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

October 18, 2026
The Twenty-first 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: #868, "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun"

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 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 5*

P The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

C **I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?**

P My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

C **He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.**

P Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

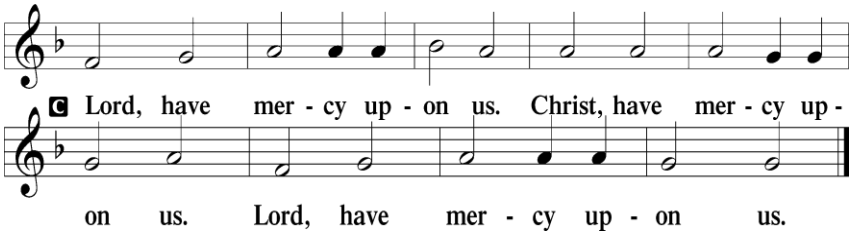
C **The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.**

P The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

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 is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

KYRIE



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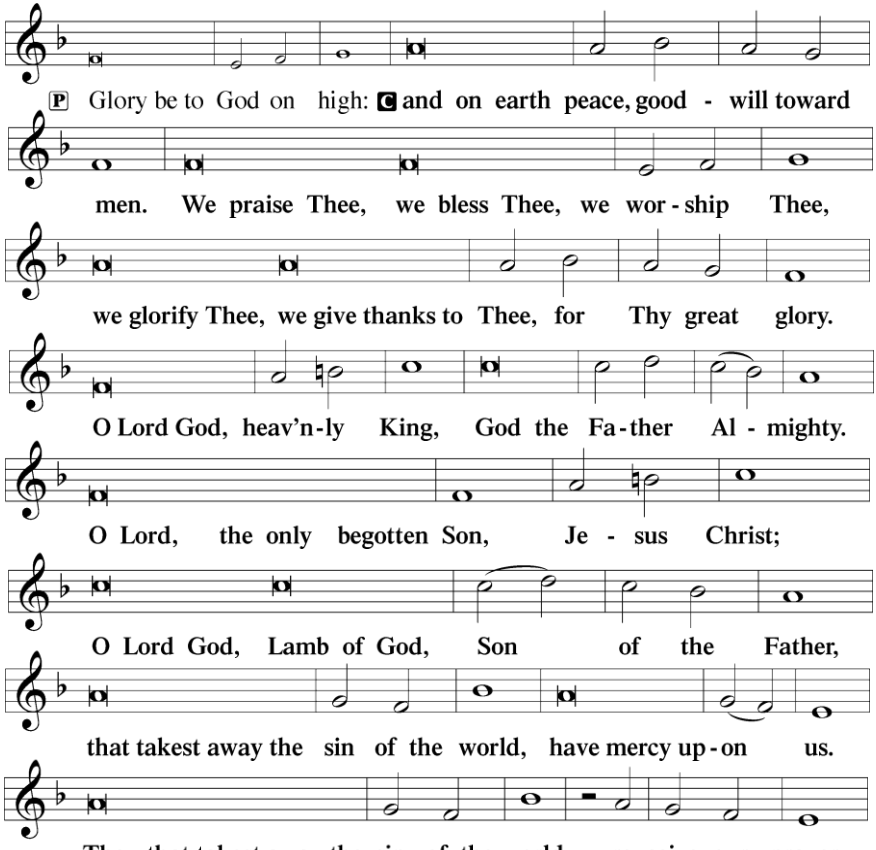
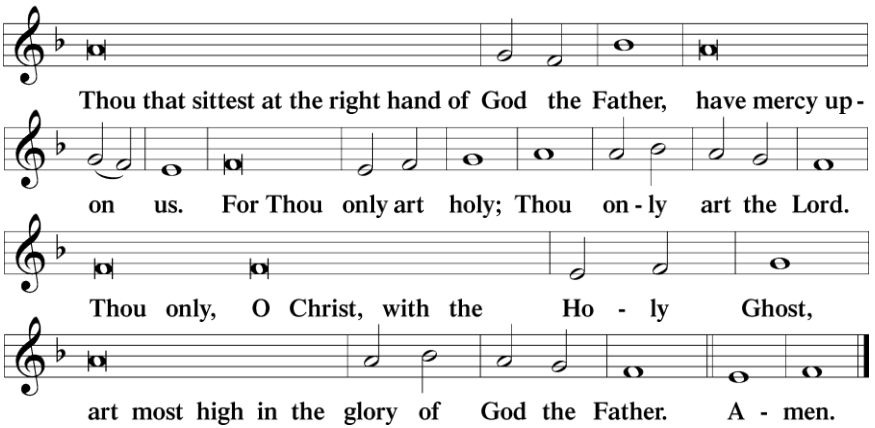




SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; 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: Genesis 11:1-9

[1]Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. [2]And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. [3]And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. [4]Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." [5]And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. [6]And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. [7]Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." [8]So the LORD dispersed them

from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. [9]Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

