The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 4, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
9:00 a.m.



The Order of Service: Rite 1 with Communion ELH page 41

1. Welcome

2. Opening Prayer

Pastor O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

3. Opening Hymn #485 "O Day Of Rest And Gladness"

1 O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness,
Most beautiful, most bright;
On thee the high and lowly,
Before th'eternal throne,
Sing, "Holy, holy, holy,"
To the great Three in One.

2 On thee at the Creation
The light first had its birth;
On thee for our salvation
Christ rose from depth of earth;
On thee our Lord victorious
The Spirit sent from heav'n;
And thus on thee, most glorious,
A three-fold light was giv'n.

3 Thou art a cooling fountain
In life's dry, dreary sand;
From thee, like Nebo's mountain,
We view our Promised Land;
A day of sweet reflection,
A day of holy love,
A day of resurrection
From earth to things above.

4 Today on weary nations
The heav'nly manna falls;
To holy convocations
The silver trumpet calls,
Where Gospel-light is glowing
With pure and radiant beams
And living water flowing
With soul-refreshing streams.

5 New graces ever gaining
From this our day of rest,
We reach the rest remaining
To spirits of the blest.
To Holy Ghost be praises,
To Father, and to Son;
The Church her voice upraises
To Thee, blest Three in One.

4. Confession of Sins

Pastor Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins:
Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Congregation O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit, increase in us a true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

5. The Kyrie Eleison

♫ **Congregation** O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us. O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us. O God, the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us.

6. The Absolution

Pastor Lift up your hearts unto God! Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. Amen.

7. The Gloria in Excelsis Deo *(Glory to God in the highest) page 44*

Pastor Glory be to God in the highest

♫ **Congregation** And on earth peace, good will toward men. All glory be to God on high Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended; God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

8. The Salutation

Pastor The Lord be with you.

♫ **Congregation** And with your spirit.

9. The Collect

Pastor Let us pray: Lod God, Heavenly Father, we beseech You so to guide and direct us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may not forget our sins and be filled with pride, but continue in daily repentance and renewal, seeking comfort only in the blessed knowledge that You will be

merciful to us, forgive us our sins, and grant us eternal life: through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♫ **Congregation** Amen.

10. The Lesson – Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-34

1 The word of the Lord came to me: 2 "What do you mean by repeating this proverb
concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth
are set on edge'? 3 As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by
you in Israel. 4 Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the
son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. 25 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.'
Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?
26 When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall
die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. 27 Again, when a wicked person
turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall
save his life. 28 Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he
had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. 29 Yet the house of Israel says, 'The
way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that
are not just? 30 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his
ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be
your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make
yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have
no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live."

11. Psalm 25:1-10 *(read responsively by whole verse)*

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
2 O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.
3 Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are
wantonly treacherous.
4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.
5 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all
the day long.
6 Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
7 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast
love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!
8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.
10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his
covenant and his testimonies.
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.

12. The Epistle – Philippians 2:1-11

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the
Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the
same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or
conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look
not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among
yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not
count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a
servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled
himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God
has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that
at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

13. Heritage Choir "Grant Peace, We Pray, In Mercy, Lord"

Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord; Peace in our time, O send us!
For there is none on earth but You, None other to defend us.
You only, Lord, can fight for us. Amen.

14. The Holy Gospel – Matthew 21:28-32

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and
work in the vineyard today.' 29 And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his
mind and went. 30 And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I
will, sir,' but did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first."
Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the
kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you
did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when
you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

Pastor This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

♫ **Congregation** God be praised for His glad tidings.

15. The Nicene Creed

Congregation I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life of the world to come.

♫ **Congregation** Amen.

16. Chief Hymn #460 "O How Great Is Thy Compassion"

1 O how great is Thy compassion,
Faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race
And in our deep degradation
Thou wast merciful that we
Might be saved eternally!

2 Thy great love for this hath striven
That we may from sin be free
And forever live with Thee;
Yea, Thy Son Himself hath given
In His grace an earnest call
To His Supper unto all.

3 And for this our souls' salvation
Voucheth Thy good Spirit, Lord,
In Thy Sacraments and Word.
He imparteth consolation,
Granteth us the gift of faith
That we fear nor hell nor death.

4 Lord, Thy mercy will not leave me;
Truth doth evermore abide.
Then in Thee I will confide.
Since Thy Word cannot deceive me,
My salvation is to me
Well assured eternally.

5 I will praise Thy great compassion,
Faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race
And in our deep degradation
Thou wast merciful that we
Might bring endless praise to Thee.

17. Sermon "Change Your Mind and Believe" Matthew 21:28-32

18. The Prayer of the Church p.48 and The Apostolic Benediction

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

19. The Offering

The Service Of Holy Communion

Heritage Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of the ELS and WELS partake of the Lord's Supper today. Visitors, please speak with Pastor Anderson about receiving the Sacrament in the future.

20. The Preface (Introduction to the Holy Communion)

Pastor The Lord be with you.

♫**Congregation** And with your spirit.

Pastor Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.

♫ **Congregation** We lift up our hearts unto the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

♫ **Congregation** It is good and right so to do.

Pastor It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

21. The Sanctus (Latin, "Holy")

♫ **Congregation** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; 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.

22. 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.

23. The Words of Institution

Pastor Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

24. The Agnus Dei (Latin, “Lamb of God”)

♫ **Congregation** O Christ the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.

25. The Distribution

26. Distribution Hymns

Heritage Choir “Make Haste, O God, to Deliver Me”

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. 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.

#495 “I Come to Thee, O Blessed Lord”

1 I come to Thee, O blessed Lord,
Invited by Thy gracious Word
To this Thy feast, to sup with Thee;
Grant that a worthy guest I be.

