going strong. In recognition of our past and looking to the future, we have an opportunity to celebrate our 60th anniversary, preserve our music program, and ensure the success of our financial management partnership with St. Matthew with a love offering on September 7 and 14. Jubilee envelopes will be available at the welcome table.

Bible Study with Pastor Andreas – On Tuesday, August 19, we will meet at 2:00pm in the Bunker Room at Creekside. All are welcome.

Our Hope Church Council meets both in-person and via Zoom on Wednesday, August 20, at 1pm at the Stanley Dollar Clubhouse in the Garden Room (downstairs). This will be a hybrid meeting.

Our **Tenor-Bass (TTBB) Choir** will rehearse and sing at worship on Sunday, August 31, at 9:15am. Come join us!

Fourth Wednesday Lunch Group – On **Wednesday**, August 27, we will gather for food and fellowship in Jesus’ name at The Hangout at 11:30 a.m. Let Inge know, tel 217-819-8926, if you plan to attend so she can make a reservation.

Anchor Newsletter – if you are not currently receiving Hope’s Anchor newsletter and would like to, please give Robin your email address so you can be added to the distribution list.

Helpers & Worship Assistants for:

Today – August 17	Next Sunday – August 24
Presider Pastor Tim Philips	Presider Pastor Andreas
Altar Gerda, Kathy	Altar Gerda, Kathy
Greeters Karen Peterson, Bill Kuhnsman, Robin	Greeters Gwen Carlson, Jacqui Ewing, Robin
Lay Reader Jack Padley	Lay Reader Lina Hale
Communion Assistants Bill Kuhnsman, Robin	Communion Assistants Mark & Karen Krauth
Ushers Nancy Siebenand, Robin	Ushers Gerda Peterson, John Odne
Livestream Chase	Livestream Chase
Special Music Chase Wilcox	Special Music Michael Foreman

For both Sundays – We always need helpers for set-up and clean-up. **Set-up (9:30 am); Clean-up (12:15pm)**

Readings for next Sunday, Aug 24: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

Fellowship – Immediately following worship, please join us for a time of sharing coffee, goodies and great fellowship. Thank you to those helping with the set-up and clean-up. We ask one person from each table to bring their tray up to the counter at 12:15pm. This helps the clean-up tremendously. You are welcome to stay, socialize and drink coffee beyond that but we must have the clean-up completed by 1pm.

Rides to Church – Our volunteer drivers to worship are Sally Lionetti, Camilla Durham, Nancy Conrad (3rd, 4th, 5th Sundays only). If you need a ride to church, please contact them for the possibility of a ride.

Our Worship Service is available to live-stream and view online each week on our website. The link to the live-stream worship service is <https://bit.ly/3v6JTXm> The bulletin is available on the Hope website under the tab “Worship”. Select “Worship Bulletin” and click on the desired week.

Your Offering – If you would like to mail us your offering (including QCDs), please send it to: Hope Lutheran Church, 399 Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek CA 94598 (This is Hope’s mailing address, not our worship location).

Please remember in prayer: Doris Hendrickson, Brian Woolf, Inge Knight, Paula Tagliareni, Mary Lyn Padley, June Payne, Paul Gahl, Evelyn Olson, Tyler Smolens (Deanna Thomas’ grandson), Cynthia Benevent (Ced’s daughter), Carol Chong (Robin’s friend), Larry Deibler, Steve & Kathy Peterson, Julane Sampson