



WELCOME FAMILIES!

We are glad that you are worshipping with your children and want you to feel welcome.

There is a “**Pray Ground**” for quiet play in the front right of the sanctuary.

We ask that families stay with their little ones and try to keep noise to a minimum.

If you or your little one needs “a break” or “louder play”, there is an “**Active Worship**” room on the West side of the sanctuary. You can see and hear the service from this room.

GATHERING



The Holy Spirit gathers us together during this time of worship

September 13, 2026

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

16th Sunday in Pentecost

Inviting All to Live the Gospel through Faith, Love, and Compassion

Welcome to Family of Christ

You are welcome to participate in worship this morning
the way you feel comfortable.

All Are Welcome, No Exceptions!

Everybody Is Somebody Here

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

See Insert

CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.”
In the name of God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

See Insert

All young and young at heart are invited forward during the Children's time.

THE WORD

God speaks to us through scripture reading, preaching, and song.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, you are the fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Blessing of the Backpacks

FIRST READING:

Romans 14:7-12

For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

L: The word of our Lord.

C: Thanks Be to God

GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 18:21-35

Then 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?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord

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THE MEAL

God feeds us with the
forgiveness and presence of
Christ.

All are invited to receive
these gifts of God.

No Exceptions!

Children are welcome to
come forward and receive
communion or a blessing
and Goldfish Crackers



handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

ELW #359

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilot,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayer

HOLY COMMUNION

THE SENDING

We are blessed and sent
out into the world to share
God's Love with all people.



Serving Today

Pastor

Brent Erler

Musician

Kim Wolff

Steve Wolff

Sound and Video

Gerry Wills

Cheryl Wills

Acolyte

Haakon Hendrickson

Communion Set-Up

Karen Agee

Tony Otero

Communion Servers

Karen Agee

Tony Otero

Audrey Hanchek

Reader

Archer Hendrickson

Ushers

Ryan Basballe

Terran Hendrickson

*Thanks to all those who
helped make worship
possible.

THE 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.

BLESSING

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Lord God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

"This Little Light of Mine"

SENDING

POSTLUDE

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FamilyofChrist
FAITH, LOVE, and COMPASSION

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Mission Partners with Usokami Parish, Iringa, Tanzania

Hearing Assistance devices are available at the soundboard
Radio frequency for hearing assistance on 72.9 MHz on the FM band