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: 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

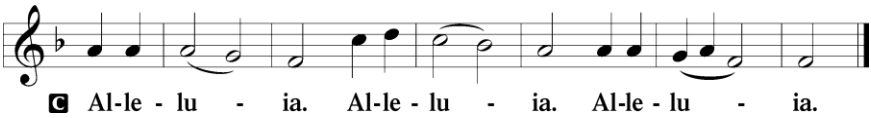
[1]Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. [2]We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, [3]remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4]For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, [5]because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. [6]And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, [7]so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8]For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. [9]For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, [10]and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

ALLELUIA



Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

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

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

15Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his
words. 16And they sent their disciples to him, along with the
Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach
the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's
opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. 17Tell us, then,
what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" 18But
Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you
hypocrites? 19Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him
a denarius. 20And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and
inscription is this?" 21They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them,
"Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God
the things that are God's." 22When they heard it, they marveled.
And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CATECHISM REVIEW
The Sixth Commandment

P What is the Sixth Commandment?

C **You shall not commit adultery.**

P What does this mean?

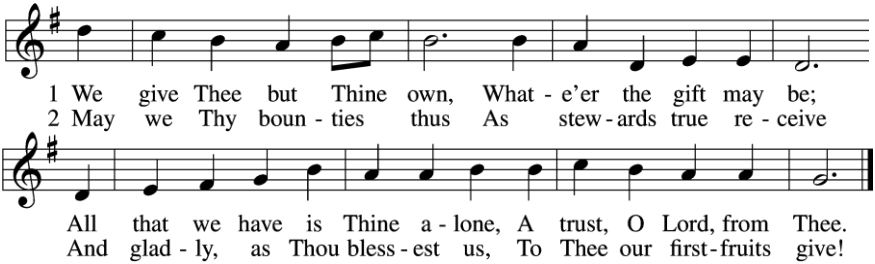
C **We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: #850, "God of Grace and God of Glory"

SERMON: "Give to Caesar?" based on the Gospel reading.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER



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.**

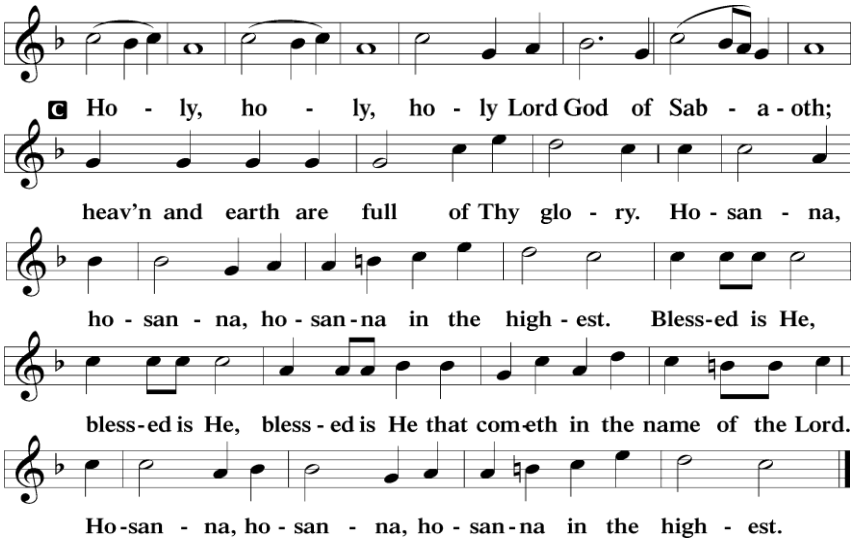
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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



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."

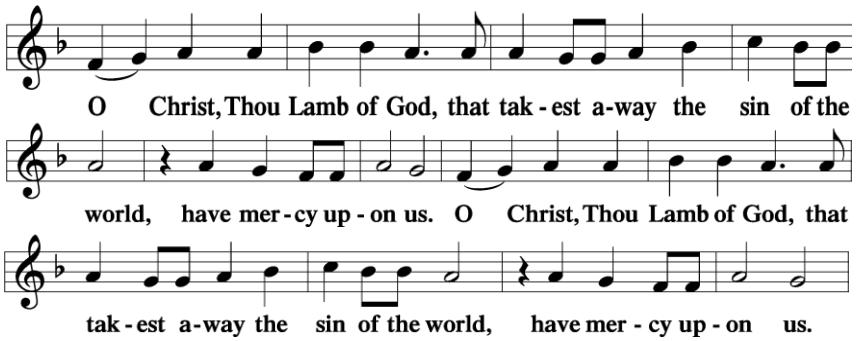
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

