10:45am Celebration Worship Service



Evangelical Lutheran Church September 14, 2025



Welcome to all, especially visitors! It is no accident that you are here! We've been praying for you. We believe God has brought you here and wants to touch your life. You are among friends.



If you are visiting, please sign in on our guest sign in sheet in the Narthex Hallway.



At our 10:45 AM service: words for the hymns are projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.



For the hearing impaired: hearing devices are available in the Narthex outside the sanctuary.



Restrooms: To locate a restroom, exit the back of the worship area. Take two rights and proceed down the hallway. At the stairs, go left. The Women's Room is on the left, the Men's Room is straight ahead.



Holy Communion at ELC: We welcome to the Lord's Table all the baptized people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available.



Nursery: We have a fully staffed nursery for infants through children six years of age or children of any age with special needs. The nursery opens at 10:15 AM on Sunday morning for our 10:45 AM worship service. The nursery is equipped with a pager system to help parents feel at ease. There is also a private nursing room for those who wish you use it.



Photo Release Form: Our 10:45am AM service is live-streamed to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. All children coming to the front for the Children's Message or Holy Communion will be visible on the live-feed. If you do not want your child's image online, please do not send them up to the front. If you are ok with it, please fill out a Photo Release Form located on the sign-up table in the Narthex and put it in the offering box.



Reserved Seating: Please keep the reserved seats open for people with disabilities and their family members. Thank you!



Background Checks: Mandatory background checks have been completed for all of our Nursery & Children's Ministry Volunteers.

September 14, 2025

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

Please stand

PRAYERS AND CONFESSION

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
C. Amen.

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful and loving God, C we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven! C Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Psalm 51-1-10

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

² Wash me through and through | from my wickedness, and cleanse me | from my sin.

³ For I know | my offenses,

and my sin is ev- er before me.

⁴ Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,

a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me, and would have me know wisdom | deep within.

⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸ Let me hear | joy and gladness;

that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean | heart, O God, and renew a right spir- | it within me.

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke the 15th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

¹⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kim Erwin

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

After the children's message, the children are welcomed to be a part of the Children's Worship that takes place in our Sunday School Room #108. Children return from Children's Worship during the sharing of the peace.

SERMON Pastor D

Please Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

ELW 779

THE APOSTLES CREED

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.

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Members of Our Congregation: Jeff Cecco, Don Cool, Bill Hine, Fred Kahl, Karla Oller, Betty Petrie, Carolyn & Lamar Sease, Pauline Stoops, Marjorie Tressler and Nancy & Harry Watson.

Friends of the Congregation: Anna Batson, Rosanna Biesecker, Kevin Carey, Annette Fillmore, Elijah Ford, Jim Gleason, Quinton Hicks, Juli Miller, Marian Mills, Peter Richter, Dan Rovelstad, Susan Sees, Spahnolgtli family, Sherry Toomey, Lubomira Uhliarova, and Joe Vance.

(Names will be posted for a month. If you would like to have them on longer, please contact the church office.)

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

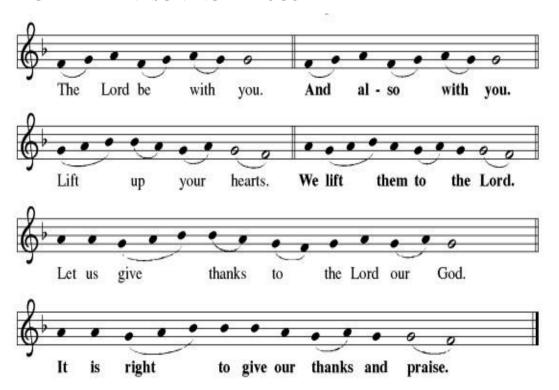
OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Thank you for your continuous support of ELC ministries. Your generosity is making a difference. Please place your offering in one of the boxes at the entrance to the Sanctuary. You are a blessing!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

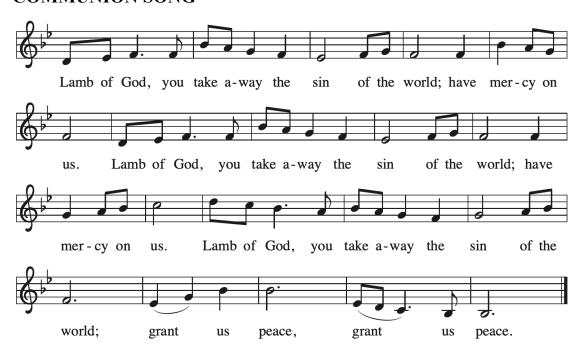
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Please be seated

COMMUNION SONG



Please stand

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

More than Conquerors

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

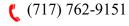
POSTLUDE

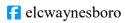
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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Acolyte	Luke McDannell
Altar Guild	Shirley Clapsaddle & Joyce Van Breemen
Assisting Minister	Drew Reed
Audio / Visual	Brian Walker & Olivia McDonald
Children's Message	Kim Erwin
Children's Worship	Becky McDonald
Communion Assistants	Linda Bennett & Sean McDonald
Flower Delivery	Chuck & Teresa Morningstar
Greeters	Pat & Vic Martin (W) & Ruth Taylor (C)
Lector	Allison Devlin
Ushers	Team C



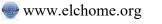
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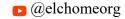






businessmanager@elchome.org







In memory of Mary Jane Kline on her birthday by her daughter, Karen.



Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff:

Rev. Drahus Oslik: Pastor Deborah L. Zacher: Director of Music and Organist Karen Walker: Contemporary Worship Team Leader Becky McDonald: Business Manager Andy Rovelstad: Treasurer

Hayley Martz: Office Secretary Cathy Robinson: Housekeeper Emily Cordell: Nursery Caretaker