2 I come to Thee with sin and grief,
For Thou alone canst give relief.
Thy death for me, dear Lord, I plead:
O Jesus, help me in my need!

3 Shouldst Thou a strict account demand,
Who could, O Lord, before Thee stand?
Purge all my secret sins away:
Be Thou, O Christ, the sinner's Stay!

4 O Jesus, Lamb of God, alone
Thou didst for all our sins atone;
Though I have sinned and gone astray,
Turn not, O Lord, Thy guest away.

5 O Jesus, Lamb of God, alone
Thou didst for all our sins atone;
Be merciful, I Thee implore,
Be merciful forevermore.

#519 “What God Ordains Is Always Good”

1 What God ordains is always good:
His will abideth holy.
As He directs my life for me,
I follow meek and lowly.
God indeed
In ev'ry need
Doth well know how to shield me;
To Him, then, I will yield me.

2 What God ordains is always good:
He never will deceive me;
He leads me in His own right way,
And never will He leave me.
I take content
What He hath sent;
His hand that sends me sadness
Will turn my tears to gladness.

3 What God ordains is always good:
His loving thought attends me;
No poison can be in the cup
That my Physician sends me.
My God is true;
Each morn anew
I'll trust His grace unending,
My life to Him commending.

4 What God ordains is always good:
He is my Friend and Father;
He suffers naught to do me harm,
Though many storms may gather.
Now I may know
Both joy and woe,
Some day I shall see clearly
That He hath loved me dearly.

5 What God ordains is always good:
Though I the cup am drinking
Which savors now of bitterness,
I take it without shrinking.
For after grief
God grants relief,
My heart with comfort filling
And all my sorrow stilling.

6 What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm,
For with His arm
He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.

#580 "Almighty Father, Bless The Word"
1 Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through Thy grace we now have heard.
O may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit.

2 We praise Thee for the means of grace
As in Thy courts we seek Thy face.
Grant, Lord, that we who worship here
May all at last in heav'n appear.

27. The Collect

Pastor We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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.

28. The Benediction

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

♫ **Congregation** Amen, Amen, Amen.

29. Closing Hymn #484 “Christ Alone Is Our Salvation”

1 Christ alone is our salvation,
Christ the rock on which we stand;
Other than this sure foundation
Will be found but sinking sand.
Christ, His cross and resurrection,
Is alone the sinner's plea;
At the throne of God's perfection
Nothing else can set him free.

2 We have all things, Christ possessing:
Life eternal, second birth,
Present pardon, peace, and blessing
While we tarry here on earth;
And by faith's anticipation,
Foretaste of the joy above
Freely giv'n us with salvation
By the Father in His love.

3 When we perfect joy shall enter,
'Tis in Him our bliss will rise;
He's the essence, soul, and center
Of the glory in the skies.
In redemption's wondrous story
Planned before our parents' fall,
From the cross unto the glory
Jesus Christ is all in all.

30. The Closing Prayer

Pastor O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

Announcements

Board of Elders – The Board of Elders will meet on Tuesday, October 6th 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.

Companions in Prayer Orientation - An orientation to the Companions in Prayer (CIP) program is being scheduled for the end of September or early October. We hope you will consider becoming a Companion. The purpose of CIP is a group of confirmed members of Heritage Lutheran Church that have gone through specific orientation to the concepts of intercessory prayer as well as the importance of the ethics and confidentiality involved in being a part of Companions in Prayer.

The Companions in Prayer group has the following goals:
Establish a group of individuals who will actively participate in intercessory prayer for individuals/groups of the congregation as well as family and friends of the congregation members.
Foster an active and effective prayer life of Heritage members through on-going communication encouraging individuals and families to expand their prayer life.

Dates being considered for orientation are 9/27, 10/4, or 10/11. It will be immediately following Bible Study/Sunday School and will be about an hour long. You may sign up on the bulletin board or electronically via the Google form that was sent to the congregation. The final date will be determined based on the largest number of people who are available. If you have further questions, please contact Alice Schmidt or the office.

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! We are looking at an additional rehearsal time for those that are interested in singing in the choir but cannot make it to the Wednesday evening rehearsal.
Sunday mornings?
A different weeknight?
During the day?
Please contact Julie Wright if you have questions, suggestions, and/or would like more details.

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**

Mission Rally – The Mission Rally is coming up on Saturday, October 24th from 9-2. There is info and a sign-up sheet on the volunteer board if you would like to attend.

Self-Examination for Communion
Christian Questions and Answers, ELH pp 38,39

Communion Prayers
Before
We do not presume to come to Your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the Lord who desires always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the Body of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His Blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

After
Lord Jesus Christ, even as You rose triumphant from the grave, I beseech You to grant me grace to rise from the bondage of sin, to walk in the newness of life, that when You appear as my Judge and Redeemer, I shall greet You in peace and joy, and may throughout eternity enjoy the bliss of Your unveiled Presence. Amen

† †

The Exhortation
Dear friends in Christ! In order that you may receive this holy Sacrament worthily, it is good that you consider what you must now believe and do. From the words of Christ; “This is My body, which is given for you; this is My blood which is shed for you for the remission of sins” you should believe that Jesus Christ is Himself present with His body and blood, as the words declare.
From Christ’s words “for the remission of sins” you should believe that Jesus Christ bestows upon you His body and blood to confirm unto you the forgiveness of all your sins.
And finally, you should do as Christ commands you when He says “Take, eat; drink of it all of you,” and “this do in remembrance of Me.”
If you believe these words of Christ, and do as He therein has commanded, then you have rightly examined yourselves and may worthily eat Christ’s body and drink His blood for the forgiveness of all your sins.
You should also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and should love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian Church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end may God the Father grant you His grace; through the same, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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