The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
October 11, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
9:00 a.m.



The Order of Matins - ELH page 109

1. Welcome

2. The Confession Of Sin

Pastor Dearly Beloved: We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

Congregation Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

Absolution

Pastor The almighty and most merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation Amen.

3. Opening Hymn #389 "A Hymn Of Glory Let Us Sing" (verses 1,5,6,7)

1 A hymn of glory let us sing!
New songs throughout the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascendeth to the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 O grant us thitherward to tend
And with unwearied hearts ascend,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Unto Thy kingdom's throne, where Thou,
As is our faith, art seated now.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 Be Thou our Joy and strong Defense,
Who art our future Recompense:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
So shall the light that springs from Thee
Be ours through all eternity.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to Thee let earth accord,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Who art, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. Opening Versicles

Pastor O Lord, open my lips.
♫ **Congregation** And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

Pastor Make haste, O God, to deliver me.
♫ **Congregation** Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: Forevermore. Amen. Alleluia.

5. The Invitatory and Venite *(Psalm 95)*

Pastor Oh come, let us worship the Lord.
♫ **Congregation** For He is our Maker.
Oh, come let us sing to the Lord:
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:
and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all Gods.
In His hand are the deep places of the earth:
the strength of the hills is His also.
The sea is His, for He made it: and His hands form-ed the dry land.
Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.
For He is our God: and we are the people of His pasture
and the sheep of His hand.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

6. Hymn #456 "My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker"

1 My soul, now bless thy Maker! Let all within me bless His name
Who maketh thee partaker Of mercies more than thou dare claim.
Forget Him not whose meekness Still bears with all thy sin,
Who healeth all thy weakness, Renews thy life within;
Whose grace and care are endless And saved thee through the past;
Who leaves no suff'rer friendless, But rights the wronged at last.

2 He shows to man His treasure Of judgment, truth, and righteousness,
His love beyond all measure, His yearning pity o'er distress,
Nor treats us as we merit, But lays His anger by,
The humble, contrite spirit Finds His compassion nigh;
And high as heav'n above us, As break from close of day,
So far, since He doth love us, He puts our sins away.

3 For as a tender father Hath pity on his children here,
He in His arms will gather All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers Who but from dust are made.
We flourish like the flowers, And even so we fade.
The wind but o'er them passes, And all their bloom is o'er--
We wither like the grasses; Our place knows us no more.

4 God's grace alone endureth, And children's children yet shall prove
How He with strength assureth The hearts of all that seek His love.
In heav'n is fixed His dwelling; His rule is over all.
Angels, in might excelling, Bright hosts, before Him fall.
Praise Him who ever reigneth, All ye who hear His Word.
Nor our poor hymns disdaineth-- My soul, O bless the Lord!

7. Psalm 118:19-24 (read responsively by whole verse)

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

8. Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 5:1-7*

1 Let me 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; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. 3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men 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 looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild 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 waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; 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 men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

9. Heritage Choir "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" *Rusty Edwards*

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing every dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in every land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

10. The Epistle *Philippians 3:12-21*

12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. 16 Only let us hold true to what we have attained. 17 Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. 18 For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their end is destruction, their god is

their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. [20] But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, [21] who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

11. The Gospel *Matthew 21:33-45*

[33] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. [34] When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. [35] And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. [36] Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. **[37]** Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' [38] But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' [39] And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. [40] When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" **[41]** They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." **[42]** Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? [43] Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. [44] And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." [45] When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us!
♫ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

12. Sermon Hymn #230 "Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth"

1 Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth, To Thy Word I now give heed;
Life and spirit Thy Word beareth, All Thy Word is true indeed.
Death's dread power in me is rife; Jesus, may Thy Word of Life
Fill my soul with love's strong fervor That I cling to Thee forever.

2 Oh what blessing to be near Thee And to hearken to Thy voice!
May I ever love and fear Thee That Thy Word may be my choice!
Oft were hardened sinners, Lord, Struck with terror by Thy Word;
But to him who for sin grieveth Comfort sweet and hope it giveth.

