



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 27, 2026

The Eighteenth 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: #904, “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

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

Psalms 147:1-5; antiphon: v. 6

P The Lord lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

C Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

P The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

C He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

P He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

- C** Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.
- 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** The Lord lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 18:1–4, 25–32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?”

³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die...

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?”

²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he

shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

P He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

C Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others... ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

ALLELUIA



Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-27

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

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 Third Commandment

P What is the Third Commandment?

C Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.

P What does this mean?

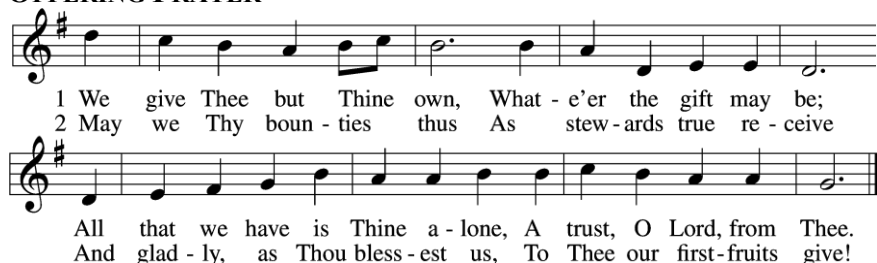
C We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

HYMN OF THE DAY: #696, “O God, My Faithful God”

SERMON: by Rev. Robert Beinke, President of the New England District of the LCMS.

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.

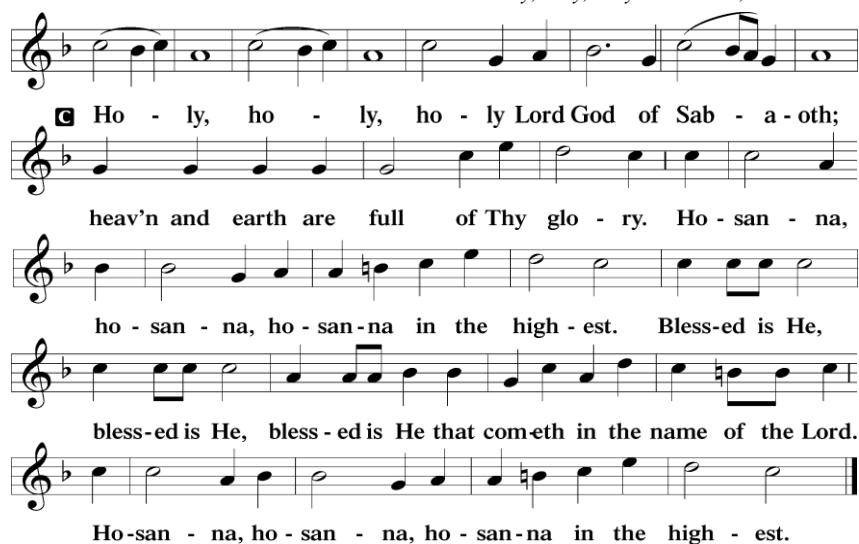
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, 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, 1 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: #728, “How Firm a Foundation”

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

District President Visit

We welcome the president of the New England District of the LCMS, Rev. Robert Beinke. President Beinke will be preaching today, and leading Bible Class following the service.

Worldwide Bible Study

Join us for a farm-to-table breakfast and Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller’s Worldwide Bible Study this Wednesday, Sept. 30th. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 AM and the Bible Study stream starts at 10:00 AM.

Chapter and Verse: The next book club meeting will be Thursday, October 8th, 4:00 PM. We’d love to have all readers join us for reading, discussion, and treats.

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

The consistent refrain of the foes of life is something like, “You are more significant than others” or “Look to your own interests.” This refrain seeps into the everyday routine of many because it resonates with our sinful nature. In fact, we grumble at the slightest infringements on our lives of convenience. The Apostle Paul instructs each of us to “look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” (Philippians 2:4). The world tries to drum into our minds that raising up children, serving those in need, caring for the elderly, and tending to those who are dying are useless pursuits. But in Christ we see the value of each life and the joy that God provides in seeing people loved.

Visit Lutherans for Life at www.lutheransforlife.org

Equipping the Priesthood of all Believers...

Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: How to Read the Bible, Why Men Aren't Marrying, The No Contact Movement, Debate Over the Location of the Town of Bethsaida, and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

The Scripture Readings and Hymns for October 4th:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

#571, "God Loved the World So That He Gave"

#644, "The Church's One Foundation"

#728, "How Firm a Foundation"

Acknowledgments

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