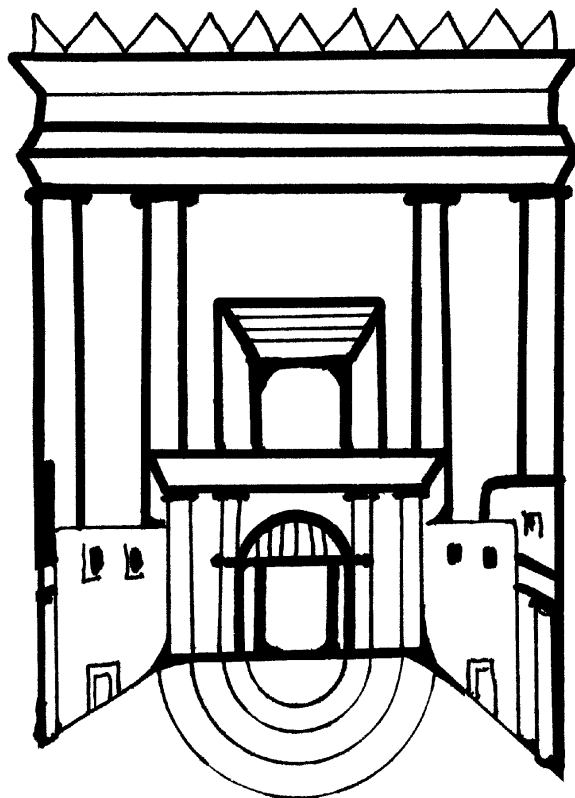


Pentecost 18

September 27, 2026



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
Lancaster, PA

The Holy Eucharist

If you are visiting with us, a special welcome. We invite you to return and worship with us as often as you are able. Please sign the guest book in the narthex. Guest cards are also available. Please take one, fill it out and return it to an usher. The offering plates are in the back of the sanctuary. If you need a large print bulletin, please ask an usher. As you enter the nave, please conclude all conversations and silence all cell phones and other electronic devices, as to fully enter into this time of worship.

Please indicate to the Pastor if you require gluten free wafers, prior to worship, if possible.

We broadcast our church service LIVE every Sunday. If you need to leave the sanctuary for any reason, you are welcome to continue worshipping by viewing the service in either the nursery, located in the basement of the church, or in the bride's room/tech room located off the narthex of the sanctuary. Feel free to see an usher or the tech team for the location of either of these rooms.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C Amen.

P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

**C 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.

P Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through + Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C Amen.

The Gathering Hymn

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

Hymn #531

Verses 1 & 3– All

Verse 2– Women

Refrain– All



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap-plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.

Refrain

Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.

Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.

Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.

The feast is read - y to be - gin;

the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

THE FEAST IS READY

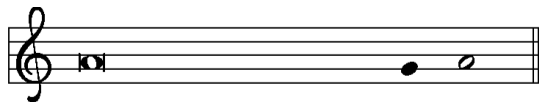
LM and refrain

The Apostolic Greeting

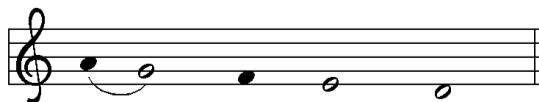
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

The Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

The Hymn of Praise

Assisting minister

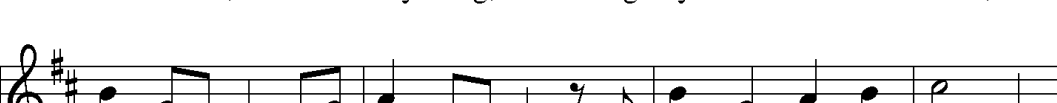


Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-9 *(Read responsively with the lector)*

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² **O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ **Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

⁶ **Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

⁸ **Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right
and teaches the humble his way.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from Philippians.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation



Please stand.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord**

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

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus

said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.”³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon

Silence for reflection follows.

Please stand.

The Hymn of the Day

O Master, Let Me Walk with You Hymn #818
Verses 1 & 4– All *Verse 2– Men* *Verse 2– Women*



1	O	Mas - ter,	let	me	walk	with	you	in	low - ly
2	Help	me	the	slow	of	heart	to	move	by some clear,
3	Teach	me	your	pa -	tience;	share	with	me	a clos - er,
4	In	hope	that	sends	a	shin -	ing	ray	far down the



paths	of	ser -	vice	true;	tell	me	your	se -	cret;
win -	ning	word	of	love;	teach	me	the	way -	ward
dear -	er	com -	pa -	ny,	in	work	that	keeps	faith
fu -	ture's	broad -	'ning	way,	in	peace	that	on -	ly



help	me	bear	the	strain	of	toil,	the	fret	of	care.
feet	to	stay,	and	guide	them	in	the	home -	ward	way.
sweet	and	strong,	in	trust	that	tri -	umphs	o -	ver	wrong,
you	can	give;	with	you,	O	Mas -	ter,	let	me	live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

The Apostles Creed

**C 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 Pilate,
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.**

The Prayers of the Church

A Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

Please sit or kneel for the prayers.

