

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 13, 2026

Music and Hymns:

Gathering	<i>I Come with Joy</i>	ELW 482
Hymn of Day	<i>Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling</i>	ELW 608
Sending	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty</i>	ELW 413
Prelude	<i>5th Couplet Kyrie</i>	<i>Francois Couperin</i>
Anthem	<i>Touch the Earth Lightly</i>	<i>Gibson (ELW 739)</i>
Communion	<i>Alma Redemptoris Mater (Oh Loving Mother of Our Redeemer)</i>	<i>Marcel Dupre</i>
Postlude	<i>Piece Terminale</i>	<i>Charles Turnemire</i>

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
² **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits—**
³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
⁶ **O Lord, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**
⁷ You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.
⁸ **Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**
⁹ you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.
¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹² **As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the **Lord**. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken

place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

SERVERS	Today	Next Week
Greeters	Sandra Hughes	Theresa Garner
Lector	Sylvia Ford	<i>*need volunteer</i>
Worship	Marie Lybrand	<i>*need volunteer</i>
	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Ushers	Wayne Lybrand, Chief <i>*Need Volunteer</i>	Jim Garner, Chief <i>*Need Volunteer</i>
Tellers	Beth Cleland/Sandra Hughes	Pam Hanfland/Gail Marcum
Offering Pickup	Wayne Lybrand	Pam Hanfland
Property	Jim Garner	Jim Garner
Altar Guild	Linda Hill/Sylvia Ford	Gail Marcum/Marie Lybrand

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The weekly bulletin is printed on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Please submit any announcements to the church office before then. Thank you.
- God’s Helping Hands current needs 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.
- **Bill Aull’s New Address:** 990 Columbia Ave. Apt 215, Irmo, SC 29063
- **Lutheran Men:** Monthly breakfasts will resume at the Lizard's Thicket on Augusta Road on Monday, September 21 at 9 a.m., and will continue to meet on the third Monday of each month. All men of the congregation are invited.
- **SAVE THE DATE** – Treasure Find and Fall Fest – Saturday, November 14th

In our prayers this week, we commend the following individuals to God's gracious care. If a name belongs to someone outside our congregation, please let the office know your connections. If there are any names to update, please also let us know additions or changes.

Melanie Amick
Gerald Bush (Friend of Sandra Hughes)
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Virginia M. Cromer
Katie Doble
Jerry Hite
Dolores Hopkins
Steve Rucker
Herman & Elizabeth Shealy
Marie Shealy (National Health Care)

Sunday <i>September 13</i>	10:00 a.m.	Chat & Snack
	10:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Monday <i>September 14</i>	10:30 a.m.	Rebekah/Cameron Circle
Tuesday <i>September 15</i>	6:00 p.m.	Lydia Circle
Wednesday <i>September 16</i>	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Thursday <i>September 17</i>	6:00 p.m.	Razberries
Sunday <i>September 20</i>	10:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11:45 a.m.	Council Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	Saxe Gotha Conf. Meeting
Monday <i>September 21</i>	9:00 a.m.	Lutheran Men Breakfast
Wednesday <i>September 23</i>	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study