



Lakes Region Lutheran Church
(A Satellite Campus of Grace Lutheran Church, Nashua)
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
1070 Whittier Hwy., Unit #1
Moultonborough, NH 03254
Rev. Robert F. Fischer

September 6, 2026
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome!

We pray that your spirit would be uplifted and your faith strengthened as we gather together to receive God's divine service to us through Word and Sacrament.

A Word about Communion

We're glad you're worshiping with us today. In the Lord's Supper, we believe we receive Christ's true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26–28). Because of this, Scripture also warns that receiving the Supper without a right understanding of it, or apart from the unity in the faith it proclaims, can bring harm rather than blessing (1 Corinthians 11:27–29). Out of love for you—not judgment—we practice what's called “close communion.” We ask that those who commune with us share this same confession of faith, typically shown by membership in this congregation or a sister congregation in fellowship with us. This protects you from receiving the Supper in a way that could do spiritual harm. This practice is meant as a kindness, not a wall. If you'd like to come forward for a blessing instead, you're warmly welcome to do so. We'd love to talk more about this. Please speak to the pastor after the service.

GREETING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn: #915, “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8–9

- P** Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

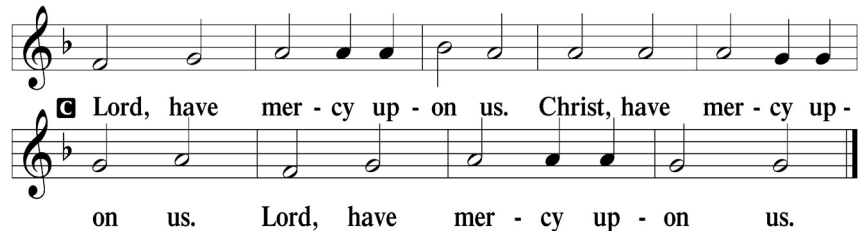
Psalm 92:1–4; antiphon: v. 5

- P** How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!
- C** **It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**
- P** to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,
- C** **to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.**
- P** For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

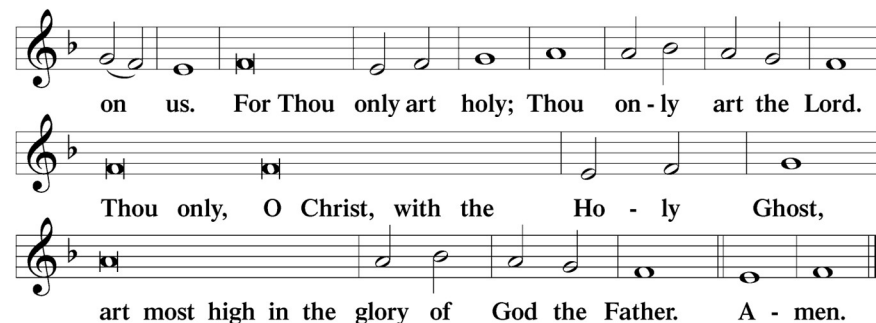
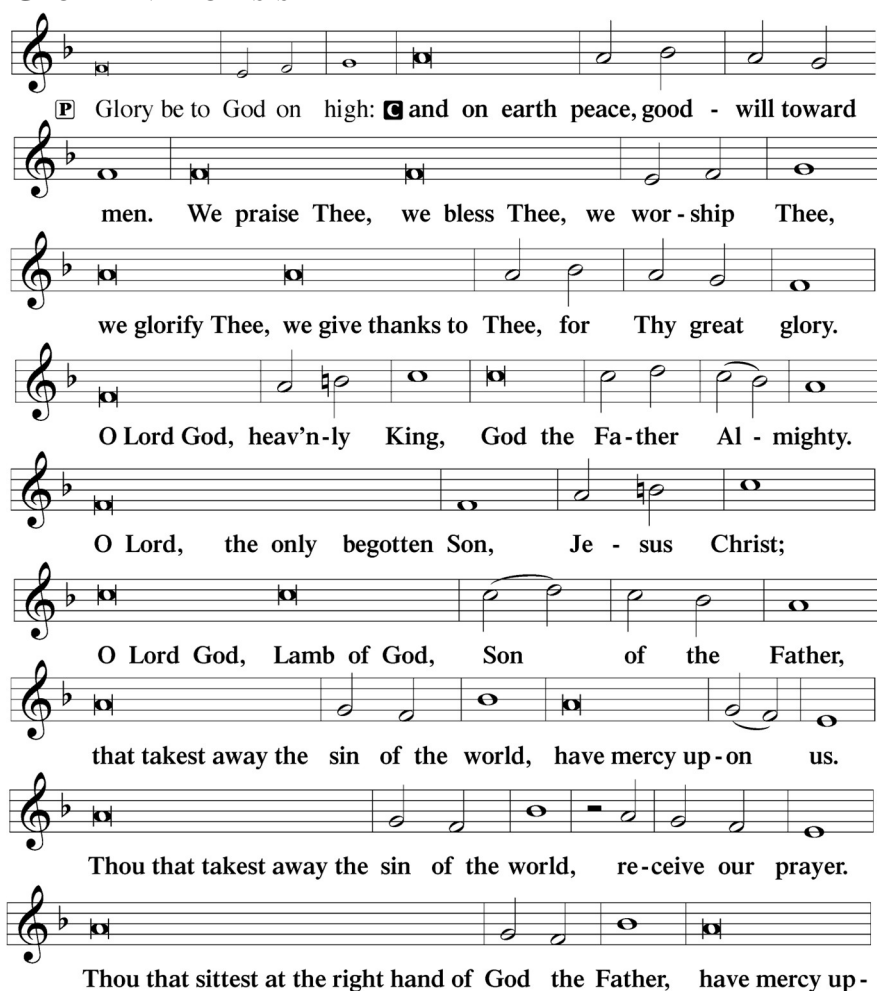
A Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!