After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God,

C Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

The Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Without leaving your seat offer a wave to your neighbor, sharing God's peace, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Anthem

Jesus, Source of Life and Pleasure

Handel

Offering

During this time our offerings are represented through the gift of music, bread, and wine. Following the service you are invited to give your financial gifts in the offering plates located in the back of the sanctuary.

Please stand.

The Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



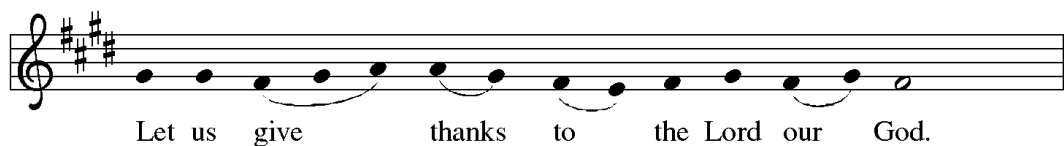
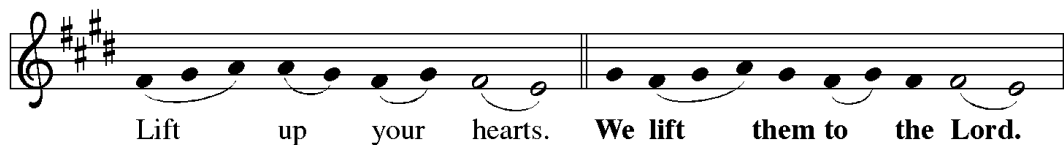
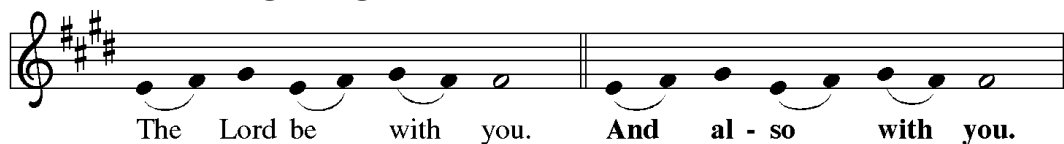
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The Offertory Prayer

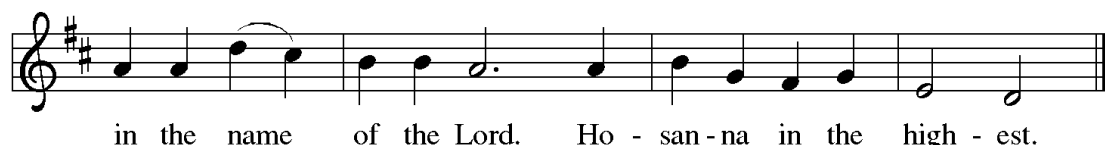
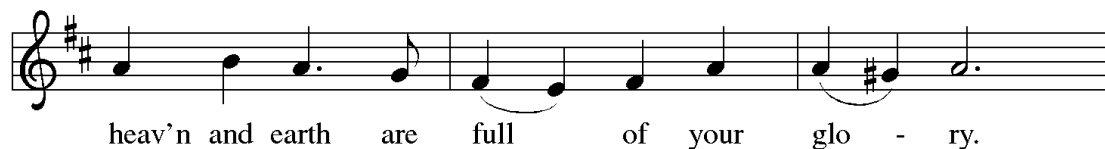
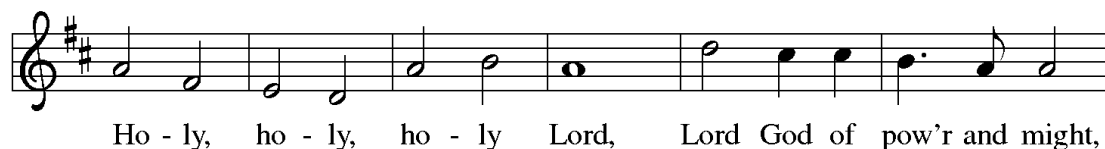
A Let us pray. God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.

C Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

C **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

C **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 Invitation to Communion

P Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

The Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices open table hospitality. Baptized communicants of other Christian denominations, of all ages, are welcome to receive the sacrament. An usher will direct each seating area to come forward to receive the sacrament. Pick up a communion cup as you approach the altar. Please **stand** at the communion rail and the pastor will place the bread into the hands of communicants. The first chalice contains wine, the second chalice contains grape juice. A gluten free wafer is available upon request. Those persons not receiving communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.*

Hymns During Distribution

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

Hymn #772

In the Singing

Hymn #466

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

Hymn #814

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

In the Singing



- 1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - spect-ant, o - pen,
- 2 In the ques-tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept-ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break-ing, in your pres-ence at this ta - ble,
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo-ple,



Refrain
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;

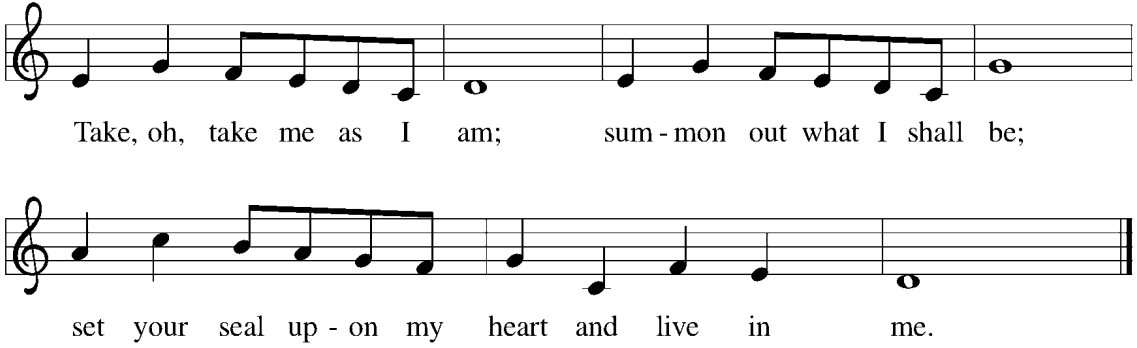


Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
 Music: EVAN, William H. Haverhal, 1793-1870

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
 Music: READ OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
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Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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Please stand.

The Post Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

The Post Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

The Blessing

P The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace
+ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

The Sending Hymn

What God Ordains Is Good Indeed

Hymn #776

Music provided on page 22

Dismissal

P Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

+++

What God Ordains Is Good Indeed



1 What God or - dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro - vid - ing.
 2 What God or - dains is good in-deed: my light, my life, my Sav - ior!
 3 What God or - dains is good in-deed. When hope seems like de - lu - sion,
 4 What God or - dains is good in-deed. My Lord will nev - er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.
 No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.
 I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."
 on dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.



My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way un -
 Through joy and pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing
 God ends the night, re - stores de - light; by faith I face to -
 My God so dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will



fold - ing and my hand you are hold - ing.
 clear - ly that God has loved me dear - ly.
 mor - row and yield to God all sor - row.
 hold me, at last in light en - fold me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: WAS GOTT TUT, Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682

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Sponsors

The bulletin is sponsored by Coleen Aston and dedicated to the glory of our Lord.

The flowers are sponsored by the Dandridge Family in honor of Smantha's birthday!

The text for next week:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

Worship Assistants

Sept. 27	Oct. 4
Acolyte	Acolyte
Danica Dandridge	Iriana Ramirez
Assisting Minister	Assisting Minister
Chip Froehlich	Sharon Bentley
Andrew Knaub	Charlie Schwenk
Lector	Lector
Marilyn Knaub	Suzann Schwenk
Greeter	Greeter
Marilyn Knaub	JoAnn Matos
Usher	Usher
Jeff Reed/Laura Lane	Dennis Steiner
Bread Provider	Bread Provider
Sue Froehlich	Donna Null
Altar Guild Set-up	Altar Guild Set-up
Sue Froehlich	Donna Null
Altar Guild Clean-up	Altar Guild Clean-up
Sue Froehlich	Sue Froehlich
	Linda Rogers
Council Person	Council Person
Carrie Ruggiero	Clay Rundell
Counters	Counters
Sandy Stouffer	BA Smith
Melissa Randall	Donna Null
Technology	Technology
Tim Brixius	Doug Dandridge
Jeff Reed	Tim Smith

Coming up at Holy Spirit

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 29 | Prayer & Meditation, 6:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 30 | Prayer & Meditation, 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study, 11:00 a.m. |
| Oct. 4 | Pledge Sunday |
| Oct 6 | Book Club, 7:00 p.m. |
| Oct. 11 | Second Sunday Tree Tour |

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Director of Music- Allison Carlson