

September 27, 2026 +Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God, **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.**

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. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Opening Hymn

“This is the Day”

This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made; we will
rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has
made.

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

God of love, **giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading – Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 *The fairness of God's way*

Response: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25: 1-9 *Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love.*

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way. You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

Gospel – Matthew 21: 23-32 *A parable of doing God's will*

Before: The holy Gospel according to . . . **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After: The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Message

Pastor Liz Rossing

Hymn of the Day

“Open our Eyes Lord”

Open our eyes, Lord;
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord,

And help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Apostles' Creed

**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 to the dead. 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 the People

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Offering & Giving Prayer

God of creation, **you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

Announcements

Blessing

The God of love draw us into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant us strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

Lord, I lift your name on high,
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life.
I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from Heaven to Earth to show the way,
from Earth to the cross, my debt to pay;
from the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God.**