



20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

Hope Lutheran Church in Rossmoor

www.hoperossmoor.org

925-709-4673 (Voicemail ONLY)

The Rev. Andreas Pielhoop, Pastor

Judy Ryken, Director of Music and Cantor

Prelude

Instrumental Music

Carlyn Obringer

Welcome & Introduction

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

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, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

All: **Amen.**

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin. *[pause for reflection]*
Compassionate God,

All: **We confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

All: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

I Come with Joy - ELW 482 (vs 1, 2, & 5)

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
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
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.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

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.**

Hymn of Praise

Rise Up, O Saints of God - ELW 669 (vs 1 & 3)

1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: Let us all pray together.

All: **God who calls us to be the church in this place and time, we come together to celebrate Your presence among us. In this hour, as we sing and pray and listen, may you awaken in us a hope for the future. May our time together remind us why the church is needed in the world. Amen.**

First Reading: Exodus 32:1-14

Kathy Odne

After Israel sinned by worshipping the golden calf, Moses interceded with God to spare Israel, lest the Egyptians conclude that God had evil intents in the exodus. Moses reminds God of the promises God made to Israel's matriarchs and patriarchs.

¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ² Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me." ³ So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD." ⁶ They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel. ⁷ The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation." ¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Psalm 23

Kathy Odne & Congregation

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Acts 8:14-25**Kathy Odne***Peter and John in Samaria*

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, "Give me also this power so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." ²⁰ But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain God's gift with money! ²¹ You have no part or share in this, for your heart is not right before God. ²² Repent therefore of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. ²³ For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and the chains of wickedness." ²⁴ Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may happen to me." ²⁵ Now after Peter and John had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, proclaiming the good news to many villages of the Samaritans.

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.**The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd Chapter****Pastor Andreas Pielhoop****All: Glory to you, O Lord.***Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Praise to You, O Christ.**Special Music*****"I Sing th' Almighty Power of God"*****Hope Choir****Message****The Tangible Idol vs. The Invisible God****Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

Hymn of the Day

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet - ELW 523 (vs 1 & 3)

Refrain

Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain

walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

Apostles' Creed

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

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 Andreas Pielhoop

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.*

Instrumental Music

Carlyn Obringer

Offering Prayer

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

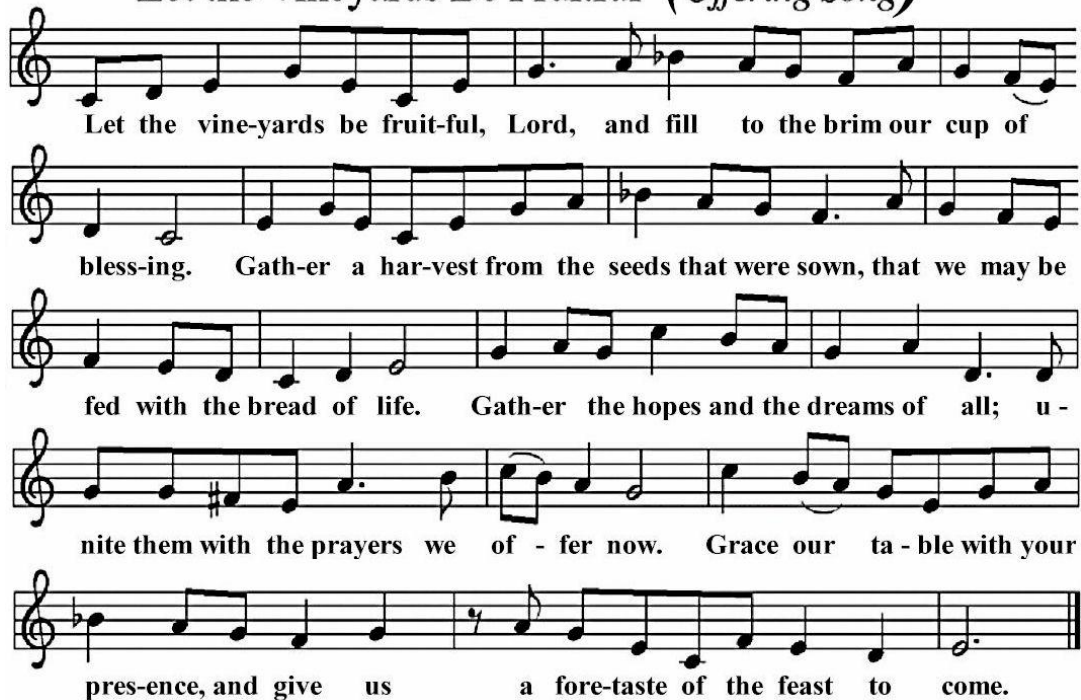
All: **Gift-giving God, for 61 years we have gathered in Rossmoor to share what we are and have. Help us continue this sharing of our time, talent, and treasure. May the gifts we give be gifts of Love. May they increase the power of Love in the re-creation of the world. Amen.**

Stewardship Prayer

P: We pray that we will make Stewardship a way of life.