KYRIE



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 33:7–9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL*Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

P Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing!

C Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Epistle Reading: Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

ALLELUIA

C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CATECHISM REVIEW

The Sacrament of the Altar (Fourth Part)

P Who receives this Sacrament worthily?

C Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #725, “Children of the Heavenly Father”

SERMON: “Childlike Greatness” based on the Gospel Reading.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition: **P** Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P ...who lives and rules with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

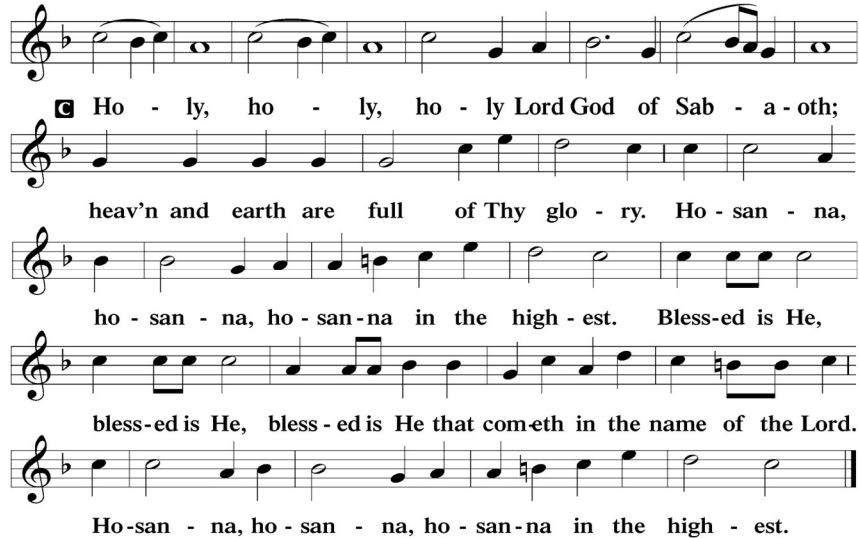
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

"Holy, Holy, Holy" Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts"
Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."*

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20, I Corinthians 11:23–25*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

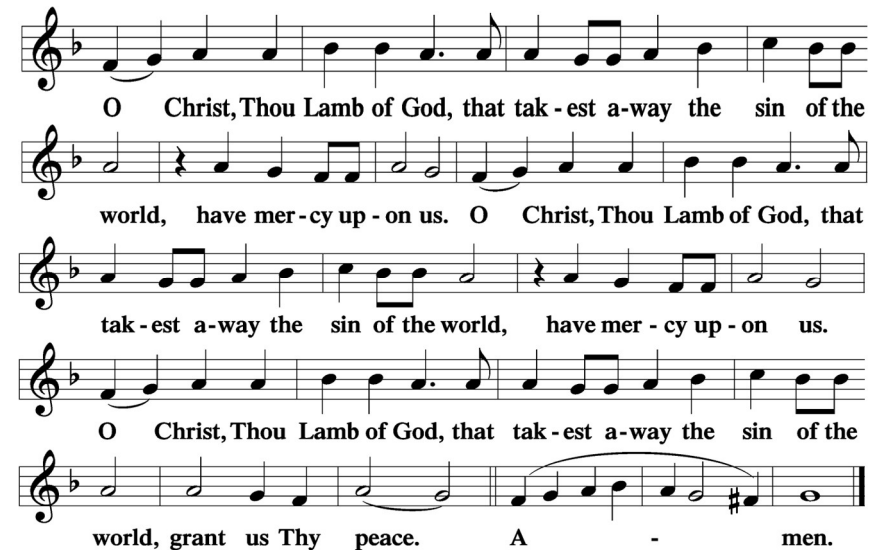
"The peace of the Lord" John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God" John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

"Song of Simeon" Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endures forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed
us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your
mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward
You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus
Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with your spirit.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine
on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with
favor and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #922, "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

You are invited to stay for refreshments, fellowship, and Bible Class
following the service.

Happy Birthday! Happy birthday to Gwen Milne whose birthday
is this Friday.

A Life Thought in the Church Year for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

In faith, as God's watchmen, we humbly proclaim His Word. The
faithful Word gives a true warning to the wicked (Ezekiel 33:7-8). We
are called to speak boldly when lives are heartlessly ended and when
God's gifts are mocked. We also rejoice as we teach about
forgiveness. In Psalm 32 we read that the Lord forgives those who
acknowledge their sin before Him. In God's plan, He allows us to
be watchmen, proclaiming warnings so that all may confess their
sins and have a clear conscience. Many have guilty consciences
because they have rejected the truth concerning God's gift of life.
May God's mercy lead them to rely completely on the grace of God.

Visit Lutherans for Life at www.lutheransforlife.org

Chapter and Verse: The next book club meeting will be Thursday,
Sept. 17th, 4:00 PM. We'd love to have all readers join us for
reading, discussion, and treats.

The Scripture Readings and Hymns for September 13th:

Genesis 50:15-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

#851, "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"
#852, "O God of Mercy, God of Might"
#924, "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"