3 Lord, Thy words are waters living Where I quench my thirsty need.
Lord, Thy words are bread life-giving, On Thy words my Soul doth feed.
Lord, Thy words shall be my light Through death's vale and dreary night;
Yea, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unfailing.

4 Precious Jesus, I beseech Thee, May Thy words take root in me;
May this gift from heav'n enrich me So that I bear fruit for Thee!
Take them never from my heart Till I see Thee as Thou art,
When in heav'nly bliss and glory I shall greet Thee and adore Thee.

13. Sermon – "The God Who Keeps Coming Back" Matthew 21:33-45

14. The Offering

15. Te Deum Laudamus *pg. 114*

♫ **Congregation** We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
All the earth worships You, the Father ev-er last-ing.
To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers there-in;
To You cherubim and seraphim con-tin-ual-ly do cry:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Your glo-ry.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise You.
The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise You.
The noble army of martyrs praise You.
The holy Church throughout all the world does ac-know-ledge You:
The father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable true and on-ly Son;
also the Holy Spirit, the Com-for-ter.
You are the King of Glory, O Christ. You are the everlasting Son of the Fa-ther.
When You took upon Yourself to de-liv-er man,
You humbled Yourself to be born of a Vir-gin.
When You had overcome the sharp-ness of death,
You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev-ers.
You are seated at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fath-er.
We believe that You will come to be our Judge.
We therefore pray You, help Your ser-vants,
whom You have redeemed with Your pre-cious blood.
Make them to be numbered with Your saints in glory ev-er-last-ing.
O Lord, save Your people and bless Your her-i-tage.
Govern them and lift them up for-ev-er.
Day by day we magni-fy You.
And we worship Your name now and ev-er-more.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up-on us.
O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, for our trust is in You.
O Lord, in You I have trusted; let me never be con-found-ed.

16. Prayers

The Kyrie Sung by All

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer Sung by 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.

The Collect
Pastor Let us pray: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, having safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doing, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.
♫ **Congregation** Amen.

17. Benedicamus & Benediction
Pastor Let us bless the Lord!
♫ **Congregation** Thanks be to God!
Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.
♫ **Congregation** Amen.

18. Benediction Hymn #407 “Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

1 Love divine, all love excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter ev'ry trembling heart!

2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Graciously return, and never,
Nevermore, Thy temples leave!
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4 Finish then, Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Announcements

Church Council – The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, October 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class – Each Sunday at 10:30 – after the worship service and fellowship time.

Catechism Class – Catechism class meets on Wednesdays at 4:15 pm.

Worship Times – Sundays at 9:00 a.m. & Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Special Parking Lot Fundraiser – The parking lot looks great after the mill and overlay project. The cost was $65,000 for a mill and overlay of the entire lot. If you would like to contribute to this project, please specify your donation is for the parking lot project.

Women's Bible Study – Women's Bible class meets on Tuesdays at 6:30. The group is studying "The Theology of the Cross." Please talk to Sarah Smith if you have questions.

Men's Bible Study – Men's Bible study meets on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. and they are studying the 1st Epistle of John.

Heritage Choir meets on Wednesdays from 6:45 to 7:45. Please come and sing with us!

The Lutheran Sentinel & Meditations – The Lutheran Sentinel and Meditations are available on the welcome stand.

Fellowship - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

Help Needed – Please see the volunteer board for opportunities to help around the church grounds. There are indoor and outdoor projects. Please take a look and see if there are any projects that you would like to help with.

New Carpet – New carpet will be installed in the narthex sometime in November. This will be paid for by TLC and memorial money.

Budget Update - We have updated the member-giving scorecard through the end of August. If you have any questions, please speak with church treasurer Phil Holz or church president Dave Paulsen.

Member Giving Scorecard	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Variance	Annual Target
Member General Fund Giving	$61,809	$57,266	**$4,543**	$380,000
School Deficit Reduction Giving Target	$1,652	5,833	**($4,181)**	$35,000
Parking Lot Project	$15,380	$65,000	**($49,620)**	$65,000
Total Member Giving	**$78,841**	**$128,099**	**($49,258)**	**$480,000**

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