

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
July 26, 2026

Music and Hymns:

Gathering	<i>Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God</i>	ELW783
Hymn of Day	<i>Neither Death nor Life</i>	ELW 622
Sending	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>	ELW 660
Prelude	<i>Beauty of the Earth</i>	Mark Hayes
Anthem	<i>Hear My Words</i>	Stephen Paulus
Communion		
Postlude		

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?” ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Psalm: 119:129-136

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰ **When your word is opened it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me, as you always do to those who love your name.**

¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.**

¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your teaching.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the

will of God.²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else?³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad."⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

SERVERS	Today	Next Week
Greeters	*Need Volunteer	Doris Wessinger
Lector	Pam Hanfland	Marie Lybrand
Worship	Gail Marcum	Marie Lybrand
	JULY	AUGUST
Ushers	*Need Volunteer	Jim Garner, Chief
	*Need Volunteer	*Need Volunteer
Tellers	Linda Griffith	Beth Cleland
	Linda Hill	Melba Murphy
Offering Pickup	Linda Griffith	Jim Garner
Property	Steve Nivens	Jim Garner
Altar Guild	Isma Boland	Charles and Ruth Nicholson
	Melba Murphy	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Altar Flowers

The flowers are given by the Hill family in memory of our dear friend Gary and in celebration of Baylor and Bennett's 3rd birthday tomorrow.

- The weekly bulletin is printed on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Please submit any announcements to the church office before then. Thank you.
- August Grapevine Deadline: 9:00 a.m. Monday, July 17, 2026
- God's Helping Hands current needs as of July 1st are: miscellaneous canned vegetables, canned meats, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, crackers, canned fruit and Jiffy cornbread mix. Please place donations in the container in the Cameron Hallway.
- WELCA Community Service Project. This summer, the Cameron Rebekah Circle is collecting TWIN sheets, pillowcases, blankets and pillows for a Scooter Scott project. Two blue containers are in the Cameron Hallway for these items. Money contributions are also accepted. Make check out to Our Saviour WELCA and give it to Ann Satterwhite or Linda Hill. Thanks for your support and help.
- SAVE THE DATE – Treasure Find and Fall Fest – Saturday, November 14th

Sunday <i>July 26</i>	10:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
	10:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Thursday <i>July 30</i>	6:00 p.m.	Handbells Practice
Sunday <i>August 2</i>	10:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
	10:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Thursday <i>August 6</i>	6:00 p.m.	Handbells Practice
Saturday <i>August 8</i>	6:00 p.m.	Razberries

Those on our Prayer list below have special prayer needs at this time. We keep the entire congregation in our prayers at all times, but sometimes special prayers are needed. If your name is on the list or you have added someone's name and they no longer need to be on the list, please contact the church office so the name can be removed. Names on the prayer list are left on for two months but may be extended upon request.

Melanie Amick
Bill Aull
Gerald Bush
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Katie Doble
Dolores Hopkins
Charles Kirby
Steve Rucker
Herman & Elizabeth Shealy
Marie Shealy (National Health Care)
The Black family as they grieve the loss of their beloved Gary