

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2026

Music and Hymns:

Gathering	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>	ELW 759
Hymn of Day	<i>O Master, Let Me Walk with You</i>	ELW 818
Sending	<i>Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</i>	ELW 8 34
Prelude	<i>Archangel Raphael from Archangel Suite</i>	<i>Graig Phillips</i>
Anthem	<i>O Day Full of Grace</i>	<i>Johnson</i>
Communion	<i>Consolation</i>	<i>Mendelssohn</i>
Postlude	<i>Archangel Uriel from Archangel Suite</i>	<i>Graig Phillips</i>

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die. ²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Psalms 25:1-9

¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.**

⁵ 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.

⁶ **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

⁷ 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.

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21:23-32

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

SERVERS	Today	Next Week
Greeters	<i>*need volunteer</i>	Frank Yonce
Lector	Caroline Raszewski	Bill Aull
Worship	Gail Marcum	Bill Aull
	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

Altar Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God. Let us keep our church, nation, and each other in our prayers. May we always remember: we are the church!

God bless, Melba Murphy and family

- 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.
- **New Communication Tool:** A mailbox is now available on the office door to help organize written communication. There is a folder for Pastor Joanna and one for Denise. Please place any written communication in the appropriate folder.
- **Mark Your Calendars - Community Lunch:** Starting back up on 9/30 at 12:00.
- **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 27</i>	10:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Wednesday <i>September 30</i>	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	12:00 p.m.	Community Luncheon
Sunday <i>October 4</i>	10:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Wednesday <i>October 7</i>	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Saturday <i>October 10</i>	6:30 p.m.	Razberries