SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the "Means of Grace" — God's gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

September 13, 2026 *Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Welcome

Son of God, Eternal Savior *LSB 842*

1 Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory,
For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity,
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,
So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted;
Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty
Held in solemn trust will be.

3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling,
By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

4 Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing
That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:
Here on earth Your will be done.

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

P Jesus has forgiven all our sins---great and small.

C **We confess that we have failed to fathom the greatness of God's mercy. We have not freely forgiven the people who have sinned against us. We have thought their faults to be greater than our own, and forgotten that we are totally reliant on God's grace for our salvation. Forgive us, gracious Lord, and give us new and contrite hearts; fill us with your love divine.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

P God in Christ does not forget his promise of abundant life including victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Sit

First Reading *Genesis 50:15-21*

15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said,
"What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all
the wrongs we did to him?" 16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying,
"Your father left these instructions before he died: 17 'This is what
you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the
sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now
please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father."
When their message came to him, Joseph wept.18 His brothers then
came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your
slaves," they said.19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am
I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God
intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the
saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for
you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke
kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading *Romans 14:1-19*

14 Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over
disputable matters. 2 One person's faith allows them to eat
anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only
vegetables. 3 The one who eats everything must not treat with
contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat
everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted
them. 4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own
master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is
able to make them stand.5 One person considers one day more
sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of
them should be fully convinced in their own mind. 6 Whoever
regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat
does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever
abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. 7 For none of
us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves
alone. 8 If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for
the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. 9 For
this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be

the Lord of both the dead and the living.[10] You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. [11] It is written: 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord,' every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.'" [12] So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.
[13] Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister. [14] I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean. [15] If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died. [16] Therefore do not let what you know is good be spoken of as evil. [17] For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, [18] because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval. [19] Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *LSB 205*

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
The Son of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Holy Gospel *Matthew 18:21-35*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[21] Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"[22] Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

23 “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to
settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a
man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to
him. 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and
his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the
debt.26 “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient
with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ 27 The
servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him
go.28 “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow
servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him
and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he
demanded. “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him,
‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’
30 “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown
into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants
saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told
their master everything that had happened.32 “Then the master
called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled
all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn’t you
have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ 34 In
anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured,
until he should pay back all he owed.35 “This is how my heavenly
Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or
sister from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive” *LSB 843*

1 “Forgive our sins as we forgive,”
You taught us, Lord, to pray;
But You alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.

2 How can Your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?

3 In blazing light Your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:

What trivial debts are owed to us,
How great our debt to You!

4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
Our lives will spread Your peace.

Homily

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.

Sit

Prayers of the Church

Presentation of the Offering

Stand

Preface *LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

℗ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
℃ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus *LSB 208*

℃ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

The Words of Our Lord

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

℃ O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.

From All That Dwell Below the Skies *LSB 816*

1 From all that dwell below the skies

Let the Creator's praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O Blessed Spring *LSB 595*

1 O blessèd spring, where Word and sign
Embrace us into Christ the Vine:
Here Christ enjoins each one to be
A branch of this life-giving Tree.

2 Through summer heat of youthful years,
Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain,
The boughs will shout for joy again.

3 When autumn cools and youth is cold,
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

4 As winter comes, as winters must,
We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
And trust the promise of the spring.

5 Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree,
Be praised for this blest mystery:
That Word and water thus revive
And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service *LSB 848*

1 Lord, whose love through humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Offered mercy's perfect deed,
We, Your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose
Ev'ry gift that You impart.

2 Still Your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles
Still to save and make us whole.

3 As we worship, grant us vision,
Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness,
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving,
Your abundant life to share.

4 Called by worship to Your service,
Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom
May Your mercy know and live.

Earth and All Stars *LSB 817*

1 Earth and all stars!
Loud rushing planets!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Oh, victory!
Loud shouting army!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Refrain
He has done marvelous things.
I too will praise Him with a new song!

6 Knowledge and truth!
Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son!
Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

7 Children of God,
Dying and rising,
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Heaven and earth,
Hosts everlasting,
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Dismissal

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.
C Amen.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *LSB 700*

1 Love divine, all loves 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;
Suddenly 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

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in worship today

September 13, 2026

Pastor
Jason Neel

Usher
Art Hayden

Elders
Jason Baker
Phil Marquardt

Reader
Phil Marquardt

Organist
Karine Platt

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Jerry Dedrick 9/13, Owen Prince 9/13, Bailee Johnson 9/14, Bill Doig 9/14, and Jan Fuerst 9/18.
Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays: Kevin Zimmerman 9/19.
Celebrating Wedding Anniversary: Patrick & Paula Bryan 9/19.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Picnic
	6:00 p.m.	Isaiah Bible Study
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Isaiah Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Parent Confirmation Meeting
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Small Group Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education hour
	11:30 a.m.	Sunday School Teacher Mtg.
	6:00p.m.	Isaiah Bible Study

Notes of Information:

Alaska Presentation: Today during education hour come hear about our youth mission trip to Alaska! We'll share stories, photos, and some of our incredible experiences from our time together in Seward.

Isaiah Bible study: Tonight starts the Isaiah Bible Study at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you can't make it tonight, join us Wednesday at 10:00am.

Sunday School: It is the start of Sunday School today. Come to the Sunday School wing to meet your teacher and find your classroom.

Stewardship: "With God, there is no transfer of ownership. God is still the owner. Although it may be a bit awkward, we should quit using the "gift" language in favor of language such as "trust." Everything we have is a trust from God, placed by God into our care and management." (Charles R. Lane**)**

LWML:A GREAT SERVICE PROJECT IS SET!! A Days for Girls Workshop is set for *Sat. Sept 19, 2026 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 700 Western Street, Anoka, MN.* All ages are invited. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY YOUR CHILDREN TO BE INVOLVED IN A SERVICE PROJECT!. Many hands ARE needed to assemble menstrual kits for girls in third world countries. Workstations will be set up to cut, pin, sew and iron the components for these kits. All equipment will be provided- a potluck lunch will follow. Contact Paulette Lenz: 763-807-2328

Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:
September 28 - In Pieces by Sally Field.
October 26 - The Dutch House by Ann Patachett.
November 23 - The Forgotten Home Child by Genevieve Graham.
December 28 - No book club.
If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager.

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of all canned goods. Currently, they are only taking Spring/Summer clothing. If you have any questions, please contact Toni Peterson. Thank you for your donations. For more information reach out to Toni Peterson at 763-434-5665.

Carl's Movie Minutes:

The Passion of the Christ: The original remastered. For those who'd like to experience it again, those who never saw it either too young or wished they had gone. 9/10-17 AMC Mounds view, Coon Rapids, White Bear Emagine. Very Powerful.

Daniel and the Fiery Furnace: Produced by Michael W Smith. The story of Daniel taking a stand for God. Full length motion picture adaptation.9/18-23 Emagine White Bear**.**

Making Room: Faith in Action: Now streaming Angel Studios website, documentary; story of a group of people helping orphans, abused, abandoned kids. Check the web site for streaming info available now.

Runner: Angel Studio release NOT FOR EVERYONE high packed, humor accented drama of two unlikely males trying to get a donor organ to a child while black marketeers want it. Light style of mission impossible including a bird. Alan Ritchson, who plays Reacher on Amazon Prime plays a reforming tough guy along with Owen Wilson in a madcap adventure. Opens 9/11 White Bear Engine.

Average Weekly Offering	$6685.00
Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan	$7422.59
Actual Weekly Costs	$7360.16

Readings for next week:

Isaiah 55:6-9, Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30, Matthew 20:1-6



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Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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