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 6, 2026 *Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Welcome

Father Welcomes *LSB 605*

Refrain

Father welcomes all his children
To his fam'ly through his Son.
Father giving his salvation,
Life forever has been won.

1 Little children, come to me,
For my kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give,
Mercy for your sin. *Refrain*

2 In the water, in the Word,
In his promise, be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe
Shall be born again. *Refrain*

3 Let us daily die to sin;
Let us daily rise with him,
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

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

Ezekiel 33:7-9

7 "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of
Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from
me. 8 When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will
surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their
ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you
accountable for their blood. 9 But if you do warn the wicked person
to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for
their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Romans 13:1-10

13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is

no authority except that which God has established. The authorities
that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, whoever
rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has
instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on
themselves. 3 For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but
for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the
one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be
commended. 4 For the one in authority is God's servant for your
good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the
sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to
bring punishment on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore, it is necessary to
submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment
but also as a matter of conscience.6 This is also why you pay
taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full
time to governing. 7 Give to everyone what you owe them: If you
owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then
respect; if honor, then honor.8 Let no debt remain outstanding,
except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves
others has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "You shall not
commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal,"
"You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be,
are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as
yourself." 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is
the fulfillment of the law.

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 18:1-20*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eighteenth

chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

18 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then,
is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”2 He called a little child
to him, and placed the child among them. 3 And he said: “Truly I
tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you
will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever takes
the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of
heaven. 5 And whoever welcomes one such child in my name
welcomes me.6 “If anyone causes one of these little ones—those
who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have
a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the
depths of the sea. 7 Woe to the world because of the things that
cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the
person through whom they come! 8 If your hand or your foot
causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for
you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two
feet and be thrown into eternal fire. 9 And if your eye causes you to
stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter
life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire
of hell.10 “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I
tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my
Father in heaven.12 “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred
sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-
nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered
off? 13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that
one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. 14 In
the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these
little ones should perish.
15 “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just
between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them
over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so
that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or
three witnesses.’ 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the
church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as
you would a pagan or a tax collector.18 “Truly I tell you, whatever
you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose
on earth will be loosed in heaven.19 “Again, truly I tell you that if
two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be

done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

In All Our Grief

ELW 615

(*tune 878***)**

1 In all our grief and fear we turn to you.
O God, you know all that we think or do,
you know the pain we put each other through.

Refrain

Oh Christ, have mercy, and grant us peace.

2 Help us to put aside the angry word,
the clenching fist, the wish and will to hurt.
Teach us the way in which love best is served.

3 You did not even spare your only Son.
He lived our griefs and bore all evil done,
but through his cross, redemption has been won.

4 God, when we suffer all that we can bear,
then let us know that you in truth are near
and will not leave us lost in all our fear.

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

Sanctus *LSB 208*

C 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*

C 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.

Christ, the Word of God Incarnate *LSB 540*

1 Christ, the Word of God incarnate,
Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father,
Perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, you shine unvanquished,
Light and life you bring to all;
Light our path with your own presence,
Grant us grace to heed your call.

2 Christ, the living bread from heaven,
Food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna daily given,
Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven,
Foretaste of the feast to be;
Quench our thirst with living water
Springing up eternal*y*.

3 Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant
From the stump of Jesse's tree;
Christ, true vine, you nurture branches
To bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into you, O Savior;
Prune our hearts so we remain
Fruitful branches in your vineyard
Till eternal life we gain.

4 Christ, our good and faithful shepherd,

Watching all your lambs and sheep;
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold,
Never-failing vigil keep.
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us,
Find us, lift us, bear us home;
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us;
Let us hear your voice alone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing
To the Father's home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
Christ, the life that cannot die.
Mediator to the Father,
Sacrifice and great High Priest:
Lead us to your heav'nly mansions,
There to share your wedding feast.

6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
Christ, the life and resurrection,
Christ, the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration
And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit
And to You eternally.

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive *LSB 609*

1 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

2 We deserve but grief and shame,
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;

Weary souls that lost their way
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

4 I, a sinner, come to Thee
With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me;
Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release
And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

The King of Love My Shepherd Is *LSB 709*

1 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul he leadeth

And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me
And on his shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever!

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

LSB 843

1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive," **(***tune 846***)**
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.

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.**

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

LSB 844 (tune 551)

1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace
To love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.

2 Break down the wall that would divide
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.

3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.

4 Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.

5 With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Serving in worship today

September 6, 2026

Pastor
Jason Neel

Usher
Mike Voegele

Elders
Chuck Johnson
Kevin Zimmerman

Reader
Mike Voegele

Organist
Karine Platt

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Cassie Weinhold 9/6, Sarah Skogerboe 9/7, Amy Lougheed 9/8, Harry Hibben 9/8, David Sauerwein 9/9, Josephine Voegele 9/9, Bob Marolt 9/11, Davey Schieffer 9/11 and Toni Peterson 9/11.
Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays: Jamil Poindexter 9/6 and Lyla Marquardt 9/6.
Celebrating Wedding Anniversary: Jeff & Amy Fey 9/9 and Storm & Ashly Parson 9/10.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Faith Class
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Friday	11:00 a.m.	Older Adult Bible Study
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Small Group Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	LWML NE Suburban Zone Event
	3:30 p.m.	Honee Jones Funeral
	4:30 p.m.	Tent set-up
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education hour
	11:30 p.m.	Fellowship Picnic

Notes of Information:

LWML: Please join us here on Saturday September 12 @ 9am-Noon for the NE Suburban Zone Fall Event. $8 at the door. A light lunch will be served. Come hear our guest speaker Deb Vinkemeier talk about Phil's Friends. Mites will be collected.

Sunday School Teachers: We are still in need of a couple Sunday School teachers. Please see Leslie Kuntz for more info.

Stewardship: "The source and strength of Christian stewardship is the blood-bought salvation that is so richly and daily given us in Christ."
(Dr. A.L. Barry**)**

Fellowship Picnic: Next Sunday is Rally Sunday our kickoff to a new year filled with Fun and Fellowship. Come join us under the tent after the Education hour for lunch provided by the Boards here at Spirit of Christ. A reminder for all the Boards to bring what your group is assigned for food. Any questions please see Amy in the church office. If you are willing and able to help set-up the tent on Saturday at 4:30pm it would be much appreciated.

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. At this time, 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.

More movies coming later Sept/Oct

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:
Genesis 50:15-21, Romans 14:1-19, Matthew 18:21-35

SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

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www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org

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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