All: **Eternal God, we pray that we will make stewardship a way of Life. We acknowledge you as the source of all we have and all we are. Help us to place you, our loving Creator, first in our lives by becoming more prayerful, more focused on loving and caring for our families and our neighbors in need, and by becoming less preoccupied with material things. Help us to hear your call to be good stewards, caretakers, and managers of all your gifts by sharing them for your purposes. Help us make your priorities our priorities and to put our faith into action. Help us plan to “give back” the talents, treasures and time with which we have been blessed. Help us plan to serve Hope, our community, and our world with your gifts. May we serve you and pray with a joyful spirit of mind and heart. Amen.**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (*Offering Song*)



Holy Communion: Words of Institution

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

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 opportunities afterwards at our coffee hour.

Instrumental Music

Carlyn Obringer

Prayer after Communion

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: Let us pray.

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

Blessing *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: We go back out into the world to love and serve the world around us,

All: **just as we have done for 61 years, so we continue to do so.**

P: We go out held in the loving arms of God who Creates, Redeems, Supports, and Sustains us.

All: **We are not alone! Thanks be to God. 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 out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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Announcements

A warm welcome to all who are here for the first time! We are delighted to have you join us for worship.

Pastoral Needs - For any pastoral need, you can call or text Pastor Andreas Pielhoop at 415-577-5461 or via email at pielhoop77@earthlink.net.

Happy 61st anniversary to Hope! Hope celebrated its first worship service in Rossmoor on Oct 10, 1965. On Sunday, Oct 11, 2026, we celebrate Hope's 61st anniversary.

Meet with Pastor Andreas – Pastor Andreas will have office hours on October 15 from 1pm-3pm in Card Room 1 upstairs at Stanley Dollar Clubhouse. You can make an appointment but walk-ins are welcome too.

Birthday Blessings go out to **Beth Vance** who celebrates her birthday on Oct 11; **Wayne Sampson** who celebrates his birthday on Oct 12.

Thank you to **the Hope Choir** for providing special music for today's worship!

Commitment Sundays - October 11 & 18 are Commitment Sundays. If you weren't able to fill out your estimate of financial support for 2027 yet, please do so today. You may place your Estimate of Giving form in the offering plate or you can give it to Robin. The yellow Estimate of Giving forms are on the greeting table. We are blessed to make a positive difference in the life of Hope through your commitments.

Hope Choir - Our **Hope Choir** rehearses AND sings at worship on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. Join us on **October 25** at 9:15am for rehearsal and then singing at worship. All are welcome.

Bible Study with Pastor Andreas – On Tuesday, October 20, we will meet at 2:00pm in the Bunker Room at Creekside. Please bring your own NRSV or NIV Bible.

SOCK-tober is here! This is one way Hope supports Trinity Center. Trinity distributes socks to the homeless population in Walnut Creek. Each \$20 donation will buy 10 pairs of socks. Checks should be made out to Hope Lutheran Church with “SOCKTOBER” in the memo line and placed in the collection basket. Socktober envelopes are available on the greeting table. Thank you for caring and sharing!

Helpers & Worship Assistants for:

Today – October 11	Next Sunday – October 18
Altar Priscilla, Sara	Altar Jean, Kathy
Greeters Forest & Diane Borene, Robin	Greeters Karen Peterson, Bill Kuhnsman, Robin
Lay Reader Kathy Odne	Lay Reader Nancy Conrad
Communion Assistants Nancy Conrad, Robin	Communion Assistants Jack & Mary Lyn Padley
Ushers Bill Kuhnsman, Ingrid Wood	Ushers Karen Peterson, Lois Nelson
Livestream Alyssa	Livestream Chase
Special Music Hope Choir	Special Music Bob Ingham

Readings for next Sunday, Oct 18: Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matt 22:15-22

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.

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, 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: Lina & Wally Hale, Brent Granado (Padley's son-in-law), Thom Faulkner (Jacqui Ewing's son), Carol Guillebeaux, Cheryl Murphy (Everett Arnold's sister), Bill Kuhnsman, Sigrid Beach, Jason Niemi, Sharon Lubkeman, Michael Bess (Barrie's son-in-law), Nancy Pierce (Margaret's friend), Steve Peterson