



October 4, 2026

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

19th 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

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

ELW #597

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

Chorus

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand

Verse 2

When weary in this earthly race
I rest on his unchanging grace
In every wild and stormy gale
My anchor holds and will not fail

Verse 3

His vow his covenant and blood
Are my defense against the flood
When earthly hopes are swept away
He will uphold me on that day

Verse 4

When the last trumpet's voice shall sound
O may I then in him be found
Clothed in his righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before his throne

WELCOME FAMILIES!

We are glad that you are
worshiping 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

CONFESSION

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.

FORGIVENESS

SONG OF PRAISE

"Here I am to Worship"

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Listening God, **from you comes all that we truly need. Help us to listen to your words of forgiveness and love, and help us to listen for the future you are leading us to. For your voice is everywhere and in all we meet. In Jesus name we pray. AMEN**

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 43:1-7, 18-19

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight
and honored and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

Do not remember the former things
or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

L: The word of our Lord.

C: Thanks Be to God

THE WORD

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



GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 20:29-34

As Jesus and the disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed Jesus. There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet, but they shouted even more loudly, "Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!" Jesus stood still and called them, saying, "What do you want me to do for you?" They said to him, "Lord, let our eyes be opened." Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

L: The Gospel of our Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

"One Bread, One Body"

ELW #496

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

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**

To support the ministry of
FOC please use the QR
Code below or donate to
the offering plate.



SHARING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING

OFFERING "They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

Verse 1:

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, (2x)
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Chorus:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Verse 2:

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, (2x)
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Verse 3:

We will work with each other, we will work side by side, (2x)
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

Verse 4:

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayer

HOLY COMMUNION

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

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



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

Ann Mikiska

Sound and Video

Jeremy Mann

Acolyte

Gwen Basballe

Communion Set-Up

Caitie Majewski

Communion Servers

Caitie Majewski

Kirstin Specht

Chad Specht

Reader

Caitie Majewski

Ushers

Ryan Basballe

Brodie Majewski

Fellowship Host

Martha Johnson

*Thanks to all those who
helped make worship
possible.

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

"You Are Holy"

ELW #525

You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.
Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,
you are wholeness,
you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

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

October 4, 2026



October Mission of the Month Tanzania Ministries

Bega Kwa Bega is the phrase we use to describe our companion synod relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. In English, the phrase means 'shoulder to shoulder' and describes the way in which we accompany one another in a spirit of mutuality, inclusivity, and vulnerability. Through the work of this partnership and the leading of God's Holy Spirit, we envision deeper faith and fuller life, accompanying one another as participants in God's ongoing mission in both America and Tanzania.

Our partnership supports the Illula congregation, secondary school students, medical school scholarship, Dignity for Daughters, and Iringa Hope micro financing.

Weekly Education Opportunities have started for the 2026 - 2027 Year!

Listening Sessions

*Instead of Adult Education for the next 8 weeks

Join Pastor Brent in the Conference room as we imagine our future. Share your thoughts and help us shape how you want Family of Christ to move forward.

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study continues to meet on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 AM. You can come in person or via an on-line link. Contact Pastor Brent for more information.

FOC Kids & Youth

Sunday School is every Sunday at 10:35 unless noted.

Confirmation & Youth Group meets every Wednesday beginning at 6 PM

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study continues on the first Monday of the month at 10 AM. Next session is 10/5. Study will be on Hagar, Ruth, and Mary Magdalene. Contact Linda Bartz with any questions.

Together Night: Food, Fellowship, & Community

Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 - 7:30 pm: A warm evening of food, friendship, and faith. Bring a dish to share and stay for relaxed community time as we reconnect, laugh, and support one another. Everyone is welcome - come be part of the joy of growing together. All members are invited. Bring a friend, neighbor or co-worker! If you are able, sign up to bring an item to the potluck! Thank you!

COMMUNITY NIGHTS



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CAFAD2EA3F58-65991489-community#/>



Listening Sessions start today!

Join us Sundays after worship from 10:45-11:30 for some listening sessions as we vision for the future. We ask that you join us for one of these sessions and share feedback as to how we can better serve God and one another in our Christian journey. No prep necessary, but we'd like everyone's thoughts. 1st session will be Oct 4.

Tanzania Quilt Raffle

The pictured quilt will be raffled off on Tanzania Sunday, October 11th. Tickets will be sold after worship. Tickets are \$5 for one or \$20 for five. You do not have to be present to win.

All proceeds will be donated to Dignity for Daughters.



FOC Kids

Sunday School starts at 10:35 in the MPR, grab a treat from the Fellowship area and head down to start with some music!

Plan Ahead: FOC Kids will be singing for the first time in worship on October 11th. And there will be no Sunday School on October 18th - Enjoy the long MEA Weekend.



FOC Youth

Youth Programming continues this week, Wednesday, October 7th. Head to the narthex for pizza or into the Sanctuary if you don't come for dinner. And a heads up that there is no programming the 14th - enjoy the long MEA weekend.

Next Youth Sunday: October 11th, are you signed up to volunteer?
Confirmation Sunday is October 25th.



Dates to Remember

Monday, October 5: Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, October 6: Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 7: Youth Programming

Sunday, October 11: Tanzania & Youth Sunday

Sunday, October 25: Confirmation & Reformation Sunday