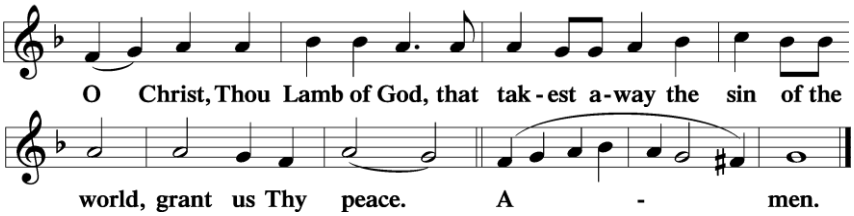
PAX DOMINI *"The peace of the Lord" John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *"Lamb of God" John 1:29*



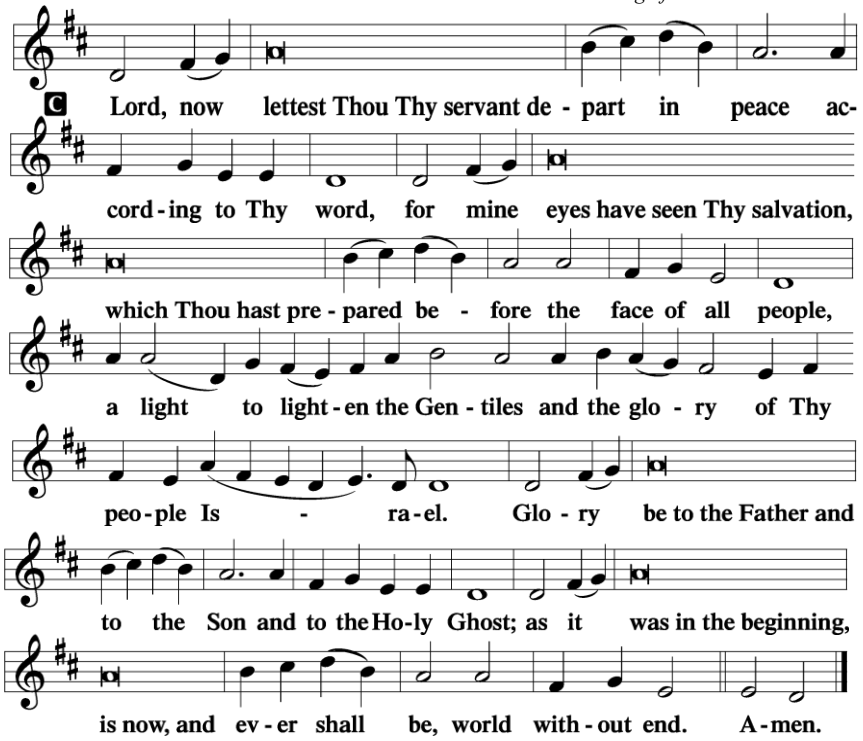


DISTRIBUTION

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

"Song of Simeon" Luke 2:29-32



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: #966, "Before You, Lord We Bow"

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

Chapter and Verse: The next book club meeting will be this Thursday, Oct. 22nd, 4:00 PM. We'd love to have all readers join us for reading, discussion, and treats.

Geneva-Ween

Geneva-Ween is an annual event launched in 2025 that allows kids and families a safe and easy cabin-to-cabin, trick-or-treating experience. This event is for friends and neighbors in Moultonborough and the surrounding communities. It's held at the Geneva Point Center, 108 Geneva Point Road, Moultonborough. LRLC will have tables and a cabin there. The event is Sunday, Oct. 25th, from 3:00-7:00 PM. You're welcome to help fill goodie bags after church next Sunday, or to assist with the event at the Geneva Point Center for any portion of that afternoon or evening.

A Life Thought in the Church Year for October 18th:
At Babel, sinful humanity sought to make a name for itself rather than honor the God who gives us life (Gen. 11:1–9). That same pride still leads us to value our own desires and ambitions above the lives and needs of others. Yet God calls us to turn from idols and serve him, trusting in Jesus Christ, who delivers us from sin and death (1 Thess. 1:9–10). As citizens of this world, we have responsibilities toward earthly authorities, but our highest allegiance belongs to God (Matt. 22:15–22). Since every human life bears his image, we glorify him by protecting and caring for our neighbors, especially those who cannot speak for themselves.

Visit Lutherans for Life at www.lutheransforlife.org

A Lutheran View of Depression…
October is National Depression Education and Awareness Month. You can listen to the audiobook, "I Trust When Dark My Road: A Lutheran View of Depression" by Pastor Todd Peperkorn at issuesetc.org/depression. This audiobook is produced by Lutheran Public Radio, Inc., based in Collinsville, IL. LPR, Inc. produces radio talk shows, podcasts, sacred music and talk stations, books, audiobooks, conferences, hymn recordings and videos.

The Scripture Readings and Hymns for October 25th (Reformation Sunday):
Exodus 20:1-17
Romans 3:19-28
Matthew 11:12-19

#566, "By Grace I'm Saved"
#655, "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"
#656, "A Mighty Fortress"

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